

# Sussex Academy

*Explore • Experience • Excel*



# 2021-2022

End of School Year Edition



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## 2021-2022 SUSSEX ACADEMY FACULTY AND STAFF

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Secondary Campus*

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Accountability*

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Patty White  
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## 2021-2022 SUSSEX ACADEMY EXECUTIVE BOARD

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**We apologize for any errors in this printed publication.**

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## WELCOME

to the end of School Year  
2021-2022 edition of the  
Sussex Academy Magazine.

This publication highlights news of  
Sussex Academy students, faculty,  
staff, and alumni to share our story.  
It's a great story and we hope  
that you enjoy.

Please send comments, address  
changes, requests to no longer  
receive this publication to  
[info@saas.k12.de.us](mailto:info@saas.k12.de.us)



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## SA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

The Sussex Academy  
Executive Board meetings  
are scheduled for 4pm in the  
Sussex Academy Conference  
Room (Secondary Campus).  
The meetings are public  
and Sussex Academy families  
are invited to attend.

September 21, 2022  
October 19, 2022  
November 16, 2022  
January 18, 2023  
February 15, 2023  
March 15, 2023  
April 19, 2023  
May 17, 2023  
June 21, 2023



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# Eric M. Anderson

Hello Sussex Academy Families and Friends



Dear Sussex Academy Community,

The Sussex Academy Executive Board and I would like to thank our community for your support, partnership and contributions that have led to a successful 2021-22 school year.

We have a lot to celebrate as a K-12 Charter School — this past year our high school was ranked the #4 high school in the state by US News and World Report, we had the highest number of students earn an IB Diploma since the program's inception, and many of our new AP programs averaged test scores higher than state and world averages. Our success was not only seen in the classrooms, but also on the athletic fields. The class of 2022 had not just ONE... but TWO state champion athletes among them, Sadie Tunnell brought home the state title for indoor track in the 400-meter run and Hannah Lydic was crowned the female state champion in golf, contributing to the Sussex Academy golf team and the school's first team state championship and the first golf team from Sussex county to win a team championship. This year was also the first year a student athlete, lacrosse player Peyton Hagy, earned both All-American and Academic All-American recognition. The class of 2022 also has the most student athletes moving on to play at the collegiate level.

Summer break has begun for our students and families, though the SA administration is hard at work planning for the year ahead and ready to begin implementation of our new strategic plan, slated to be approved at the September Board Meeting. The plan was developed collaboratively with multiple stakeholders focused on continuing our efforts to nurture the whole child, a commitment to academic and professional excellence, and improving operational, athletic, and technology infrastructures schoolwide.

As I write this letter, I am mindful of the angst change can bring to a community, and I am confident that the changes that are occurring at Sussex Academy are not only necessary, but will positively move us in a forward direction to continue offering the best academic experience in Sussex County and without doubt amongst the top in the state.

Finally, I want to thank our 100+ staff members for the incredible impact you've had on our students. All of us play a vital role in creating quality learning experiences for our students, and our high expectations that students will master the content presented in classrooms, will equip them with the necessary skills to excel at highest levels offered in post-secondary institutions.

I look forward to welcoming you all back in the fall, until then, enjoy your summer break!

Eric M. Anderson  
Head of School



## SUSSEX ACADEMY STRATEGIC PLAN

In January, Sussex Academy started the process of drafting a new strategic plan. The current plan had been created and adopted before the school added the K-5 elementary school. The new plan will incorporate the entire K-12 program with a consideration of the societal changes in a post-COVID environment while staying true to the four priority areas identified in the current plan:

### THE PRIORITIES IN THE CURRENT PLAN:

- Nurturing the whole student
- Commitment to professional excellence
- Fortifying relationships
- Integrating 21st century technology

### THE NEW STRATEGIC PLAN WE WILL FOCUS ON FIVE PRIORITY AREAS:

- **Academics** – This area will focus on the academic program and how it aligns K-12
- **Activities** – This area will focus on extra-curricular programs outside of academics and athletics
- **Advisement** – This area will focus on academic, college, and social-emotional services in K-12
- **Athletics** – This area will focus on the athletic program and how it aligns K-12
- **Atmosphere** – This area will focus on school climate and culture

Committees comprised of parents/guardians, students, faculty, staff, and Board members have been meeting to discuss the priority areas and to create both short and long term goals. This information will be collected by the end of April and will be used to write the plan.

The new strategic plan will be presented for Executive Board approval in September.

# SUSSEX ACADEMY



Sussex Academy is the only K-12 public charter, tuition free school in Sussex County.

**Charter School:** A publicly funded independent school established by teachers, parents, or community groups under the terms of a charter with a local or national authority. Sussex Academy was founded by a group of community members and received authorization from the Delaware Department of Education.

## *Our* MISSION

The mission of the Sussex Academy is to foster academic achievement and social responsibility in a small school environment where students participate in a highly accelerated college preparatory program that prepares them for the technological and global mindedness needed for the 21st century and that instills ethical conduct and service to others in their day-to-day lives.

## *Our* HISTORY

Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences opened in 2000 as a 225-student middle school located in a newly constructed facility on Sussex Pines Road in Georgetown, Delaware. Within three years of opening, Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences made two minor charter modifications to first expand to 300 and then 325 students.

A major charter modification was approved in 2012 to begin adding a high school in 2013. The first 9th grade class started in 2013 in a new facility with a new name: Sussex Academy, located at the current site on Airport Road in Georgetown. A high school grade was added each year until the high school was completed with grade 12 in fall 2016.

In March 2018, Sussex Academy was the first charter school in Delaware to be granted a 10-year charter renewal from the Delaware Department of Education. In Delaware, any charter school receiving a 10-year renewal is subject to a midpoint review to include academics, finances, school performances. Sussex Academy's midpoint evaluation is scheduled for September 30, 2022.

A second major charter modification was approved in 2020 to add an elementary school (K-5). The elementary school, on Wilson Road in Georgetown, opened for the 2020-2021 school year with 250 students.

## *Our* SCHOOL CULTURE

### THE THREE R'S

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#### Keep it REAL

Be present, be authentic, be honest, know your actions, be the change that makes us all one in this world.

#### Be RESPECTFUL

Be open-minded, be kind, treat others with kindness, check your ego at the door, be aware, be engaged, don't talk while others are talking.

#### Value RELATIONSHIPS

Build bridges – don't burn them, don't take things personally, be empathetic, be compassionate, pay it forward.



## CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING

Sussex Academy annually receives operating money from the state as well as from local school districts. Funding is allocated based on the number of students enrolled. However, Delaware currently does not provide money for charter school facility construction. Sussex Academy cannot hold a referendum or increase property taxes to cover capital expenses, and therefore has to raise money on its own to fund new construction projects.

## Our IN-SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

Sussex Academy relies on financial support from our families, friends and community. Yearly, the following fundraising takes place at Sussex Academy:

- **Individual Classes** – to support their senior prom and school gift (Grades 6-12)
- **Dress Down Day** – held monthly to support classes and student clubs and organizations
- **The Senior Class** – to support their senior class trip
- **PTA** – to support the elementary school
- **PTSA** – to support the middle school and high school
- **Sports Boosters** – to support the SA athletic program and individual sports teams
- **Performing Arts Booster Club** – to support the SA Arts
- **National Honor Society School Store** – to support school clubs and organizations
- **Feather Our Nest** – to purchase items requested by faculty and staff
- **Sussex Academy Foundation** – to support school's capital expenses and scholarships

Throughout the school year, we have high school students who fundraise for their senior service projects and/or individual organizations where they volunteer. While these fundraisers are not part of the school fundraising plan, we do post this information to our school Facebook page.

*Our school does host and support additional fundraisers to benefit our local community that are not included on this list.*

## Our GIFTS

Sussex Academy has been extremely fortunate to have the support of generous donors who have provided our school with state-of-the-art amenities and expansion opportunities without incurring the costs or fundraising efforts.

**2016** – The Sussex Academy Aquatic Center was gifted to the school from Schell Brothers

**2020** – The Sussex Academy Foundation, through an anonymous donation, purchased the Sussex Academy elementary school property

**2022** – Sussex Academy will have tennis courts on the secondary campus gifted from anonymous donors

## Our CAPITAL FUNDRAISING

**Capital Campaign:** An extensive fundraiser with a concerted effort to raise a substantial amount of money for a specific project or undertaking.

**The Sussex Academy Foundation**, the fundraising entity for Sussex Academy's capital projects, held its first capital campaign in 2011. The two phase-five-year campaign started in 2011 and concluded in 2016.

### THE FUNDS RAISED IN PHASE 1

- Paid for most of the new facility's purchase price (the current secondary campus high school)
- The completion of 15 classrooms, administrative offices, health room, entrance lobby, locker rooms, conference room, restrooms
- The acquisition of 19.1 acres behind the school for additional sports fields

### THE FUNDS GENERATED FROM PHASE 2

- Paid for the information commons (library), auditorium/cafeteria, and the performing arts stage
- Five sports fields to include two lighted turf fields
- The 28,000 square foot middle school wing

The total cost of the acquisition and renovation of our current secondary campus was paid for from a \$13,650,000 USDA long term mortgage loan along with an additional \$36,000,000 raised from the Foundation's capital campaign.





# Our FOUNDATION

In addition to the capital campaign, throughout the years, the Sussex Academy Foundation has provided funding:

- To repair and repave parking lots at the secondary campus
- To renovate existing high school science classrooms
- To build a new high school science lab
- To purchase technology for a computer lab
- To provide scholarships
- To support the summer college tours

## OUR CURRENT AND FUTURE FUNDRAISING PLANS INCLUDE:

- **The Sussex Academy Foundation is currently hosting a \$500,000 sports capital campaign to Recognize Sussex Academy Athletics and Athletes.**

The funds raised from this campaign will go toward conference and individual state champion banners, showcasing action photos of prior, current and future SA Seahawks, upgrading our trophy cases, and creating sports equipment storage area in the high school gym.

- **The Elementary School is currently working to raise \$500,000 for a Nature Classroom.**

## OUR WISH LIST FOR FUTURE CAMPAIGNS INCLUDE:

- Track at the secondary campus
- Science Lab for high school
- Expansion of elementary school

Please consider supporting one or both of our current campaigns by making a donation today:

**[sussexacademyfoundation.com](https://sussexacademyfoundation.com)**

(type sports or nature classroom in the comments section)

## SCHOOL CHOICE

In Delaware, School Choice allows families an opportunity to apply for their child(ren) to attend a school other than their assigned, local district school. Each year, Sussex Academy holds an open application period from November through January and receives hundreds of applications.

Due to the large number of families who want to choice into Sussex Academy, a lottery for each grade (K-12) is held in January. The lottery for the 2022-2023 school year had a record number of applicants.



# *Around the Nest* ACADEMICS

## SUSSEX COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR

The Sussex County Science Fair was held at Sussex Academy in March. The four students from SA who participated were the only students in the entire county who participated in County Fair this year.



Congratulations to:

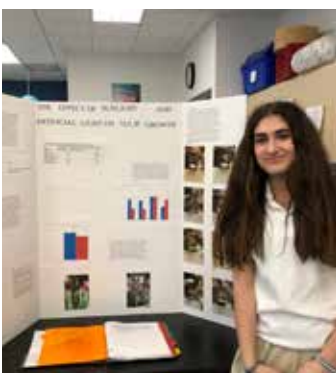
**Jack Thomas** 7th grade  
1st place – Off Pitch

**Noah Benz** 8th grade  
2nd place –  
Oyster Obliteration

**Katya Geyer** 8th grade -  
3rd place –  
Go Green and Clean

**Kimmia Langroudi**  
8th grade  
Honorable Mention –  
The Effect of Sunlight  
and Artificial Light on  
Tulip Growth

**Lauren Hvorency**, 8th  
grade science teacher,  
who was recognized as  
a "Dedicated Teacher"  
for 10 years of dedication  
to science research in  
Sussex County.





## CHAT WITH CHANGE MAKERS

The 8th grade science class studied the James Webb telescope prior to its December launch. In February the students participated in a Chats with Change Makers webinar with two engineers who worked on the telescope. Margaret Dominguez, optical engineer at NASA and Stephanie Hernandez, systems engineer at Northrop Grumman told their stories and answered questions. The Sussex Academy 8th graders had two of their questions answered during the webinar.

## 7TH GRADE SCIENCE

Students in 7th grade science made a polymer of polyester during their unit on molecular structures.



## DELAWARE VALLEY SCIENCE FAIR

In April four Sussex Academy students, who won awards at the Sussex County Science Fair, attended the regional Delaware Valley Science Fair: **Jack Thomas, Noah Benz, Katya Geyer, and Kimmia Langroudi.**

Noah Benz's project, Oyster Obliteration, placed 3rd for middle school Environmental Science projects out of 26 projects! Noah studied the effects of pH levels and water temperatures on the shells of oysters. Noah was also presented with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Taking the Pulse of the Planet Award that was awarded to projects whose research emphasizes its mission to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts, to share that knowledge and information with others, and to conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.



## AUTHOR LUNCHEON

The author luncheon, for fourth and fifth graders, was the final activity for the Books We've Read program. This program was designed as an action research project to encourage students to read for pleasure. As they read a book, they completed a written summary and then their book title was posted on the hallway bulletin board for others to read and investigate. Students earned prizes based on the number of books and summaries they completed throughout the program. Students who read a certain number of books by the end of the program were treated to a pizza luncheon with local author, Mr. Tony Varrato. The students and Mr. Varrato talked about all things book and writing including topics like his inspiration for writing, his favorite books and authors, and his plans for his next book.





## MARINE ECOLOGY CLASS

Justin Holl, Education and Outreach Specialist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, San Francisco, held a Zoom meeting with Mr. Colombo's Marine Ecology class. He conducted a hands-on plankton demonstration and ocean acidification activity.



## 7TH GRADE SCIENCE

The 7th graders conducted a fetal pig autopsy as a culminating project after studying the human body.



## MARINE SCIENCE

Students from the Honors Marine Ecology class got to experience Marine Science first hand with help from the University of Delaware School of Marine Science and Policy faculty members Mr. David Christopher, Mr. Christopher Petrone, and Dr. Ed Hale. The students collected plankton from the Broadkill River and were able to observe and identify with microscopes. They learned about invasive crab species and sustainable oyster populations and performed multiple seines at the Cape Henlopen State Park to observe shrimp, seahorses, and baby flounder.





## SUSSEX ACADEMY STUDENTS NAMED SCHOLARS FROM NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

**Senior Emily Musgrove and Juniors Alex Boswell and Kinsey Bellerose** were named Scholars by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation (NCSF) for their performance in a challenging online cybersecurity training program. In recognition of their achievement, these students earned an invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy – a multi-week online program based on the nationally-recognized SANS Foundations training course and certification – valued at more than \$3,000.

Musgrove, Boswell, and Bellerose competed for a top score against thousands of high school students across the nation by solving real-world cybersecurity problems. Over 45,000 students nationwide sought to qualify for a National Cyber Scholarship; with less than 2.5% reaching Scholar status. Sussex Academy students earned 3 of the 9 Scholar honors awarded to Delaware high school students.



## TSA CONFERENCE

Sussex Academy Technology Student Association Juniors Sarah Moreno, Brenna Billingsley, and Kasi Showers earned second place medals in Architectural Design and senior, Liana Lloyd-Wood, earned a third- place medal in Music Production in the Delaware State TSA Conference. TSA is an after-school club where students enhance personal development, develop leadership skills, and experience STEM careers through competitions with other Delaware high school students.



## COUNSELORS CORNER

Here are a few highlights of happenings in the SA Counselor's Offices this year:

- Naviance registration sessions (group & Individual). Sussex Academy students use the Naviance program to assist with the college selection/application process
- Strengths Explorer (Strengths Explorer uncovers talents and links students to several Pathways that match their strengths)
- Post-Secondary college and career goals/short and long term goal creation
- Career Planning
- Common Application account creation
- College Board account creation
- Individual college and career planning meetings
- FAFSA Night in February for junior and senior families
- Financial Aid (Financial Aid letters to help negotiate award letters for seniors)
- Graduation Requirement review
- Individual Transcript Audit
- PSAT/SAT Information and study guides
- SELF-Managing Stress (Individual)
- Letter of Recommendation worksheet
- Written Letters of Recommendations
- Summer Enrichment Program Assistance
- College Planning Checklists
- Scholarships-provided information on the numerous scholarships available to SA students
- Super Match Colleges (Developing criteria to match what students want in a school)
- College Research (Students look up colleges of interest to compare and contrast against other schools)
- DSCA Virtual College Fair
- Military Open House



**Ms. Little and Ms. Henry working with SA students to schedule their courses for next school year.**

## WORLD LANGUAGE HONOR SOCIETY

On Thursday, February 3, 2022, Sussex Academy held its first World Language Honor Society induction ceremony, inducting members into both the Spanish Honor Society (La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica) and the French Honor Society (La Société Honoraire de Français).

### French Honor Society members/inductees:

Aidan French,  
*President*

Audrey White,  
*Vice President*

Leigha Truitt,  
*Secretary*

Janessa Sutton,  
*Treasurer*

Nex Hagen, *Historian*

Camila Lima

Charlotte Olewiler

Jemima Platel

Vanessa Ramirez-Merida

Heidy Mendez-Lopez,  
*Historian*

Kimberly Berduo-Velasquez

Lily Bowe

Angie Chilel-Ramirez

Mikayla Dayton

Siena Farkas

Stephanie Garcia

Joseph Herrera-Gomez

Riya Jani

Amelia Kramer

Nicte' Mendoza-Yoc

Riley Murphy

Olivia Nemcic

Odalys Ovalle-Alvizures

Jasmine Ovalle-Alvizures

Ana Rial

Ivonne Rivera-Enriquez

Vanessa Santizo-Arreaga

Chelsea Elise Tabaco

Peggy Thomas

Sage Tunnell

Sienna Tunnell

Johnson Ventura-Lopez

Samira Zahraoui

### Spanish Honor Society members/inductees:

Margaret Vazquez-Castillo,  
*President*

Doralynn Ventura-Lopez,  
*Vice President*

Natalie Benz, *Secretary*

Karen Lara-Ramirez,  
*Treasurer*

## COOKING IN IB SPANISH CLASS

The IB Juniors and Seniors did a cooking unit where they learned how to write and execute a recipe. They made guacamole, Plátanos en Tentación, and Pupusas and Gorditas Dulces.



## WORLD LANGUAGE RECOGNITION

In January, Sussex Academy was recognized by the Delaware Department of Education as a World Language Proficiency Champion School. This recognition acknowledges that all middle and high school world language department members have completed Avant's Proficiency Champion training.





# Around the Nest RECOGNITION

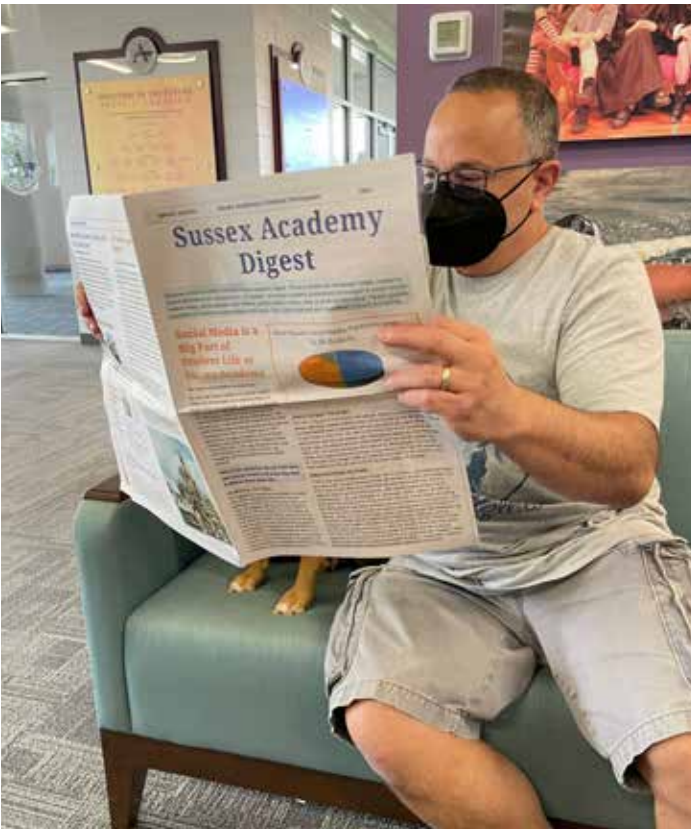


## NGPF GRANT

Mr. Schaefer received a \$5,000 Gold Standard Grant from Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF). The grant funds will be used to enhance Sussex Academy's personal finance classes.

## SUSSEX ACADEMY DIGEST

Congratulations to seventh graders **Hudson Brockstedt** and **Courtney Kosc** for creating the Sussex Academy Dispatch, a student led newspaper. The first edition, published in the spring of 2022, contained student written articles, interviews, and opinions. All SA students, faculty, staff, and guests enjoyed the first edition!



## SCHOLASTIC WRITING RECOGNITION

Congratulations to the SA students who were recognized by Scholastic for their writing.

### Gold Key

Leni Kuska  
Grace Thomas  
Dylan Thomas

### Silver Key

Caroline Adamcik  
Katya Geyer  
Nex Hagen  
Sophia Hume

### Honorable Mention

AnnaBell Cris  
Katya Geyer  
Oliver Graves  
Nex Hagen  
Graham Robinson  
Gabriella Silva  
Dylan Thomas



## U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT SCHOOL RANKING

In May, it was announced that Sussex Academy's secondary campus was ranked number 4 out of 83 high schools in Delaware according to the U.S. News and World Report.

# Around the Nest SA ARTS

THEATRE · ART · MUSIC

## THE WEDDING SINGER

In May, the Sussex Academy Theatre Department held weekend performances of *The Wedding Singer*. The cast featured senior, **Leilani Anupol** as Robbie Hart and junior, **Haley Cummins** as Julia Sullivan.



## CLUE ON STAGE: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION

In January the Sussex Academy Theatre Department presented *Clue on Stage: High School Edition*. The show was produced and directed by seniors, **Leilani Anupol** and **Mikayla Dayton**.



## MATILDA JR.

In March the Sussex Academy Theatre Department presented *Matilda Jr.* The middle school student performance was directed by senior, **GG Vogues** and Junior, **Abby Pamplona**.

*Matilda Jr.* holds the record for the highest attendance ever at a Sussex Academy student directed performance and is also the highest profit producing SA performance.



## ALL COUNTY BAND

SA is proud of the students selected for All-County Band.

**Lillian Baker**, Flute

**Paige Blaine**, Clarinet

**Margaret Vazquez-Castillo**, Saxophone

**Zach Burger**, Tuba

**Alex Danilenko**, Mallets

**Logan Huey**, Percussion

**Oliver Graves**, Trombone



## LUNCH MUSIC

The 7th graders held a bucket performance during 6th and 7th grade lunch periods.



## ALL STATE BAND AND CHOIR

Sussex Academy is proud of the students selected for All State Band and Choir.

**Alex Wiggins**, trombone – All-State Senior Concert Band and All-State Jazz Band

**Finn Sheridan**, voice – All-State Senior Mixed Choir

**Erin Morgan**, voice – All-State Treble Choir



## INSTRUMENT DONATION

Thank you to Coastal Concerts for donating a French horn to the SA Music Program.

## HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC APPRECIATION CLASS

Members of the high school music appreciation class performed during high school lunches in February.





## YOUNG AT ART PARTICIPANTS AND AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the SA students who participated in the 2022 Rehoboth Art League Young at Art Exhibition.

### **Dalia Lopez Ramirez**

Grade 10 –

Tapestry Weaving

### **Jaqueline Thomas**

Grade 11 –

Tapestry Weaving

### **Leilani Anupol**

Grade 12 –

Tapestry Weaving

### **Gabby Orsini**

Grade 12 – Clay Sculpture

### **Bella Sapna**

Grade 10 – Clay Sculpture

Won the Lee Wayne Mills Memorial Award from the Rehoboth Art League

### **Mia Barone**

Grade 10 – Clay Sculpture

### **Jade Carter**

Grade 11 – Acrylic Painting

### **Ava Peters**

Grade 11 – Acrylic Painting

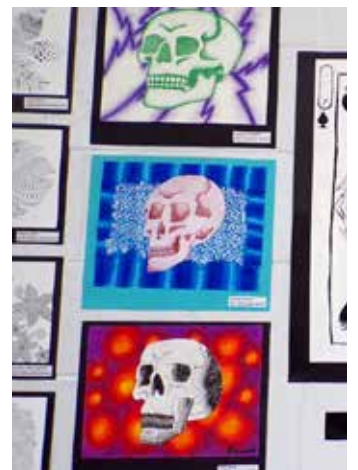
### **Camilla Lima**

Grade 11 – Acrylic Painting

### **Aidan French**

Grade 10 – Acrylic Painting

Won a Pre-College Scholarship to Delaware College of Art and Design



Aidan French





## TURTLE ART

Sussex Academy Elementary School students participated in art contest to celebrate Delaware's State Turtle Project. Students in grades K-12 were invited to create and submit 3-D turtles made from recyclable materials.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART

SA Elementary School students had a great showing at the Georgetown Arts and Flowers Show.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPRING PERFORMANCE

The students danced and sang and shared their talents. The students' artwork was displayed, too.





# ELEMENTARY









# Around the Nest COMMUNITY



## STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

Students of the Year is a philanthropic leadership development program for high school students to foster professional skills while raising funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the world's largest nonprofit fighting blood cancers. During the seven-week campaign, January-March, students compete to see who can raise the most funds for LLS. Winning teams receive college scholarships.

This year **Megan Raines**, **Natalie Benz**, and their teammates raised over \$10,000. In addition to small community fundraisers, they also partnered with small business, KindCotton. KindCotton sells products with kind messages and provides a book to a child in need for every item purchased.

SA had a second team, **Lily Manlove** and **Amalia Scruggs**, participated in this year's competition. They raised over \$9,000 through social media and personal outreach efforts. They also partnered with Project Kudos. Through social media, they raised \$1 for each kudo given on Project Kudos' pages.



## SA OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Members of the Sussex Academy Outreach Committee participated in the Lewes Juneteenth Celebration. Committee members will also attend the AFRAM Festival in Seaford in late August.



## CARING COMMUNITY CLOSET POP UP THRIFT SHOP

SA junior **Adelle Leebel** requested donations of previously loved clothing, shoes and accessories from the SA community. In March she used those donations to create a Caring Community Closet Pop Up Thrift Shop where the collected items were sold for \$1 per pound. Over 400 pounds of clothing, shoes and accessories were sold and over \$1,000 was raised for Children and Families First.

Adelle and her classmates sorted through and organized all of the donations. They set up, worked, and cleaned up after the pop up event. They even hosted a refreshment stand and raised \$120 for the Class of 2023. These funds will be used for Prom 2023.

The Community Closet Pop Up Thrift Shop was a successful community fundraiser and outreach event for Sussex Academy. Look forward to seeing this event return next year.





## 2022 HIT THE BOOKS PROGRAM

Sherman the Shorebird visited the SAES in January to kick off the 2022 Hit the Books Program. Elementary school students were encouraged to read four books, record the books on a bookmark, and turn completed bookmark in to the reading teacher. Students who read four books received two tickets to a Shorebirds game.



## DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

In Recognition of National Children's Dental Health Month, **Johnson Orthodontics** donated dental health kits to the Sussex Academy second graders.



## LIGHTHOUSE FOR BROKEN WINGS

**Ana Rial, Chelsea Tabaco, Nex Hagen and Emily Neville** helped to prepare and serve meals for Lighthouse for Broken Wings, a nonprofit organization that works to assist the homeless in Sussex County.





## EASTER BASKET DONATIONS

Sussex Academy sophomores, **Ana Rial** and **Chelsea Tabaco** delivered over 80 Easter Baskets to the Shepherd's Office, Georgetown, for their Free Easter Sunday dinner. Ana and Chelsea collected items and created the baskets.



## LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Fifth grader, **Abrielle Leonard** (and family) installed a Little Free Library at the Sussex Academy Elementary Campus! Abrielle completed the project for her Girl Scout Bronze Award. Following the installation, Abrielle talked to the elementary school students, faculty and staff about the project and how everyone can benefit from the library. A charter number plaque was installed and the Little Free Library is listed on the official the Little Free Library website map!



## SUSSEX SUPER HERO GOLF OUTING

On April 18 the **Kim and Evans Family Foundation** hosted their second annual Sussex Super Hero Golf Outing at the Peninsula Golf and Country Club.

There was a little rain, a lot of fun, and a large donation made to the Nature Classroom campaign. The funds from the campaign will be used to build an outdoor Nature Classroom on the elementary campus.

Thank you to the Kim and Evans Family Foundation for your support!





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# *Around the Nest* **EVENTS**

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## **PROM 2022**

This year's Senior/Junior Prom was held at the Baywood Clubhouse on April 9.





## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Congratulations to the SA High School students who were inducted into the National Honor Society on May 11, 2022.

David Archino  
Addison Basile  
Kinsey Bellerose  
Lily Bowe  
Carter Bradley  
Stella Caldwell  
Thomas Carper  
Maxwell Childers  
Ellie Davis  
Siena Farkas  
Brooke Farrell  
Aidan French  
Oscar Hageman  
Sarah Helou  
Sophia Hume  
Riya Jani  
Callie Juliano  
Grace Kilroy  
Amelia Kramer  
Mack Leonhartt  
Gracie Maughan  
Riley Murphy  
Zoe Musil

Olivia Nemcic  
Nicholas Parsons  
Samuel Pasmore  
Jemima Platel  
Ava Reilly  
Ana Rial  
Ivonne Rivera  
Oliver Sachs  
Logan Serpico  
Callie Short  
Madelyn Sickler  
anessa Sutton  
Chelsea-Elise Tabaco  
Madison Taylor  
Dylan Thomas  
Jaqueline Thomas  
Sage Tunnell  
Sienna Tunnell  
Kimberly Velasquez  
Dawson Weems  
Allie Wheatley  
Anna White  
Samuel Yenovkian  
Samira Zahraoui



## HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Students in grades 9-11 were recognized for their academic achievements in a High School Awards Ceremony held in June. This year a new Head of School/Outstanding Seahawk Award was introduced.

2022 Head of School / Outstanding Seahawk Award Recipients:

**Rhonshay Horsey** – 9th Grade

**Sarah Lydic** – 10th Grade

**Doralynn Ventura-Lopez** – 11th Grade







## EIGHTH GRADE LUNCH AND DANCE

Following a few days of dance lessons in the school gym, the eighth graders traveled across the street to the CHEER Center for a formal lunch and dance to celebrate the end of the school year.





## 8TH GRADE MOVING UP CEREMONY

Keeping with Sussex Academy tradition, the 8th Graders were recognized on the last day of school at the 8th grade moving up ceremony.



## FIFTH GRADE MOVING UP

Congratulations to the 2022 Sussex Academy fifth grade class as they completed their time at the elementary campus in June and will be moving up to the secondary campus starting with the 2022-2023 school year. The class raised funds to purchase games for the students to play during recess. The stenciling is their departing fifth grade graduation gift to the elementary campus. Thank you, Class of 2030!





## SEVENTH GRADE LAST DAY FUN

End of Year Fun for 7th Grade



## SIXTH GRADE FUNLAND

Everyone was excited for the sixth graders to return to the end of year tradition of a visit to Funland!



## EARTH DAY 2022

On April 29 the Sussex Academy Green Team hosted the Second Annual Earth Day Event at the Sussex Academy Elementary School.

Representatives from DE Inland Bays and Plastic Free DE were in attendance. The event also featured recycled art booths, a dessert table, and the Green Team members hosting the Lorax play.





## SA ELEMENTARY FIELD DAY

The SA Elementary Field Day was a huge success thanks Ms. Carpenter for planning and executing all the great activities, parent volunteers for helping, and the Elementary PTA and sponsors! A huge shout out to the fifth graders who rocked their leadership roles, helping with the Kindergarten-second grade activities!



## MINUTE TO WIN IT

End of year celebrations included Minute to Win it on both the elementary and secondary campuses.







## END OF YEAR FESTIVITIES

SA High School students celebrated the end of the year with Kona Ice, bounce houses, dunk tanks, yearbook signing and pizza!!



## WELCOME 2022-2023

Saying goodbye at the end of the school year is always bittersweet. The SA faculty, staff, and students are excited for summer and at the same time know that they will miss the day to day school schedule. Hoping that everyone had a remarkable summer and looking forward to a wonderful 2022-2023 school year!





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# *Around the Nest* **GUESTS**

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## *Furry Visitors*

### **BRUNO**

Everyone loves to visit Mr. Anderson's office when Bruno is in the building.



### **GWEN AND FINN**



Gwen Romack is a local children's book author and Finn is her "co-author." Gwenn and Finn visited with sixth graders to discuss writing and publishing.

### **EVI**



Sixth Grade Reading competed in a two-month competition called "Cabin Wars." One of the contests (The Better Letter) earned the winning cabin a visit from Ms. Love's dog, Evi, on the day of their god/goddess Costume Ball. Here's a picture of the winning cabin – Cabin Zeus – with the dog reward.



# Welcome Guests

In February, Delaware Secretary of Education, **Dr. Mark Holodick** and former Delaware Deputy Secretary of Education, **Dr. Christine Alois** visited both the SA elementary and secondary campuses.



In March, Mr. Anderson toured and visited with some SA Friends: **Dr. LaRetha Odumosu** – Lead of Charter Leaders, Executive Director The Charter School of New Castle (Middle School), **Rachel Valentin** – Executive Director The Charter School of New Castle (Elementary School), **Lisa Hastings-Sheppard** - Director of Programs 4DL, and **Jonathan Chavez** – Director of Partnerships 4DL



In May, **Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester** visited the Sussex Academy secondary campus. The Congresswoman toured the building, held a question and answer session in Mr. Colombo's marine ecology class, and hosted a student panel. During the panel, she and five seniors discussed education, immigration, school violence, and she shared some first-year college advice. Before she left, she took some time for some fun photos.





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# *Around the Nest* FACULTY

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## RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

Administrators, faculty and staff celebrated Sussex Academy retirees at a school wide lunch on June 10, the last day of the 2021-2022 school year.



**Elaine Maggioli**  
7th Grade Science Teacher  
for 8 years!



**Marilou Conlin**  
School Nurse for 21 years!



**Steve Bastianelli**  
Athletic Director for 6 years!





## WELCOME TO SUSSEX ACADEMY



### **Dawnyel Furlong**

SA welcomes Dawnyel Furlong as the new nurse on the secondary campus. She will be replacing Marilou Conlin who retired at the end of the school year. Furlong served as the part time COVID coordinator for SA during the 2021-2022 school year. She will be joining the SA team coming from a full-time position at Delaware Technical Community College.



### **Matthew Keen**

On May 9 SA welcomed Matthew Keen, the Dean of Students and Athletes.

Keen is a graduate of Middletown High School, Delaware State University, and Wilmington University. Keen is a former athlete and current educator that values work ethic, integrity, and positive relationships. He has been working in education for 16 years, starting as a teacher and coach across many schools in New Castle County and transitioning to school administrator with The Red Clay Consolidated School District for the last 9 years.

After meeting his wife in Rehoboth Beach, where both were a part of the beach patrol, they decided to pursue raising their family (Julian 2 and Quinlan 5 months) in the Coastal Delaware area. When the opportunity presented itself at Sussex Academy, they knew it was time to make the move.

As the Dean of Students, Keen hopes to form positive relationships with all stakeholders in the community and have a positive impact on student decision making, school climate, and school culture.

As the Dean of Athletics, Keen wants to carry over the school competitiveness in academics to the athletic fields. He wants to give athletes at Sussex Academy every opportunity to be successful by hiring, developing, and retaining the best coaches, developing a culture where athletes and coaches handle adversity, carry/present themselves in a positive way, and learn how to Win the right way.

Keen is excited, proud and humbled to be a part of the administrative team at Sussex Academy and cannot wait for his family to play a role in the path forward.



# Surprise!

### **STUDENT TEACHER**

**Amber Pierce** was a student teacher for grades 1 and 3. She was supposed to be in the classroom for four days a week but volunteered her time to be available for five days. It was great working with Amber and SA wishes her the best of luck as she works toward her Master's Degree in Reading Specialty.

**Amber entering a surprise thank you party.**

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

During the first week of May, both the Sussex Academy PTA and PTSA as well as families celebrated the Sussex Academy faculty and staff with daily treats.



## CARSON SCHOLAR WEEK

One of the themes during this year's virtual Carson Scholar Week was for the Carson Scholar recipients to twin with their personal hero. **Kaza Dayton**, Class of 2022, is pictured 'twinning' with **Dr. MacBury**.





## CELEBRATING SCHOOL NURSES

National School Nurse Day was observed on May 11.



## ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

Sussex Academy celebrated our Administrative Professionals on April 27.





# SENIOR TRIP *Seniors 2022*

In February, the Class of 2022 went to Walt Disney World, Orlando, Florida.



## HEAD OF SCHOOL SENIOR BREAKFAST

On June 2, Mr. Anderson hosted a senior breakfast before commencement practice. He was assisted by Mrs. Messina in his reading of *Oh, the Places You'll Go!!*







## COLLEGE AND CAREER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CELEBRATION

May 1 is traditionally the day when admitted applicants must indicate that they are enrolling into a college. On May 2 the SA seniors announced their college and career commitments and paraded through the middle and high school where their achievements were celebrated by all of the students and faculty.





## SENIOR PRANK

The Class of 2022 made sure to let the faculty and staff know that they will always be keeping an eye on what happens at SA.



## Graduation

Congratulations to the Class of 2022 who graduated on June 3, 2022! Best of luck to each of you!





## SENIOR AWARDS CEREMONY

Members of the Class of 2022 were recognized for their academic achievements during the Senior Awards Ceremony on June 2. Guests from the Sussex Academy Executive Board, Sussex Academy Foundation Board, and community organizations also attended the ceremony to present scholarships.







Karina Ambruso



Carly Anderson



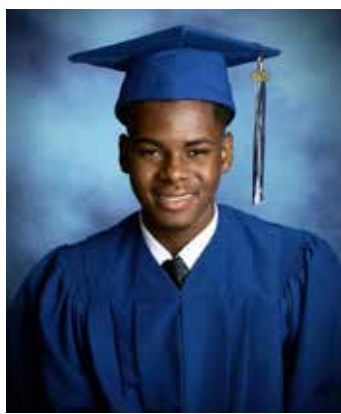
Leilani Anupol



Olivia Baeschlin



Jackson Basile



Michaelson Bernard



George Bixby



William Blakeney



Elizabeth Bodio



Adrianne Boladas



Rockwell Bowman



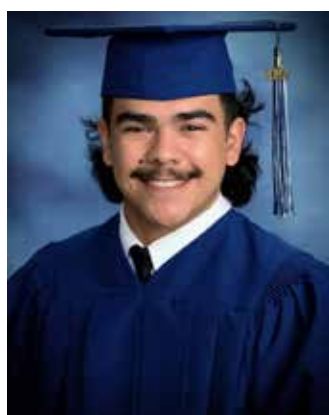
Skyler Bunting



Tyler Burger



Peyton Campbell



Kenny Cay



Kemper Cole

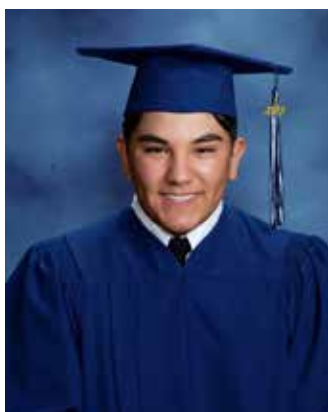




Caleb Collins



Katherine Conaway



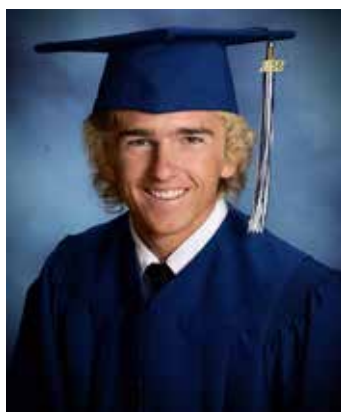
Chance Consuegra



Bridget Cooper



Tabitha Curry



Michael Daniello



Mikayla Dayton



Felix Derolus



Beren Dogar



John Donahue



Julia Edmonds



Jordan Elmer



Ayden Ferris



Robert Fiorilla



Naisha Flechier



Olivia Folliard





Kylee Forester



Enrique Garcia Barrios



Dayanara Gonzalez-Garcia



Exquiel Zhali Gonzalez



Javier Gonzalez



Grace Greer



Annabella Guckes



Logan Haffner



Samuel Haggerty



Peyton Hagy



David Hawtof



Shelby Hickman



Nicholas Holmon



Layla Hope



Emily Hudson



Tyler Hudson





Puja Jani



Evan Jarrell



Potensky Jean-Louis



Lex Johnson



Charity Joseph



Raymond Kalmanowitz



Prabh Kaur



Emma Kerezi



Ryan Kilroy



Jayson Kirschner



Jocelyn Kraft



Karen Lara Ramirez



Haily Lee



Madison Leeper



Emma Lehman



Liana Lloyd-Wood





Nikki Loomis



Christian Lopez Ramirez



Stanley Louius



Hannah Lydic



Brandon Maccubbin



Lilly Mcaroy



Ellen McKay



Kara McKennedy



Wesley McLaughlin



Chase Mears



Ryan Zane Miller



Lena Montalbano



Sherylyn Alvarado Morales



Yasli Morales Perez



Emily Musgrove



Rachel Namrow





Chase Norton



Charlotte Olewiler



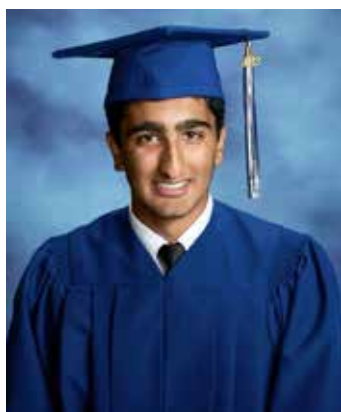
Samantha Oliver



Gabriella Orsini



Riley Osborne



Arpan Patel



Nicole Pietschmann



Tristyn Piperno



Logan Podrasky



Katherine Portillo



Zoe Probert



Ethan Rakes



Pietro Randazzo



Jaden Reed



Kelly Regacho



Aidan Robbins



Desiree Robinson



Sharon Rodriquez



Madisen Sammons



Arushi Sharda



Savannah Shriner



Wyatt Skinner



Merrill Smith



Maria-Paz Suarez



Kenneth Sunnergren



Alissa Swann



Cristal Temaj-Cifuentes



Kendra Toomey



Sadie Tunnell



John Vallorosi



Margaret Vazquez-Castillo



Gianna Voges





Emma Westbrook



Cole Windish



Kacie Wingate

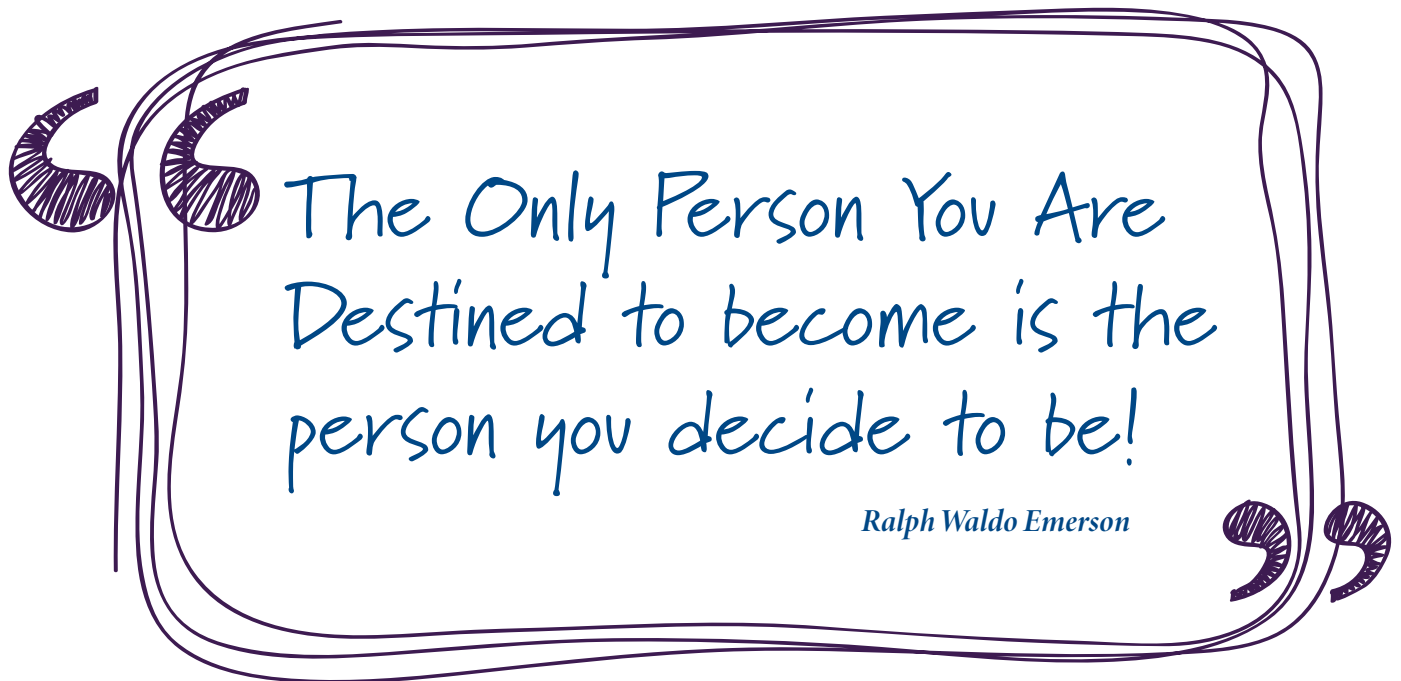


Camila Yunis

Not Pictured:  
Ariande Garcia-Carbajal  
Jacqueline Rose Odery  
Hayden Steelman



C O N G R A T S !



# *Around the Nest* SA WINTER SPORTS

SWIMMING • INDOOR TRACK • WRESTLING • BASKETBALL

The 2021-22 winter season introduced another sports program as an option, when wrestling joined the Seahawk schedule. As in the fall, transportation was a challenge but in the end all the games and meets were held.

## - 2022 HENLOPEN SOUTH CHAMPIONS -



### Women's Swim Team

The Seahawk ladies claimed their 1st Henlopen Conference Tournament Championship title besting Sussex Tech by 40 points and Cape Henlopen by 50 points as well as winning the Dual meet Conference title with a perfect 12-0 record. They continued on placing 10th in the State Championships again raising the level of the team. Sophomore Gracie Maughan moved into the company of the best swimmers in the state. After winning 4 gold medals and setting 2 meet records in the Henlopen Conference Championships she was named the Top Female Performer of the event. She then became the 1st Seahawk swimmer to medal at the State Tournament. Gracie claimed a silver medal in the breaststroke and a bronze in the Medley relay along with Victoria Evans, Sanne Elling, and Elle McKay. She placed 5th in the IM and helped the 200 relay place 10th. In addition to her bronze medal in the Medley relay, Sanne Elling also placed in the 50 Freestyle and the Butterfly. Other state placing relay members included Eve Mundok, Addy McKay, and Itzel Gomez. Coach Tom Martiner was named the Delaware State Ladies Swimming Coach of the year as well as the Henlopen Conference Women's Coach of the year. He is assisted by Stephanie Hartsoe.

## - 2022 HENLOPEN SOUTH CHAMPIONS -



### Men's Swim Team

The men's swim team earned their 2nd straight Henlopen South Division title with an 11-1 record as well as a 2nd place overall finish in the Henlopen Conference Tournament. They moved on to place 12th in the State Championships. Jaxon Laux followed up his Conference title in the breaststroke with a 5th place finish in the states. He also placed 11th in the IM and helped 2 relays place 15th and 7th. Matt Perchiniak, Tyler Burger, and 8th grader Christian Wright all placed in the top 16 in individual events as well as helping all 3 relays place as high as 7th. Seniors Lex Johnson and Tyler Hudson wrapped up their swimming career with state places in the relays.



**Coach Tom Martiner was named the Delaware State Ladies Swimming Coach of the year as well as the Henlopen Conference Women's Coach of the year.**





### Men's Indoor Track

The men's indoor track team battled against some tough conference competitors. Their top finish was the 4x200 relay team that placed 6th in Henlopen Conference Championships. The men also claimed 7th in the 4x400 and 4x800 relays. Stanley Louius, William Ducote, Ethan Bolados, and Jackson Basile made up the 200 meter relay team.

## - 2022 DELAWARE STATE CHAMPION -



**Sadie Tunnell won the State Championship in the 400 meters.**



### Women's Indoor Track

The women's indoor track team had a fantastic season culminated by Sadie Tunnell winning the State Championship in the 400 meters. She is the 2nd individual State Champion for the Seahawks. Jay Diaz coached the Men's and Women's Teams. The team also claimed 3rd place in the Henlopen Conference Championships. Sadie Tunnell became the 1st Seahawk to win an indoor track conference title winning gold in the 400 meters. She also added a silver medal in the 200. Lily Bowe earned silver in the 3200 meters and bronze in the 1600 meters. Alissa Swann claimed bronze in the 800 meters. 8th grader Katya Geyer placed 4th in the 3200, and 5th in the high jump and in the 1600. The ladies also earned silver medals in the 4x800 and 4x400 relays. Sadie Tunnell, Lily Bowe, Alissa Swann were joined by Lily Manlove and Kasi Showers to win the relay hardware. The indoor track season is a series of invitationals leading to conference and state championship meets.

## New this year!



### Wrestling

Wrestling was added to the offering of winter season teams. Coaches Vinny Colombo, Gerry Windish, and Jaime Schirmer led a team of 24 team members that compiled a 6-8 record. The team competed in a number of invitationals as well as dual meets that included Henlopen South Division powers. The team placed 11th in the Independent State qualifying tournament with Cole Windish becoming the first Seahawk to qualify for the Individual State Championship. Several others qualified as alternates. The team filled all 14 weight classes and looks to have a bright future.





### Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team welcomed new coaches Brad Leinbach, Jon Williams, and Dania Cannon. The team battled to a 1-18 record with several games coming down to the final minutes. The team featured 10 seniors as well as a JV team that finished 0-11.



### Women's Basketball

Rayona Benson and Willie Edwards took over the coaching reins of the Women's Basketball program and completed a 6-13 slate. Losses of 1, 2, 3, and 5 points held the team from a .500 season record. The team was paced by 3 seniors, led by 4 year starter Bella Guckes. Sophomore Rachel Carey was a major force for the Seahawks. The JV team finished 1-1 as most of their games were cancelled.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL



### Middle School Girl's Basketball

The MS girl's basketball team had their best season in program history. They earned a 7-2 record including wins over Selbyville, Millsboro, Georgetown, and Seaford. A swarming team defense that went at a high pace the whole game was the signature of the team. Coaches were Tyler Doherty and Holly Zorn.



### Middle School Boy's Basketball

The MS boys team coached by Recordo Nock finished with a 4-6 record. They had impressive wins over Georgetown and Millsboro to their credit in a very strong schedule. A strong 8th grade core of players led the team.



# *Around the Nest* SA SPRING SPORTS

TRACK AND FIELD • SOFTBALL • TENNIS • WOMENS SOCCER • MENS VOLLEYBALL

The 2021-2022 spring season introduced another sports program as an option, when men's volleyball joined the Seahawk schedule.

## - 2022 HENLOPEN SOUTH CHAMPIONS -



**Women's Track and Field Team**, coached by Jay Diaz, and Chrissie Maughan posted a 6-2 record. The ladies moved up to finish 7th in the 2022 Henlopen Conference tournament. Sadie Tunnell led the team by becoming the first individual Henlopen conference champion in Track and Field. She claimed the 400 meter title as well as a bronze medal in the 200, and a silver in the 4 x 400 relay. Kasi Showers, Lily Bowe, and Alyssa Oscar also earned silver medals in that relay. Katya Geyer and Alissa Swann joined Showers and Bowe to earn bronze medals in the 4 x 800 relay. Lily Bowe added a bronze medal in the 3200 meters. Sadie Tunnell earned a silver medal in the State Championship 400 meter losing by the slimmest of margins in 57:49 seconds

**The Men's Track Team** went from a 1-9 record to a 5-3 mark this season. The teams top finish in the Henlopen Conference meet was a 7th place finish by our 4 by 400 relay team of Carly Merise, Logan Serpico, Ethan Boladas, and William Ducote

**Women's Tennis Team**, coached by Steve Medoff and Kati Green claimed their 2nd straight Henlopen South Division Championship. The team wrapped up the title in the last match of the season when the 2nd doubles team of Sienna Tamburo and Olivia Nemcic claimed a 3 set victory over Lake Forest to clinch the 3-2 victory. Singles players Sienna Tunnell 1st singles, Sage Tunnell 2nd singles, and Morgan Green 3rd singles earned dominant wins at Indian River in a tight 3-2 division win.

**Men's Tennis Team**, coached by Pat Breen and Blake Weber finished 6-5 but again finished 2nd in the division after a 2-3 loss to Indian River. The team placed 2nd in the Henlopen Championship tournament behind the silver medal performances of 1st Doubles team of Evan Jarrell and Brennan Blakeney and 2nd doubles team of Ronin Max and Nick Holmon. Dawson Weems earned a bronze medal at 1st singles



**- 2022 HENLOPEN SOUTH CHAMPIONS -**



**Women's Lacrosse Team**, coached by Taylor Gooch, Kim Raschdorff, and Michele Thomas, compiled a 15-2 record and earned a top 4 placing in the state losing to Tatnall in the State Semi-final game, a team they had beaten a few weeks earlier. Their only other loss was to eventual State Champion Cape Henlopen by only 4 goals. The team was largely untested winning games by 10 + goals in every game, including the State Quarter-final win vs Friends. All Conference selections include Madison Leeper, Bella Guckes, Sanne Elling, Jacqui Thomas and Peyton Hagy on 1st team. 2nd team selections were Addy Basile, Shelby Manlove, Macy Steinwedel, and Quinn Nutter while Savannah Montgomery was named Honorable Mention. The JV team had a 6-0 record including an 8-7 win over Cape's JV, a team that had not been beaten for years.

**Men's Lacrosse Team**, coached by West Cox and Vinny Colombo earned a 12-4 overall record. The team won the Henlopen south division title with an unbeaten record of 8-0 as well as qualifying for the state tournament. The team showed their growth as they defeated Smyrna 13-12 in a dramatic victory. All Conference selections include 1st team choices Mack Leonhardt, Tommy Carper, Anderson Smith, Kenny Cay, Thomas Meszaros and 8th grade goalie Mason Trench. Zane Miller, Oscar Hageman, Brenner Short, and Ryan Morgan were named 2nd team and Gavin Robbins Honorable Mention.

Kenny Cay has been selected as a member of the U21 Puerto Rican national lacrosse team. He will be competing in the World Cup of Lacrosse in Ireland this summer.

## **- 2022 DELAWARE STATE CHAMPIONS -**

### **- 2022 HENLOPEN SOUTH CHAMPIONS -**



### **Golf Team**

Golf Team-Coached by Doug Grove and Matt Piperno, opened the season shooting a 136. The team earned a 15-1 record losing only to #1 ranked Tatnall (at that time) by 1 stroke. The team notched their 2nd straight Henlopen Conference Championship title as well as their 2nd Henlopen Conference Individual tournament title. In that tournament defending state champion, Sarah Lydic, claimed the gold medal, Hannah Lydic the silver medal, and Sawyer Brockstedt the bronze medal in a repeat of the 2021 tournament. These 3 were 1st team all conference., Austin Dostal and Matt Piperno 2nd team, and Tyler Healy honorable mention. The team then put Sussex Academy solidly on the map by winning the Delaware State Championship at Odessa National. The Seahawks defeated Tatnall by 5 strokes. Hannah Lydic and Sawyer Brockstedt tied for the individual title. Hannah claimed the gold medal in the playoff and Sawyer was presented the silver medal. Hannah becomes the 3rd individual state champion for Sussex Academy joining her sister Sarah, last year's golf state champion, and Sadie Tunnell, 400 meter indoor state champion. This is the first ever team state Championship for the Seahawks. Freshman Dominic Piperno was critical in the team win shooting an 81 to help pace the team to a 1st day lead they never relinquished.





### Women's Soccer Team

Women's Soccer Team leaders are RJ Dina, John Berry, Sarah Buchler, Brittany Castiglione, Scott Bleile, and Thomas O'Donnell. The team earned an 8-7 record against one of the toughest schedules in the state just missing qualifying for the state tournament. The team also recorded a 4-0 thrashing of Cape Henlopen as well as a shutout win over Sussex Tech. Merrill Smith, Zoe Probert, Emma Westbrook and 8th grader Debora Williams were named 1st team All Conference. Tayler Flaherty, Sharon Rodriguez, and Kat Portillo made 2nd team and Grace Kilroy was named Honorable Mention.



### BLUE-GOLD SOCCER GAMES

Senior Seahawk soccer players represented Sussex Academy at the annual Blue-Gold soccer games. Merrill Smith and Emma Westbrook played in the girls' game, and Michael Daniello and Ty Hudson played in the boys' game. Coach Dina was on hand for both matches. Congratulations to our Blue-Gold players!

## New this year!

### Men's Volleyball Team

Men's Volleyball Team, coached by Vince Failla, the team ended their inaugural season with a 3-8 record. Junior, Zach Yenovkian, was the team VIP award winner.



Congratulations to the SA senior athletes who signed their Letters of Intent to play college sports in the fall.





## MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Ladies Lacrosse Team** earned a 6-4 season record. The highlight of the season was a dramatic 9-8 win over Smyrna. The Seahawks lost an early lead when Smyrna surged to the lead, but a last second Seahawk goal sent the game into overtime. The Seahawk ladies took control at that point and won the game almost immediately. Tom Incontrera coached the team.



**Boy's Lacrosse**, coached by Andrew Fox, finished with a 5-4 record when their last 2 opponents cancelled their games. Prominent wins over Worcester Prep and Mariner showed the talent of this young team.



**Ladies Soccer Team**, coached by Katie Carpenter and Debbie Kelbaugh, had wins over Postlewait and Mariner to support a 6-5 season.



**Softball Team**, posted a 7-3 record. Two of the 3 losses were by just 2 runs. The team roster included only 2 8th graders as it was led by a strong 7th grade class. The team was coached by Michelle Blades and Linda Delp.



**Baseball Team**, coached by Tyler Doherty, earned a 5-5 mark ending their season with solid wins over Mariner and Fifer. Two 1 run losses were a disappointment for the young Seahawks.

### SA TO PARTNER WITH UNDER ARMOUR

Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, Sussex Academy will partner with All Pro Team Sports and Under Armour Team Sports for all of the school's sports team uniforms and spirit wear items.

According to Dean of Students and Athletics, Matt Keen, "The partnership will allow for SA student athletes to have uniforms and merchandise that they can be proud of from a business that started small and grew into a major force – as we hope our athletic programs emulate."





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# *Around the Nest* **ALUMNI**

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## Where Are They Now?

### **2017 | Cohen Davis**

After graduating from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) with his B.S. in 2021, he interned with Collins Aerospace as a software engineer for their Annapolis-based flight data team. He then returned to RPI for a year, and graduated with his M.S. in Computer and Systems Engineering this past May. He is currently working remotely as a full time software engineer at Collins Aerospace.

### **2019 | Shannon Gorecki**

Shannon is having fun as resident assistant (RA) for 17 girls in a resident hall. She is a junior chemistry major working toward a criminal justice minor in order to pursue forensics. Shannon is currently doing research with a professor that should result with a publication by this summer about the antioxidant levels of compounds synthesized from the organic compound putrescine (see picture with the equipment in the background). She is also a member of a chemistry club called Chemistry Demonstrations where students organize experiments to perform and explain the concepts in front of live audiences of elementary/middle/high school students (see group picture with Shannon on far right).



### **2020 | Mackenzie Schmidt**

Mackenzie is studying theatre in her second year of college. In February she played the lead role of Emily Web in *Our Town*. The performance was held at the Labuda Center for the Performing Arts at DeSales University.

### **2020 | Derek Johnson**

Derek left for Air Force Boot Camp on March 30. Prior to leaving he stopped by the secondary campus to visit with a few of his former teachers. Thank you, Derek, for choosing to serve our country.



### **2021 | William Stanton**

William attends Davidson College in Davidson North Carolina as an Economics and Computer Science Major. He is following Davidson's pre-law and business track, and plans to attend law school after graduation. This summer he will work as a research intern for Senator Coons in his Dover office.



### **We want to hear from you!**

Send us your news: internship, career, scholarly work, art endeavors, life milestones... we want to know it all!

Please send your news, photos, updated contact information to: [info@saas.k12.de.us](mailto:info@saas.k12.de.us)

# *Around the Nest* SA FOUNDATION

The Sussex Academy Foundation is  
volunteer group of parents,  
grandparents, and community members  
who work to raise funds for  
Sussex Academy capital projects.

## SA Foundation Board

Joe Schell, *Chair*  
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Michele Mundok  
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## Feather Our Nest 2021-2022 Annual Appeal

This year the Sussex Academy Foundation continued to raise funds for wish list items. The wish list was created by the Sussex Academy faculty and staff and included items needed to help with providing education and classroom updates.

**This year's campaign generated over \$22,500!!**  
**THANK YOU to the following Sussex Academy supporters.**

Susan Barry  
Ann and Rick Bennett  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Berg  
Anna Bryan  
Howard Burris Family  
Martin and Joyce Cosgrove  
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Dr. Gary Wray

*Thank You!*

## Please consider making a donation to support the Sussex Academy Foundation:

**Checks can be mailed to:** Sussex Academy Foundation, P.O. Box 693, Lewes, DE 19958

**Online donations can be made at:** [sussexacademyfoundation.com](https://sussexacademyfoundation.com)  
(please list the campaign that you are supporting in the comment section)

Title 14, DE Code, Section 8.2.2  
Sussex Academy is a public school. Contributions and gifts are not required for admission to the school  
and will in no way affect or improve a student's opportunity for admission.





## SA SPORTS CAMPAIGN

The Foundation is raising funds to recognize the school's athletic program and athletes. Funds from the campaign will be used to install all-star banners, create a storage space in the gym, upgrade the athletic trophy cases and add graphic displays in the gymnasium lobby and adjacent halls. The total cost of this project exceeds \$500,000. Work is being completed as donations are received.

Thank you to our current supporters:

**Seahawk Hall of Famer (\$50,000+)**  
Anonymous

### State Champion Supporter (\$25,000+)

### All Star First Team (\$10,000-\$24,999)

### All Star Second Team (\$1,000-\$9,999)

Drs. Jeffrey Hawtof and Nancy Gideon  
The Mundok Family  
The Leonhardt Family  
Premier Orthopaedic Bone and Joint Care  
The Brockstedt Family  
The Leebel Family  
The Montgomery Family  
The Nutter Family  
The Probert Family  
The Lewes Building Company

### All Star Honorable Mention (up to \$999)

The Miranda Family  
Ray and Doris Figueroa  
John Harrington  
Elena Dadukova  
Kathy and Bill Herd

## Nature Explore Classroom

Sussex Academy administrators and elementary school teachers have worked with Nature Explore and Bella Terra Landscapes and Gardening to design a Nature Explore Classroom on the elementary school campus. Our goal is to raise \$500,000 by the end of the school year to allow for the outdoor classroom construction to take place over the summer.

**On April 18 the Kim and Evans Family Foundation hosted their second annual Sussex Super Hero Golf Outing at the Peninsula Golf and Country Club, and donated \$15,000 from their proceeds to the Nature Explore Classroom.**

**Thank you for your support!!**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
about the Nature Explore Classroom please contact  
Connie Hendricks at [connie.hendricks@sags.k12.de.us](mailto:connie.hendricks@sags.k12.de.us)



Sussex Academy Elementary School | Georgetown, DE | Concept Plan | 08.06.21



2022 saw the return of Trailtoberfest, an opportunity for families to bike, hike or run scenic Sussex County trails. Events funds, over \$5,500, were applied to the SA Sports Campaign. Thank you to our sponsors and to everyone who participated in this event.



Presenting Sponsor

**Trap Pond State Park**  
[aure]



## Sandhill Fields

This is a hiking and running trail only – **NO BIKES**



## Junction and Breakwater Trail



## Edward H. McCabe Preserve and Greenway Trail

Milton



**Redden State Park**  
Georgetown



**Abbott's Mill Nature Center**  
Milford





Sussex Academy  
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