



Head of the Class

March 19, 2023

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world" - BB King

Message from our Head of School

Activity Fee Committee:

As part of our new strategic plan, we have been charged to reevaluate and create a transparent funding structure for how the school activity fees are being allocated. To accomplish this, I am creating a committee of faculty/staff, parents, and students who would be interested in being part of this process. If you are interested, please fill out this [google form](#). **We will hold our first meeting(via zoom) at 6pm on Tuesday March 21, 2023.**

HS NHS Service Project:

The NHS will be partnering with CODE PURPLE, a local shelter to provide for the homeless March 10th-April 20th. We would love to see all of our NHS members donating at least a few items as well as encouraging others to contribute.

A donation table for all items will be located in the front lobby. Here is a list of items the organization is in need of: [Code Purple Donation List](#).

Finally, as a reminder I will be holding my weekly zoom coffee chat at 10am on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. You can join the conversation by following this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81594189461?pwd=QnlQWTdLdVJvdFhTZW5ka1pqeHhzQT09>

Sincerely,

Eric M. Anderson
Head of School

Updates from the Elementary Campus


March 25 - Kate the Chemist at Sussex Academy Elementary!

<https://kimandevansff.ticketleap.com/kate-the-chemist/>

**DRESS DOWN DAY
NO UNIFORM
MARCH 31 - \$1.00**

One of our SA 6th grade reading classes recently read the book "A Long Walk to Water", which is the true story of The Lost Boys of Sudan. Many of the villages in Sudan still do not have access to fresh water. Instead of going to school, young girls walk all day to collect water, and out of desperation many drink bacteria infested water, risking illness and death.

Salva Dut (one of the lost boys) has a foundation to raise money to build wells in these villages. The 6th grade at SAAS has registered for the Iron Giraffe challenge, with a goal of reaching \$1,000. They have already surpassed this goal, and will continue to raise funds throughout the months of March and April.
Money we raise will go toward this cause.
More info here- <https://www.waterforsouthsudan.org/iron-giraffe-challenge>



Kate the Chemist

Appeared on the TODAY Show and Late Night with Steven Colbert

Coming to Sussex Academy Elementary!



Kate the Chemist, Chemistry Professor & Science Entertainer
March 25
Two Shows: 10 AM & 1 PM
Purchase tickets NOW!
<https://kimandevansff.ticketleap.com/kate-the-chemist/>

Elementary Spirit Days

March 21 - Rock your Socks for Down Syndrome Awareness (wear any mismatched socks with your uniform) Socks for sale in the office (\$5.00 a pair goes to the Down Syndrome Association).

March 31 - No uniform Day (\$1.00)

PTA Meetings:

Monday, March 20th at 3:45 on ZOOM and Mrs. Reed's Classroom

Tuesday, April 18th at 6:15 on ZOOM – Election Meeting

Monday, May 22nd at 3:45 on ZOOM and Mrs. Reed's Classroom

ZOOM Link: <https://dtcc.zoom.us/j/93284385498>

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

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

Updates from the Secondary Campus

STUDENT SERVICES ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE ON DIPLOMA**

Attention Class of 2023 Families! Recently, your senior was given a form indicating how their name will appear on their diploma. If there is any change or correction made to the student's name, **PLEASE PROVIDE A PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE ANYWHERE ON THE FORM** and return to school by **March 24th**. If you approve of the name as shown, the form does not need to be returned.

Please direct any questions to Mr. Cleaver at scott.cleaver@saas.k12.de.us

- **COLLEGE ESSAY PRESENTATION FOR JUNIORS**

Sussex Academy will be hosting a College Essay presentation on **Monday, March 27** starting at **9:55am** in our Cafetorium for Juniors. We will have an abbreviated AM schedule and extending advisory to accommodate. Below are the biographies on our presenter:.

Stephanie Shea helps high school students get into college. For over 22 years, Stephanie has been passionate about working with kids to find the *right* college for them. She has a background in writing and editing, and absolutely loves coaching students on their college essays. Stephanie strives to make her work with students transformational, not just transactional. She believes the college admissions process is an opportunity for students to learn and grow. Stephanie has an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and a master's degree from Harvard University, where she specialized in modern American fiction. She is a member of the NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling). In her free time, you can find Stephanie in the yoga studio, on the soccer field, or surfing on her longboard. She loves dogs, dope tunes, fun fashion, and Rise Up coffee. Stephanie can be reached at sshea@agm-collegeadvisors.com.

Randy McKnight has devoted his entire adult life to helping high school students. As an English teacher for over 40 years at the highly ranked H-B Woodlawn Program in Arlington, Virginia, he masterfully instructed students on the mechanics of writing, with special attention given to crafting the college essay. For 30 of those years, he also guided students and their families through the college-application process. Randy is one of those teachers who changed thousands of kids' lives and is respected and beloved by his former students across the world. Upon retiring from classroom teaching, Randy founded *AGM College Advisors®*, where he

focused on finding the right fit for his student clients. Randy received a BA from Davidson College and has a master's degree in Psychology with a focus on special learners from Catholic University. He is a member of the NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling) and PCACAC (Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling). As a true Southerner, Randy can tell a story like no one else. He enjoys riding his bike along the coastline in Cape Charles, VA and spending time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. Randy can be reached at rmcknight@agm-collegeadvisors.com.

- **COLLEGE NIGHT FOR THE FAMILIES OF JUNIORS**

Families of the Class of 2024! On **Thursday, March 30th**, beginning **at 6pm**, Sussex Academy will have a guest speaker presenting what to expect moving forward in exploring all things college.

Tola Magbagbeola currently serves as a school counselor and Department Chair of School Counseling at The Charter School of Wilmington, in Wilmington Delaware. Working with students for over 12 years, and with high school students for the last 8, Ms. Magbagbeola has been seeing students through their college application process, starting in the 9th grade. With extensive experience with Naviance, standardized testing, the Common App, and more, she is excited to share her experience with the students and families of Sussex Academy.

Tola has been twice nominated for Delaware's School Counselor of the Year, is certified in Mental Health First Aid, and regularly participates in professional development to expand her knowledge base.

- **PRACTICE ACT FOR SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS**

Leslie Caruso, Firat Education College Consultant, is hosting a free full-length practice ACT at Sussex Academy on **April 22 from 9am to 12:15pm**.

If you have a college-bound high schooler, taking a practice ACT now will help you identify which test is better for him/her given that the scores can be compared against the PSAT scores. More importantly, identification of problematic and strong content areas now rather than later in the process will help prepare for the tests with intention and higher chance of accomplishing goal scores for your college admissions goals.

To register:

www.firateducation.com/sussexacademyACT

Please arrive at Sussex Academy at 8:45am with your graphing calculator and water. You will be provided the testing packet and pencils. The test will be approximately 3 hours in length, so your student will be released at 12:15pm.

Students will receive a full testing analysis report to the email used upon registration by Monday, April 1. Please email leslie@firateducation.com if you have any questions.

COURSE SCHEDULING FOR THE 23-24 SCHOOL YEAR

During in-service on Friday, our teachers engaged in a course matching process for our students. Based on current performance, work ethic and conversations with students, core content teachers have made recommendations for next year's course selections. (For example, if you are currently in Honors English 10, your teacher can either match you with Honors American Literature 11 or AP Language)

This Wednesday, Dr. MacBury will be hosting an evening parent session to review the course selection process, highlighting components in the course selection book, what the course selection worksheet looks like, graduation requirements and the like. While this session is most helpful for families of current 8th graders, all families are invited. The session will begin at 5:30pm on zoom (link below).

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87334043252?pwd=UVo3R1JLZ1R0M0VRZG5rdkdBclZ0UT09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 873 3404 3252

Passcode: 0GZUHg

Staff in our Student Services department will hold 1:1 student course selection meetings in late-March. Students will have conversations and come home with a copy of their course selection worksheet to review with their parent and return a signed form (*parents can schedule a meeting to discuss with their counselor/advisor/administrator prior to signing the form*). However, we are asking for all forms to be returned signed by **April 6**.

In advance of all of our meetings, we will be sharing our finalized course selection book for your review. Please note, classes that do not generate enough student interest through the course selection process, will not be offered and alternate options will need to be discussed. Also important to note is that all courses requested are not guaranteed. There is always the potential for conflicts when courses are offered during the same class period and alternate options will need to be discussed. This happens after we have built the master schedule and begin scheduling students into the courses they have requested.

In order to build the most effective master schedule, we need minimize (to every extent possible) that the courses selected by April 6 are the courses you want. Even just five students making course changes impacts our master schedule because we are a small school (and we can not overload our classes with these moves). So, once we build the master schedule on original requests, making course changes may not be possible. This becomes frustrating for students and families and that does not make us feel good either. Therefore, let's please engage a very thoughtful process when making selections by **April 6**. Thank you so much!

Updates from our Athletic Department

Highlights:

Find all information athletics at: <https://www.sussexacademysports.com/>

SA Apparel: Stores will close 3/20

<https://sussexacademytennis23.itemorder.com/>

<https://sussexacademyglax23.itemorder.com/>

<https://sussexacademysoccer23.itemorder.com/>

<https://sussexacademysoftball23.itemorder.com/>

<https://sussexacadbaseball23.itemorder.com/>

Information:

Sussex Academy Soccer will be hosting 2 weeks' worth of camps this summer. Week of June 19th and Week of July 10th. Camps are for anyone entering Grades 1-7 and will run 9am - 2pm. If interested, please contact RJ Dina at r.j.dina@saas.k12.de.us

Upcoming:

High School Baseball

3/21 Home (SATB) v. Salisbury Christian 4pm

3/23 Home v. Indian River 4:15pm

Middle School Baseball

3/20 at Holly Grove Christian School 4pm

Golf

3/20 Home (Kings Creek) v. Indian River 3:30pm

3/24 at Smyrna 3:30pm

High School Boys Lacrosse

3/24 at Indian River 5pm

Middle School Boys Lacrosse

3/23 Home v. Fifer MS 4pm

High School Girls Lacrosse

3/22 Home v. Stephen Decatur 5:30pm JV at 4pm

3/24 Home v. Sussex Tech 5pm

High School Girls Soccer

3/23 at Cape Henlopen 6:30pm JV at 5pm

Middle School Girls Soccer

3/20 Home v. Seaford MS 4pm

3/22 at Laurel MS 4pm

High School Softball

3/20 at Odyssey Charter School 3pm

3/23 Home v. Indian River 4:15pm

Middle School Softball

3/20 at Holly Gove Christian School 4pm

Boys Tennis

3/24 at CR 3:30pm

Girls Tennis

3/24 Home v. CR 3:30pm

Track and Field

3/21 Joint Practice at Sussex Central 3pm

3/25 at Al Dupont Invitational 9am

Boys Volleyball

3/20 at CR 5:30pm

3/22 Home v. Cape Henlopen 4pm

3/24 Home v. Brandywine 4pm

3/25 at St. Marks 12pm