

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK.

#### A Fond Farewell

We are told that death and taxes are the two certainties in life. I'm sure we could all agree that more items belong on the list... and *CHANGE* would be chief among them!

I began my career in education in 1988 teaching in the Los Angeles Unified School District. My teaching career also included time in Colorado before settling in Florida. After nineteen years of teaching mathematics, I made the jump into administration. I just completed my thirteenth year as a principal and sixteenth year as an administrator overall.

It's true... change IS inevitable, and that time has come for me. After months of processing with my family, I have decided that it is time for me to depart from my beloved Sarasota High School.

In a few days, when I depart, I will not leave unattended. With me will march the accumulated memories of thirty-five years serving in schools working with amazing students and exceptional staff members! They were years filled with laughter and with tears; with comfort and with hardships; with pleasure and with pain. The beautiful and the good have always far outweighed the challenges! It has been said that "a thing of beauty is a joy forever," and serving as the principal of Sarasota High School has been a thing of great beauty for me! The presence of these memories will linger long after I have left, and the great people with whom I have served will always inspire me to treasure every moment and remain grateful for all that I have been blessed to enjoy.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts in this newsletter for the past seven years. I wish the entire Sailor Nation the very, very best for many years to come!

Farewell,

David Jones

## SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL

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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Sarasota High School collaboratively engages students and staff in a culture of learning to ensure high student achievement for all students.

#### VISION

Sarasota High School will be a high-functioning professional learning community that will graduate all students career and college ready, prepared to contribute to their community.

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**EAPTAIN:** ['kap-ten] NOUN

One appointed to steer the SS Sarasota.

**SAHOR:** ['sa-ler] NOUN

- One who is mighty at heart.
- One who is able to ride the wave.
- One who adjusts the sails.
- One who stays in the ship through the storm.



Thank you, Mr. Jones

for inspiring, motivating, encouraging, pioneering, innovating, impacting, teaching and supporting! Thank you for leading the Sailor family and marking our hearts with greatness!

You will be deeply missed!



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#### SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS

#### 2023-2024 DISTRICT ACADEMIC CALENDAR

1960 Landings Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34231 Phone (941) 927-9000

JULY 2023							
MON	MON TUE WED THU FF						
3	4	5	6	7			
10	11	12	13	14			
17	(3)	19	20	21			
24	25	26	27	28			
31							

3rd - 7th - 240 Staff Non-Work Days

AUGUST 2023						
MON	ION TUE WED THU					
	1	2	3	4		
7	8	9	19	11		
14	15	16	17	18		
21	22	23	24	25		
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER 2023

3rd - 196 Staff Return 10th - First Day for Students, 186 Staff

20th - 24th - Thanksgiving Brea Students, 186, 196, 220 Staff

23rd - 24th - Thanksgiving Break - 240 Staff FEBRUARY 2024

SEPTEMBER 2023								
MON	TUE WED THU							
				1				
288	5	6	7	8				
11	12	13	14	15				
18	19	20	21	22				
25	26	27	28	29				

4th - Labor Day - Students, All Staff

OCTOBER 2023					
MON TUE WED THU FRI					
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30	31				

12th - End of 1st Grading Period				
16th - Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff				

JANUARY 2024					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
2000	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
200	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31			
1st - 5th - Winter Break - Students, All Staff					
15th - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Students, All Staff					

22	23	24	23	20		
29	30	31				
1st - 5th - Winter Break - Students, All Staff						
15th - Mar	tin Luther	King Jr. Day	- Students	, All Staff		
APRIL 2024						
AI RIE ESET						
MON	TUE	WFD	THU	FRI		

	AP					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	MON	
1	2	3	4	5		
8	9	10	11	12	6	
15	16	17	18	19	13	
22	23	24	25	26	20	
29	30					

MON	TUE	TUE WED THU			
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29		
19th - Presidents Day - Students, All Staff					

MAY 2024					
MON TUE WED THU FRI					
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	22	23	2243	
	28	29	30	31	

24th - Last Day for Students, 186 Staff 27th - Memorial Day - All Staff 29th - Last Day for 196 Staff

DECEMBER 2023							
MON	MON TUE WED THU FR						
				1			
4	5	6	7	8			
11	12	13	14	15			
18	19	20	21	22			
25	26	27	28	29			
21ct End	of 2nd Gr	ading Dori	od				

22nd - Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff 25th - 29th - Winter Break - Students, All Staff

MARCH 2024					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
				1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	
7th - End	of 3rd Gra	ding Perio	d		

8th - Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff 11th - 15th - Spring Break - Students, All Staf Mini Break - Students, 186, 196, 220 Staff

JUNE 2024						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI		
3	4	5	6	7		
10	11	12	13	14		
17	18	19	20	21		
24	25	26	27	28		

14th - Last Day for 220 Staff

#### IMPORTANT DATES

Aug. 10
Aug. 18 Senior Make-up Pictures
Aug. 31 Back to School Night
Sept. 4 Labor Day—No School
Oct. 12 End of 1st Grading Period
Oct. 16 Professional Day—No School
Nov. 20 - Nov. 24
Dec. 21 End of 2nd Grading Period
Dec. 22 Professional Day—No School
Dec. 23 - Jan.7
Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Day—No School
Feb. 19
Mar. 7 End of 3rd Grading Period
Mar. 8
Mar. 11 - Mar. 15Spring Break
Mar. 29 Mini Break
May 24 Last Day of School









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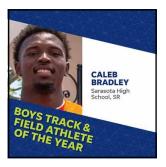
Now Offering Hand-Tied Hair Extensions Spa Is Coming Soon Beginning Of 2023 - Offering Nails And Skin Care Services



### OUTSTANDING SAILOR ATHLETES RECEIVE SPORTS AWARDS

In early June, athletes from Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte area high schools were recognized and honored at the Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte Sports Awards. The Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte Sports Awards is an athletic recognition program honoring the area's top-performing athletes, coaches and teams. Three Sailor athletes were among this year's award recipients including, Liam Heary, Boys Swimming & Diving Athlete of the Year, Alec Miller, Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, and Caleb Bradley, Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year.

#### Congratulations Liam, Alec and Caleb!







Caleb Bradley

Alec Miller

Liam Heary



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## SAILORS WELCOME NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

As the 2023-24 school year approaches, we are excited to welcome two new assistant principals to Sarasota High School, Mrs. Lindsay Gallof and Mrs. Alana Pietranton.

Mrs. Gallof is our new Assistant Principal of Curriculum. Mrs. Gallof is a product of the Sarasota County School system (kindergarten to 12th grade), and a 2002 graduate of Venice High School. She attended the University of South Florida where she earned a bachelor's degree in Special Education. After graduation, she began teaching at Riverview High School where she taught math and was an ESE Liaison and Behavior Specialist. She also coached softball and soccer during her tenure at Riverview High. After earning a master's degree in Educational Leadership,

she became a Program Specialist for Dropout Prevention and Judicial Liaison at the district level. Her love and passion for working with students brought her back to a comprehensive in 2017. She has spent the last six years at Venice High School as Assistant Principal, Assistant Principal of Administration, and most recently Assistant Principal of Curriculum.

Mrs. Gallof is married and has a daughter Peyton who attends Tatum Ridge Elementary. In her spare time, she enjoys camping with her family and the outdoors! Mrs. Gallof is excited to begin this next chapter and serve in the rich culture and tradition at Sarasota High School. Go Sailors!

After serving as an administrative intern during second semester last year, Mrs. Pietranton is now an Assistant Principal. Mrs. Pietranton is a proud Sailor alum. She earned her bachelor's degree from The University of South Florida in Secondary English Education. After graduation, she began her teaching career at Sarasota High in 2017. She was also a cheerleading coach. After several years in the classroom, Mrs. Pietranton discovered she wanted to reach and impact more students and earned a master's degree from The University of South Florida in Educational Leadership.

Mrs. Pietranton is married to her high school sweetheart, Brian, who is also a Sarasota High alum, and they have a dog named Brooks. She was born in Knoxville, Tennessee and is a passionate Vols fan. Sports and music are two of her favorite things. She and her husband attend games and concerts regularly. In addition, she enjoys hanging at the beach, trying new restaurants, and traveling. Mrs. Pietranton is truly honored to be an Assistant Principal and give back to the school that gave so much to her. **Anchors Aweigh!** 

#### Welcome aboard Mrs. Gallof and Mrs. Pietranton!





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## GRADE LEVEL COMMUNICATION BAND QR CODES

STUDENTS & PARENTS-PLEASE FOLLOW FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION!



#### SAILOR SPOTLIGHT

After the last Main Sail newsletter went to print, three Sailor faculty members were recognized for their exceptional dedication and commitment. Math teacher, Casey Garret, was awarded the STEM Teacher Impact Award from Florida Polytechnic University. Ms. Garret received this award in recognition of her exceptional ability to motivate, inspire or impart knowledge to her students such that they take on core STEM disciplines at Florida Polytechnic University. Kara Ashby, a class of 2022 graduate, nominated Ms. Garret for Florida Poly's STEM Impact Award, crediting her teacher with making the most significant impact on her academic journey in the realm of STEM.

Science teacher and MaST Research Institute Coordinator Andy Harshman was selected as a Teacher of Distinction for the 2023 Sarasota County Gator Club. Every spring, scholarships are awarded to outstanding local students who are attending the University of Florida next year or are already enrolled at the University of Florida. In 2021, they started a program to have scholarship winners recognize an educator who has made a significant impact on them through their educational journey. Mr. Harshman's impact is so far-reaching that he was nominated by two scholarship recipients this year.

Class of 2022 graduate Noelle Prouty said Mr. Harshman fostered a passion for research and supported her through her final two years of high school. One of the most important lessons she learned from Mr. Harshman was that even if a plan doesn't work out, the fact that you've tried your best and learned something from your experience is enough. Zoe Strom, a 2023 graduate, also nominated Mr. Harshman and said Mr. Harshman was an exceptional teacher who helped her become a better scientist by teaching the importance of statistical analysis for experimental data. His class provided an opportunity for

her to compete in science projects, allowing her to gain more experience in engineering experiments, and ultimately it shaped her passion for pursuing a career in this field.

English teacher, Gina Barresi, was recognized for volunteering to evaluate the National English Honor Society Writing Contest this spring. This year's contest received more high-quality submissions than ever before, and as a result, more Writing Contest prizes were awarded than in previous years. The National English Honor Society's student contests would not be possible without the continued support of volunteers like Ms. Barresi who generously give of their time.

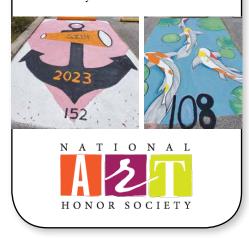
Thank you, Ms. Garret, Mr. Harshman and Ms. Barresi for your commitment to our students and for impacting and enriching their lives.



## PAINT YOUR PARKING SPACE

Natasha Tanner, NAHS Secretary

Personalize your space and mark your spot for your senior year. Create a fun, school appropriate design and paint it with your friends. This option only includes the Tami Sola parking lot. Parking space painting party days will be held on August 7th and August 8th from 8 AM to 2 PM for early applications and October 16th from 8 AM to 2 PM for late applications. The fee is \$45 if paid by July 31st or \$50 if paid by August 31st. Fees must be paid through the SHS website or by cash to Mrs. Markley. If painting isn't your forte, an SHS Art student will paint your spot for you for an additional \$50. For more information, contact Mrs. Markley at debra.markley@ sarasotacountyschools.net.





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### SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RECEIVES CONGRESSIONAL AWARD

Over the summer, U.S. Representative Greg Steube, R-Fla, presented the **Bronze Level Congressional Award** to rising senior, Kai Meighan. The Congressional Award was created to honor young Americans and requires each recipient to set goals in four program areas—Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration. The award is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive and recognizes initiative, service, and achievement in America's youth.

U.S. Representative Steube said, "Kai Meighan is an outstanding representation of *Florida's 17th Congressional District*." For one of the award's pillars, Kai selected to improve the Sarasota Bay. Through multiple projects, Kai removed invasive species from the bay and voluntarily recorded data on the sea life populations and seagrass in the bay. U.S. Representative Steube was pleased to present this national honor to a Sarasota High School student, and he encouraged all students from Florida's 17th Congressional District to apply for the award in the future.

The **United States Congress** established the Congressional Award in 1979 to recognize initiative, service, and achievement in young people. It began as a bipartisan effort with the original bill sponsored by then U.S. Sen. Malcolm Wallop, R-Wy., and then U.S. Rep. James Howard, D-NJ.

Congratulations Kai!





Kai Meighan and U.S. Rep. Greg Steube, R-Fla

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**Sarasota County District Schools** 

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