



News

Spruce Creek High School

& Views

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL SPARGER

Welcome to the **2023/2024 school year!** A new school year is always exciting and a chance to renew a commitment to academic excellence. We look forward to a great year as we prepare **To Achieve Excellence Together.** A special welcome to our newest Hawks, the Class of 2027!

Interested in purchasing **Creek apparel**? Go to school sprucecreekhigh.com for a variety of Creek products to ship directly to your home – from shirts, shorts, hats, and cups, to stickers. This apparel store also has items for **Creek Alumni** that are customizable to the year you graduated. We are so thankful to those individuals that have laid the foundation of success for our school. What began here in the 1975/76 school year has blossomed into a **Nationally Recognized School of Excellence** for its commitment to academics, the arts, and athletics. To celebrate this milestone, a dedicated group of alumni have created **Back to the Nest** which is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising money for Creek students. Follow **Back to the Nest** on **Facebook** or contact them at classschs@gmail.com to offer your assistance.

It is important to remember to **maintain good attendance to school.** Consider this important information as part of the **#EverybodyEveryday** campaign:

- Your children can suffer academically if they miss **10 percent of the school year** or about 18 days. That can be just **one day every two weeks**, and that can happen before you know it.
- Some absences are unavoidable. We understand that children will get sick and need to stay home occasionally. The important thing is to **get your children to school as often as possible.**
- **Sporadic absences**, not just those on consecutive days of school, matter. Before you know it –just one or two days a month can add up to nearly 10 percent of the school year.
- If too many absences occur, it is still a problem whether they are excused or unexcused because they represent too much lost learning time in the classroom.
- **Driver's license** will be revoked if a student has **15 unexcused absences** (excluding out-of-school suspension) in a period of **90 calendar days.**
- Each evening, **phone messages are sent home indicating that your student has missed one or more class periods.** Reach out to **Dr. Rentz** for ideas on improving your student's attendance.
- Track your **student's attendance and grades in their classes** by using **Parent Portal.** Contact **Ms. Beatty** at extension 37814 or rkbeatty@volusia.k12.fl.us to establish your account.

If you have not done so already, please return your student's **Emergency Information Form.** This form was distributed during your student's **second period class** and is to be completed and returned each school year. Please note that **only those individuals listed on the emergency card will be allowed to sign a student out of school.** Weekly messages will go home from the school as phone, email and text messages. If you are not receiving those messages, contact Ms. Young, our school's registrar to update.

continued on next page...

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL SPARGER

continued...

To **stay informed** with events on campus, you are encouraged to frequently visit our school's **website** at www.sprucecreekhigh.com. The website is updated regularly and has links to our **daily announcements**, **teacher's e-mail addresses**, and our **activities calendar**. A **Twitter** and **Facebook** account have also been established @GreatDay2BAHawk and **Instagram** at [sprucecreekhighhawks](https://www.instagram.com/sprucecreekhighhawks). Please follow us on these social media platforms.

Please join us for our **annual Open House on Tuesday, September 26**. The **club/sport expo** will start at 5pm. All families should be in their **first period class at 6pm**. Looking forward to a great school year as we remember that **"Today as Every day is a Great Day to be a Hawk."**



Guidance

Welcome new and returning Hawks! The Guidance Department is excited to be back, and we are looking forward to starting the 2023-2024 school year. We have had some staff changes so your student's Counselor may have changed. The new counseling assignments can be seen if you use the QR Code or go to our counseling website (<https://sprucecreekcounseling.weebly.com/>).

All students have the same lunch period again this year, which allows ALL teachers to be available for Office Hours in their classrooms at the beginning of this extended student lunch. Students may use this time to get extra help/tutoring, make up a test, etc. Also, students may see their Counselor without an appointment before school or during student office hours/lunch. All other needs can be addressed by emailing the Counselor directly, filling out a "Request to See Counselor" form on our Weebly site (<https://sprucecreekcounseling.weebly.com/>) or by using the QR code found around campus and pasted in this update. Counselors will then call for students as quickly as possible. In some cases, such as schedule change requests, students will not even have to miss instructional time and we will send the changed schedule to them in their class.

Beginning in September, and through the month of October, Counselors will meet with Seniors to go over graduation requirements and to assist with their plans after graduation. Counselors will also register ALL Seniors for Florida Bright Futures Scholarships. Please ask your Senior about their visit. Start helping them prepare now for college visits, ACT/SAT testing, earning community service hours, job interviews, writing a resume, etc. In addition to our Counseling Weebly website, check out our school website (www.sprucecreekhigh.com) for information on scholarships, community service, and more throughout the school year.

Mark your calendar now for the Club Expo/Open House event happening on our campus September 26th. Always check our Weebly and school websites for information and events. We are looking forward to a great year! Go Hawks!!

German Club

Guten Tag!

German Club welcomes the 2023/2024 school year on behalf of its members to the entire student community. German Club would like to invite anyone and everyone who is interested in learning about German language and culture to join. Come this September, Homecoming is the week of the 24th where German Club will continue the tradition of participating with a booth during carnival on the 29th. Open House is September 26th and German Club will be present at the Club Expo. Here club members will pass out important information about this exciting club: learn about projects, fun activities, volunteering, and our annual trip to Europe. During this event you can join/sign up to become a member. Do not miss out on this great opportunity to advance in your goals. We welcome all to join.

Auf Wiedersehen in German Club!

We need spots filled...



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Lizz Maderas

Spruce Creek High School

386-756-7200

The Young Republicans News

By D. Keith August 2023

The school year ended well for our Young Republicans. We put up flags on our school fence for Memorial Day and had an end-of-the-year party to welcome summer. Ormond Republican phone lists were distributed to our members to make calls for a Republican running for office. We also willingly collected a \$500 donation for the SCHS Young Republicans from the Atlantic Federated Republican Women's Club on July 20th at the Halifax Yacht Club. Many thanks to Jeremiah Belinsky who represented our Creek chapter and graciously accepted the check. This donation will help us subsidize a scholarship for a worthy senior in the spring, and it will also help us purchase flags for our school.

One of our ongoing projects includes Wreaths Across America. If you are interested in helping to put a \$17.00 wreath on the grave of veterans the second Saturday in December, please go to this digital address <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/17897/Overview/?relatedId=15633>. Please mark it for Edgewater Cemetery under the name of our club: Spruce Creek High School Young Republicans FL0029P. Many thanks!

We are looking forward to a new service project this upcoming school year. Our group will fold WAVES booklets for LIVING WATERS three times during the school year. We'll also continue to help a few republicans running for office. We'll solicit for club membership at Open House's Club Expo on September 26 and participate in Field Night September 27, and Homecoming Carnival where we will have a Pizza booth on September 29. It's going to be a terrific Homecoming Week!

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Volusia County School Board
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JROTC

AUGUST JROTC NEWSLETTER

Welcome Hawks! The Hawk Battalion returns from summer break for another great year.

We said goodbye to our seniors and welcomed our new cadets to the Hawk Battalion.

Over summer the Hawk Battalion presented the colors at the Spruce Creek High School 2023 graduation ceremony and Senior Awards ceremony. Color Guard presented the colors on the center stage with thousands of eyes gazing upon them. We thank these cadets for their hard work! Our Color Guard Cadets also presented the colors at the first football game of the season.

Our Raider team has been conditioning to compete against other schools at the annual Raider challenge. Practices were commanded by Cadet Wesley Johnston. We highly encourage new cadets to try out for the team to learn valuable teamwork and leadership skills.

Wearing our JROTC uniforms is a great way to show pride in the Hawk Battalion. Returning cadets were re-issued their uniforms throughout August and will start wearing them the first Wednesday of September. The new cadets were also sized for uniforms to prepare for this school year.

In the month of August our cadets worked on our annual Goals Essay which includes why Cadets joined JROTC and what they hope to accomplish throughout the program. Each class brainstormed the benefits of the program and were given a guideline to start their essays.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Our Color Guard is preparing for a busy month. The upcoming Spruce Creek swim meet and the many September football games will present many opportunities for our Color Guard to display their talent and dedication. JROTC also will line the fence around Spruce Creek Highschool with American flags to commemorate the tragic events of September 11th. Finally, we encourage visitors to come to open house on September 26th and visit us during the club expo in the main atrium between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. and then come to portable 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



HOOAH!

Speech & Debate Team

The Spruce Creek Debate Team (under the auspices of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative) is going into its third year. We welcome all who are interested in competing. GOOD NEWS: you do not have to have any experience to join the team! We are here to help competitors learn, to encourage, and to build up confidence. We compete in the FCDI tournaments in the Central Florida and Northeast Florida regions. Hopefully, this year we will be able to get some practice in with NSB who are starting a team.

The competitive events offered fall into 3 main categories with each category offering several options to choose from, so there is bound to be at least one event (maybe even 2 or 3) that a student may wish to enter. DEBATE is for students who like to argue and put over their point of view (dissenting opinions or opposition). Students can compete as individuals, pairs, or as a team; SPEECH is for students who like to express their ideas. INTERPRETATION is for students who enjoy performance and acting.

Look out for the Speech & Debate noticeboards in the front B hallway and the O-wing hallway to find out about introductory meetings, which will give you an overview of all the events. Listen to the announcements for the same.

We look forward to having you join us!

Miss Melanie Wilson, Speech & Debate Sponsor, Rm: O-16

Soccer

Boys and girls junior varsity and varsity soccer tryouts will take place here on campus October 16-19. Anyone interested in trying out should sign up in room C8 so that parents may receive more information via email. The "Athletic Clearance" instructions sheet can be found under the Athletics section at sprucecreekhigh.com; all of the requirements on this clearance sheet must be completed prior to tryouts. Please email Keith Costner at krcostne@volusia.k12.fl.us if you have any questions.

8TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL MEET TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF OUR ATHLETE SAVANNA AND HER BROTHER DAVID!

INFORMATION

Varsity (10) and JV (unlimited) Races as well as a Middle School 2.1 mile which will run after high school races.

The Meet will be Chip timed

The Meet will run 20 high schools 10 Middles Contact Stephen Gallon

(sfgallon@volusia.k12.fl.us; mailto:sfgallon@volusia.k12.fl.us)

Make checks Att. cross country Spruce High School 801 Taylor Road Port Orange Fl. 32127

\$200.00 per High School Team or \$100 Girls or Boys

Team Middle school \$ 75.00

\$30 per individual runner, \$0 per tribute walker

\$5.00 Parking

\$5.00 PERSON GOFAN

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Country Inn Suites by Radisson Port Orange Fl (Daytona) (386) 760-0101

La Quinta Inn & Suites Port Orange (Daytona) (386) 756-3440

SCHEDULE

Tribute Walk 7:00am 13min 10 sec

7:14am National anthem (On the Track)

7:30am Varsity races first (Boys then Girls) followed by JV races (Boys then Girls).

Middle School Mixed 2.1 mile (Possibly combined).

AWARDS

Top 15 Varsity Top 5 JV

Top 10 Middle school Team Awards

1st and 2nd

Varsity races can run your Top 10

Course will be open at 5pm Friday 9/15/23

Course will be open at 5:30am

Saturday Note wooded course will be dark until 7ish will close at 7:25am

Spruce Creek XC Course

Map High School

<https://youtu.be/GDpxLWaxPes>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBF6ouUFIEl&feature=youtu.be>

NEHS Spruce Creek National English Honor Society | Update by Ms. Maderas

The Spruce Creek Synonym Rolls chapter of the National English Honor Society is accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year through September 8th!

Last year was the inaugural year of NEHS and it was a great success, but we want to do more this year to serve our campus and community and promote literacy and an interest

in ELA. Most of our members last year were seniors who have graduated and, while they left the honor society in very capable hands, we need additional members to make this year a success. This year's brilliant officers include: President Caroline Burfield; Vice-President Emmy Hillman; Secretary Sienna Moore; Treasurer Chase Saxour; Historian Ava Werner; and Public

NOMINATION FORM FOR SPRUCE CREEK'S 2023-2024 DISTINGUISHED AWARDS

The honor I would like to bestow upon said nominee is (check one):

- ☐ Distinguished ALUMNUS/ALUMNA
- ☐ Distinguished FACULTY
- ☐ Distinguished HAWK SUPPORTER



Deadline: September 20, 2023

Name of NOMINEE _____

Graduating Class of Nominee _____ Years teacher/supporter associated at Creek _____ - _____

Email _____ PHONE _____

Address _____

Name of NOMINATOR _____

Email _____ PHONE _____

Address _____

Reasons this person is worthy of the Distinguished Award. Add additional pages if needed.

Signature of Nominator _____ Date _____

Send to Deborah Keith, 801 Taylor Road, Port Orange, FL 32127 or DeborahKeith24@gmail.com

Relations Chair Matt Federico. This year they plan to continue the tradition of hosting Poetry Out Loud on campus, form a partnership with senior living facilities, potentially start a writing center on campus, and contribute to or start a variety of other events and activities on campus and in our surrounding community.

If you are a sophomore, freshman, or junior who would like to gain some leadership experience, contribute to your community, grow your bank of service hours, and have a good time promoting literacy in your community, you should apply for membership! Applicants must have a 3.0 overall unweighted GPA and a 3.0 English unweighted GPA. For more information see bit.ly/creeknehswix or visit Ms. Maderas in C-13 or Mrs. Esposito in C-1.

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NHS

National Honor Society | By D. Keith August 2023

Our senior members graduated June 3rd and left 100 underclassmen in the club to serve the school and community in the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. We anticipate accepted juniors and seniors to be **installed as new members on September 21st in our auditorium at 6 PM**. This NHS board includes: President Logan Dain, Vice President Jordan Tomchuk, Service Chair Connor Wiles, Secretary Triany Nicolas; Treasurer Andrew Halleran; Historian Danielle Hurtado, and Digital Director Finnegan Gillespie.

The theme for our 2023-2024 school year is BETTER TOGETHER and we accomplished this in part by serving as program dispensers at Senior Awards, Baccalaureate and Graduation. There were several service projects this summer including helping alumni class reunions, giving tours of our school to the freshmen during orientation and helping teachers get their classrooms ready for Day One, August 14th.

If you are a junior or a senior enrolled at Spruce Creek High School and interested in the National Honor Society, please go to this address to answer a few questions regarding becoming an NHS member. <http://sprucecreekhighnhs.weebly.com/becoming-an-nhs-member.html>. The submission of your **digital information sheets deadline is September 6th**. This includes recommendations re: leadership and service.

Those interested must have:

- 3.5 unweighted GPA or higher
- Minimum of 25 verifiable service hours
- Our four pillars: scholarship, leadership, service & good character

Join us to see how much can be accomplished when we do better for others together!!



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Asian Association News and Views Report

By Nathan Duffy ed. by D. Keith,
August 2023

The Asian Association of Spruce Creek High School welcomes all back to school! We are an inclusive community offering fun activities, cultural learning experiences, and delicious Asian cuisine. We provide opportunities to let club members immerse in diverse customs, traditions, and histories, as well as meeting fun and like-minded people. Our meetings are held during lunch on the second Thursday of the month in room C - 14. Each month we celebrate and explore the history and culture of a different Asian country with the hopes of deepening our cultural understanding and opening our minds to different experiences. We ended last year with a delicious dinner at NY Korean Barbeque where our new officers were installed and then we had a blast singing karaoke at ChopChop! Officers for 2023-2024 include: President Nathan Duffy, VP Catherine Kennedy, Secretary David Whalen, Treasurer Selena Yam, Service Chair Shawn Shen, and Historian Tori Huynh. Mrs. Deborah Keith is our adviser. We wish the very best to our outgoing adviser Mrs. Karen Meadows who retired this summer. We thank her deeply for her years of service! Follow us on social media at @asianassociation_sc and join our Remind by texting @creekaa to 81010 to stay connected. Our club dues are \$15 which you can pay at osp.osmsinc.com/Volusia by selecting Spruce Creek High



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Guidance Updates

NHS News, Soccer

Asian Association News & Views

Distinguished Awards Form
and more!



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