

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK.

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, and Alumni of Sarasota High School,

In 1994, I read the first book of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series. The book consisted of inspirational true stories about seemingly ordinary people's lives. The book became a major best-seller and something of a social phenomenon because of its ability to change others' perspective of certain topics. For me, the theme that blasted into my mind and soul was **kindness**. I derived great inspiration from stories of others' acts of kindness. With all the negative stories in the news, sometimes it's a refreshing change to find tears running down your face for a different reason: a profound appreciation for the kind things people do for each other. The world is filled with wonderful deeds of kindness, but as a society, we too often fail to accentuate these, and rather, we tend to gravitate toward the negative stories that allegedly sell...

Perhaps more than ever before, we need a greater emphasis on identifying the existing kindness in the world and on creating MORE kindness. It seems the pandemic has changed how some people respond, often with far less patience and kindness. I have to ask myself, do I attack more than I seek to understand? Have I become a keyboard warrior more than an inspirational uplifter? I don't want this to be who I am and who we are collectively.

I recently came across this story CBS posted on January 27, 2015: When Bud Caldwell's wife Betty passed away after 55 years of marriage, he dedicated a park bench to her, taking daisies

to her memorial whenever he could. That proved difficult in the winter, when the walkway in the park was often slick with ice and snow.

But one day, that changed, when city workers Jerrod Ebert and Kevin Schultz saw Caldwell parking near the snowbank. "It took us both back a little bit, thinking, my gosh... his devotion is that strong that he still comes when he can't even make it to the bench," Ebert told CBS. The two men began going to the park and shoveling the walkway daily, even though no one would be walking on it other than Caldwell. "One day I pulled up there and there's the walk shoveled." He was so touched, he said, "My knees about buckled on me."

Ebert explained, "We were just doing what we felt was our job. Some intuition, be it divine or otherwise, says this is why you're here - to help one another."

As we enter the holiday season, may your world be filled with kindness, and may we all bring more kindness to the world!

Warmly, David Jones

SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL

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MISSION STATEMENT

Sarasota High School is dedicated to providing a culturally, socially, and intellectually diverse student population with an education that will allow them to be successful in today's ever-changing society.

Creating a learning environment that is challenging, relevant, and active is essential to ensure our students are equipped for success in their post-secondary pursuits. In doing so, we aim to develop in each student the skills of leadership, accountability, and self-reliance that are essential to become a productive citizen.

VISION

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Issue #1

NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY

Noelle Prouty, NAHS Secretary

SHS's chapter of National Art Honor Society has many plans coming for the next few weeks, so make sure to keep your eyes out for opportunities.

NAHS has begun partnering with *Letters for Rose*, a local non-profit organization that sends letters and artworks to elders in nursing homes to lessen feelings of loneliness during the pandemic. Members have been creating drawings and hand-written letters every month for each round of letter delivery, and the club is planning to continue involving members in this service opportunity with the goal of brightening the lives of others through the power of art and kindness.





This winter, NAHS is hosting a one-man-show for 2015 SHS graduate Andre Johnson. The exhibition will feature his underwater photography. This exhibition will be in the SHS art gallery from December 8th to January 28th. The club is also sending works from current members to competitions. Over 30 works of art will be sent to the 2022 Scholastics Art and Writing Awards, and over 150 works will be sent to the 2022 Florida State Fair.

Scholarship season is beginning with many opportunities waiting to be earned. Seniors, make sure to speak with your art teachers about scholarship opportunities in the arts!

JROTC

Gavin Draken, Battalion Public Affairs Officer

Throughout the 2021 school year, our very own JROTC cadets have excelled brilliantly with this year's program. Looking back to November 11th, Veterans Day, the entire JROTC battalion marched along Main Street in downtown Sarasota in honor

of veterans around the world, singing Cadences (songs sung by military personnel while running or marching) together, as a group. These fine cadets looked fantastic in uniform, complete with their berets.

Recently, on December 2nd, numerous cadets visited South Lido Park, as part of the battalion's service learning project, with the goal of keeping our park looking fantastic and our environment clean. The program's goal was absolutely crushed by these terrific and respectable students, leaving with six heavy duty trash bags, filled with waste and garbage collected by the students.



The Rifle Team competed in a rifle match at Venice High School on December 4th placing third in Sarasota County. Kaia Nelson finished fifth overall in the county. Looking forward, JROTC's Annual Dining-In will commence on December 17th. This is an annual event in which the battalion gets together to celebrate the end of the year and the achievements of special cadets. During this event, cadets dress in uniform, eat dinner, converse, get to know





each other, and have fun. The Dining-In is a military tradition to build espirit-decorps and unit cohesion. Overall, this year's JROTC cadets have done some outstanding work and will continue to do so!

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AICE WELCOMES NEW COORDINATOR

Please help us welcome Kristina Harshman, our new AICE Coordinator. Mrs. Harshman has taught Pre-AICE and AICE courses prior to accepting this position. Shelly Spells, our previous AICE

Coordinator, relocated to Texas with her family over the Thanksgiving Break.

The AICE Department is providing tours to incoming freshman on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday afternoons during the months of January and February. Please go to the AICE website www.shsaice.com to sign up for a tour.

We will be holding an AICE apparel fundraiser in January. Be on the lookout for details on the AICE Band App.



SHS AICE PROGRAM

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TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Earlier this fall, ESE Liaison Shannon Nelson was named Sarasota High School's *Teacher of the Year*. Mrs. Nelson was born and raised in Sarasota and is a 1994 graduate of Sarasota High School. She received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Central Florida and holds a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of South Florida. Mrs. Nelson began thinking about being a teacher and specializing in Exceptional Student Education (ESE) as a teenager. During her pre-teen and teen years, she had various babysitting jobs. One such job was for a 3 year old boy who was experiencing some developmental and learning challenges. While babysitting this little boy,

Mrs. Nelson took note of the difficulty he was experiencing and began playing some educational games with him. She also noticed what she thought was a possible hearing impairment. Upon having his hearing tested, the boy's parents realized the cause of much of their son's difficulties was connected to a hearing loss. With this knowledge, they were equipped to help their son and close the gap on his challenges. It was this experience that marked Mrs. Nelson's heart and later put her on the path of becoming an ESE teacher.

Mrs. Nelson first taught at Jones High School in Orlando. From Orlando, she moved to Omaha, Nebraska where she taught at Omaha North High School for two years. Mrs. Nelson returned to her hometown in 2002. She was hired by Sarasota County Schools and began working at Sarasota High School in August of that same year. During her time at Sarasota High School, Mrs. Nelson has taught various ESE courses, including English, Social Skills, Career Placement, Peer Counseling and Unique Skills. In the fall of 2019, she stepped into her most recent position as an ESE Liaison.

Mrs. Nelson's passion is working with kids, and over the years her roles at Sarasota High have given her many opportunities to impact the lives of her students. She said she's a "lifer" and she looks forward to continuing to work with the ESE department. Mrs. Nelson is one example of the amazing SHS alumni we have on staff.

Congratulations Mrs. Nelson!





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KEY CLUB

Since August, Key Club has offered close to 40 different community service events. These events range from serving the community through Mothers Helping Mothers, Toys for Tots, Cat Depot, and Sarasota Parks and Recreation; to serving our school with Veterans Day decorations and football game parking; to serving our club by participating in the Gingerbread House Contest at University Town Center and participating in the Homecoming Pep Rally. Key Club members have completed 375 community service hours to date.

This year's Key Club has over 100 members. Sarasota High School's Key Club is sponsored by the Sarasota Kiwanis Club. SHS Key Club was chartered in 1940, making it one of the oldest clubs in our zone. Key Club remains the premiere club for earning community service hours and making a difference in our community. Students interested in joining should contact Mrs. Ashley Harris at Ashley.harris@sarasotacountyschools.net.

SAILOR SPOTLIGHT

Jaed Jones was named the 2021 Sarasota County Teen Miss Agriculture USA Queen.



MIGHTY SAILOR BAND "STRAIGHT SUPERIOR"



Jacob Newlan holds FL Bandmasters Award

The Mighty Sailor Band attended the Florida Bandmasters Association District 11 Music Performance Assessment in early November. The band received **Superior** ratings (the highest possible) in every single category (Music 1, Music 2, Visual Performance, General Effect, Percussion, and Color Guard). This specific achievement is referred to as a "Straight Superior" rating and this is the first time on record that Sarasota High School has received this distinction.



Seminole Sound Spectacular

One weekend later, the Mighty Sailor Band competed at the Lakewood Ranch Music in Motion competition and again took 1st Place in their class. They took home trophies for Best Music, Best General Effect, Best Percussion, and Best Color Guard.





Music In Motion @ Lakewood Ranch High

The last weekend in November, our Mighty Sailor Band competed at the Florida Marching Band State Championships in Ocala. They took first place in the entire state for the music award and 4th in the state overall. Way to go Sailors! We are so proud of our band, percussion and color guard for an amazing season!





FMBC State Championships





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SPEECH AND DEBATE

Bella North, Team Captain

As the pandemic continued with the 2021-22 school year, so did SHS Speech and Debate. Since 2020, Speech and Debate tournaments were held virtually. The virtual tournaments presented challenges, and they were far less exciting. Now that the tournaments are back in-person, the team couldn't be happier. Our already successful team consisting of Sienna Hanson



(9th grade), Anika Sackerlotzky (10th grade), Peyton Milhorn (11th grade), Abigail Clark (12th grade), and team captain Bella North (11th grade) returned this year stronger than ever. Not only is the team thrilled to be back, but they also have the honor to be coached by Dr. Terri. St. John who has been coaching at Sarasota High School for 24 years. With the return to in-person competition, SHS is proud to share that in our first two tournaments at Sickles High School and King High School, Abigail Clark placed first and second in Dramatic Performance, Peyton Milhorn placed second and first in Dramatic Performance, and Anika Sackerlotzky placed fourth and second in Congressional Debate. Our novices have already earned their memberships with the National Speech and Debate Association Honor Society; and Bella North who, after almost three years on the team, earned her Degree of Excellence. Every member has competed and or placed in either Student Congress, Dramatic Performance, Declamation or Extemporaneous speaking. Every event

in Speech and Debate requires hard work, time, and motivation, and this team has shown it all and continues to prove to our coach and district that they want to succeed. Not only is competing in person a bonding experience, but it also teaches students research, writing, and performance skills to a higher degree than virtual tournaments.

Although online tournaments did provide a way for students to still compete during the pandemic and taught students, parents, and coaches to use new resources to our advantage, they did not bring the team together as effectively as in-

person tournaments. For each tournament now, team members wake up at 5:00 AM in the morning, meet for travel by 6:30 AM, and then practice on the way to the host school while their parent judges and drivers enjoy their efforts. On tournament mornings, the team members arrive dressed in professional attire, hair back, and attitudes on. The team competes in varied events over eight hours. At the conclusion of each tournament, awards are given out and each team is applauded. The day concludes with team photos before heading home, tired but proud. Each Monday after the tournament, the team picks up ballots, reads and discusses them, and continues working to improve for the next competition.

We urge students who would like to be a part of a nationally recognized team and honor society to remember to sign up to take a Debate class when registration begins in the spring. It is your first step towards all the extraordinary benefits of competing in Speech and Debate.







"IN MY SHOES"

Charlotte Pico's "In My Shoes" photograph was entered into Embracing Our Differences at the end of last school year and has now been selected for their 2022 Juried Annual Exhibit. This year's call to artists and quoters brought in 17,912 entries from 123 countries, 47 states and 423 schools around the world. The 50 selected quotes and 50 selected artworks will be showcased in the 19th annual exhibit displayed at Sarasota's Bayfront Park from January 15 through April 10.

Congratulations Charlotte!





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As the State of Florida's "honors college for the liberal arts," New College is excited to partner with Sarasota High School to offer **guaranteed admission** to students who meet the minimum criteria.

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SAILOR ATHLETICS

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 21 Midterm Exams
Dismissal @ 11:00 AM

Dec. 22 Midterm Exams Dismissal @ 11:00 AM

Dec. 23-Jan. 7 Winter Break

Jan. 10 Professional Day

Jan. 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

No School

TBA..... AICE/MAST

Information Night

Feb. 9..... Student/Parent

Information Night

Feb. 21..... Presidents Day-No School

Mar. 11 End of 3rd grading period Mar. 14-Mar. 18 Spring Break

Mar. 21 Professional Day-

No School



SPRING SPORTS

Spring Sports (baseball, softball, lacrosse, tennis, track and field, spring football, boys' weightlifting and beach volleyball) will begin shortly after Winter Break. Athletes must have athletic clearance completed BEFORE participating in workouts or tryouts. Athletic clearance information can be found at https://athleticclearance.fhsaahome.org/. Informational meetings for each spring sport will be held after the holidays.



NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Congratulations to our student athletes who signed National Letters of Intent on November 10.

- Rylee Miller Keiser University Softball
- Anya Studebaker Rollins College Lacrosse
- Mario Trivella State College of Florida Baseball
- Bradley Ramsden State College of Florida Baseball
- Brandon Jung Towson University Baseball

SAILOR SOCCER

Stanley Heinlein, Head Coach

Dec. 21	Port Charlotte @ Home	6:00 PM/7:30 PM
Jan. 12	Riverview @ Home	5:00 PM/7:00 PM
Jan. 14	@ North Port	6:00 PM/8:00 PM
Jan. 17	@ Venice	6:00 PM/8:00 PM
Jan. 18	@ Charlotte	5:30 PM/7:00 PM
Jan. 21	Southeast @ Home- Senior Night	6:00 PM
Jan. 24	Manatee @ SHS	7:00 PM

LADY SAILOR SOCCER

Cole Richardson, Head Coach

Jan. 5	@ Parrish	TBA
Jan. 10	@ Sebring	12:00 PM/2:00 PM
Jan. 12	@ Riverview	5:00 PM/7:00 PM
Jan. 14	@ SSES	6:00 PM
Jan. 18	@ Manatee	5:00 PM/7:00 PM
Jan. 20	@ Braden River	5:00 PM
Jan. 21	Imagine @ Home - Senior Night	7:30 PM
Jan. 24-Jan. 28	JV Tournament @ Riverview	TBA



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SAILOR BASKETBALL

Kevin Fields, Varsity Head Coach Fernando Rivera, JV Head Coach

Dec. 28-30	Chick Fil-a Tourney @ Bradenton Christian	Varsity Only
Jan. 7	@ St. Stephens	JV-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 10	@ Braden River	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 13	Riverview @ Home	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 14	@ Venice	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 15- Jan. 17	MLK Tourney @ Bayshore	JV Only
Jan. 19	North Port @ Home	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 21	@ Bayshore	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 24	Manatee @ Home- Senior Night	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 25	Lakewood Ranch @ Home	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 28	@ Riverview	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 31	@ IMG	JV/V-6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Feb. 2	@ Cardinal Mooney	JV/V-5:30 PM/ 7:00 PM
Feb. 4	@ Booker High	JV/V 6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM

LADY SAILOR BASKETBALL

Kevin Corwin, Head Coach

Dec. 29- Jan. 1	@ Tampa Tourney	Varsity Only TBA
Jan. 8	Braden River Tourney	JV Only TBA
Jan. 11	North Port @ Home	6:00 PM/ 7:30 PM
Jan. 12	Bayshore @ Home	JV Only 5:00 PM
Jan. 14- Jan. 15	MLK Tourney-St. Pete	TBA
Jan. 18	Lakewood Ranch @ Home	Varsity Only 6:00 PM
Jan. 21	Booker @ Home	6:00 PM/7:30 PM
Jan. 25	@ Braden River	6:00 PM/7:30 PM
Jan. 26	Manatee @ Home	Varsity Only 6:00 PM
Jan. 27	@ Bayshore	JV Only-5:00 PM
Jan. 28	Venice @ Home	6:00 PM/7:30 PM

SAILOR WRESTLING

Brent Yoder, Head Coach

Dec. 30	Parrish IBT Tournament @ Parrish High School
Jan. 8	District Team Duals @ North Port
Jan. 22	Bobcat Classic IBT Tournament @ North Port
Feb. 2	@ SMA
Feb. 4-Feb. 5	Brandon IBT Tournament @ Brandon High School
Feb. 11	Riverview @ Home
Feb. 12	Bidwell Memorial Classic IBT Tournament @ Lemon Bay
Feb. 19	3A Districts IBT Tournament @ Riverdale High School (Naples)
Feb. 25-Feb. 26	3A Regional Tournament-TBA
Mar. 4-Mar. 5	3A State Tournament Silver Spurs Arena (Kissimmee)

LADY SAILOR WEIGHTLIFTING

Jackie Brown, Head Coach

Jan. 18	@ Venice
Jan. 20	District Meet @ Venice
Jan. 29	Regional Meet @ St. Cloud
Feb. 11	Qualifiers @ Port St. Joe



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Sarasota County District Schools

SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL

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SENIOR CALENDAR

Dec. 22Gr	aduation Announcement der Deadline
Jan. 14Fii	nal Payment Due for nior Packages (No Refunds)
Feb. 1—Feb. 11Gr (N	ad Bash Tickets On Sale o Refunds)
Apr. 20Gr	aduation Student Speaker
Ар	oplications Deadline
Apr. 22Ca	p & Gown Distribution
Apr. 27Gr	aduation Student Speaker Auditions
Apr. 30Pro	om
May 19/May 20 *TBD Ma	andatory Graduation Practice
May 20Gr	aduation
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