

MAIN SAIL



MAY 2020

Volume 4, Issue 3

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

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

As I bid farewell to my students on March 11 when they walked out the door for spring break, I had no idea I wouldn't be seeing them for the rest of the school year. Back and forth the exchanges went, "Have a nice break!" We knew COVID-19 was beginning to have an impact in our nation, so other niceties were exchanged as well, "Stay safe and remember to wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds."

Since then, "spring break" evolved into the remainder of the school year spent physically apart. This is truly an unprecedented situation, and changes emerge minute by minute. If you asked me six months ago to imagine a time where I would be mandated to stay home for weeks, away from my students, I would have said you're nuts. And yet, here we are.

And my students, what has changed for them? We are no longer able to greet one another every morning with a fist bump, handshake or hug. They are not entering the campus to learn from a multitude of amazing teachers. They are not physically present for our teachers to take attendance, nor are they standing in line to buy lunch or sitting in our classrooms listening to each other. No longer are they secretly passing notes to each other during lessons. Some families have suffered immeasurable financial loss, and some have lost loved ones.

I have no desire to minimize the circumstances before us. But is there any upside to sustained adversity? Is it even possible to find beauty from the ashes, joy from the

mourning? I believe it is possible, especially if we commit to making it so. Were it not for the incredible adversity our family went through while dealing with our youngest son's profound medical issues twenty years ago, we would never have moved to Florida. That adversity opened the door for all the magnificent years here we have spent in Florida with all of you; I cannot begin to imagine how less fulfilling my life would be were it not for that. Indeed, I'm encouraged by something Maya Angelou wrote a while back: "You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it."

We WILL get through this! Regardless of how differently our school year ended, we can emerge with new strength, strength beyond anything of which we thought we were capable. You can also rest assured that there isn't a day that this SHS staff doesn't think about all of you. We sincerely long for the day we can physically be present with one another.

Please stay Sailor Strong. You are loved. You are missed. You are stronger and more capable than you know.

Here's to a peaceful, healthy, and joyful summer.

Warmly,
David Jones

SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL

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A-F

G-M

N-Z





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

To Teach, Challenge, Support and Inspire

"Main Sail"
May 2020

Published Five Times Per Year
Sarasota County District Schools
1960 Landings Blvd.,
Sarasota, FL 34231
Issue #3



SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM FINISHES STRONG

The Speech and Debate Team was unable to complete the 2019-2020 season due to the cancellation of the final three tournaments and two national championship tournaments. Although this was disappointing to all, the team had an amazing season from September to February. Eight novice team members earned their memberships in the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) and the team collectively earned 2,089 NSDA points. Three team members were semi-finalists at two national invitational tournaments; ten were tournament runners-up; nine were tournament champions; and two earned national championship qualifying spots. Their success enabled their coach, Dr. Terri St. John, to earn her 3rd Diamond and a Distinguished Service Gold Key with the NSDA.

The Speech and Debate Team will be graduating eight current members this year: Harley Haas, Anthony Habas, Malachi Matthews, Campbell Shaw, Kevin Steinfeld, Jonathan Sullivan, and Team Captains Kylie Kauffman and Race Lambole. We wish our seniors much success as they pursue their educational goals at University of Pennsylvania, Stetson University, University of Miami, Fordham University, Florida State University, University of Florida and Tallahassee Community College.

It is with great love and pride that we dedicate this season to the Class of 2020 Speech and Debate Team members as well as ALL Class of 2020 Sailors!



JROTC SALUTES CLASS OF 2020

The JROTC Bulldog Battalion Class of 2020 accomplished many great things during their four years at Sarasota High School. Their contributions to the local community made an important impact through food and clothing drives, Ken Thompson Park clean up, and providing gifts for underprivileged kids during the holidays. They led the battalion through obstacle and adventure courses and up rock walls. Their leaders kept other cadets in step during countless color guards, drill meets and parades. They stayed on target during rifle matches and kept pushing on during Raider meets. The Class of 2020 have set the example for those who will follow in their footsteps and will go on to be leaders in our community and our country.

Special recognition to seniors:

Jillian Siverly earned Superior Cadet Award, Jasmine Mondragon earned the Senior Army Instructor Award, Harley Haas earned the Distinguished Cadet Award (for academic achievement) and was the Class of 2020 Outstanding Senior. Harley Haas and Jonathan Sullivan earned college scholarships from the Military Officer Association. We also want to recognize the following seniors that will go on to serve in the military— Tamara Aguilar, Jasmine Mondragon, Rene Oduardo-Alvarez and Marco Esquivel.

Congratulations Class of 2020! Go BULLDOGS! Go SAILORS!



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STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER WELCOMES NEW COLLEGE AND CAREER ADVISOR

Hi Sarasota Sailors! I'm Mrs. Dudek, the new College and Career Advisor for the Student Success Center powered by the Education Foundation of Sarasota County. I am available to help you find answers to your questions about life after high school in this uncertain time. To make an appointment with me (phone call or Zoom) click here: www.bit.ly/virtualappts. The transition after high school as a senior is a challenging time under normal circumstances, and now more than ever, you may need help navigating. I look forward to the opportunity to meet you in person soon in the new and improved Student Success Center at SHS. Come visit when school reopens! Until then, stay well, be safe, and check out my powtoon at <https://vimeo.com/403399784>. If you have questions or need assistance, email me at kdudek@edfoundationsrq.org. Follow us on Instagram as SSCSHS.



SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL
Student Services

QUESTIONS?
Contact your Counselor!

During this trying time, please remember that your SHS Guidance Team is here to support and assist you and your family!

Our virtual office hours are 8am-3pm and we can be reached by email to schedule phone calls or ZOOM video conference.

Please do not hesitate to reach out! Go Sailors!

COUNSELOR INFORMATION

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www.sarasotacountysschools.net/schools/sarasotahigh

SHINING SAILORS

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Florida District 16 Congressional Teacher of the Year

Christian Knuth
CTE Student of the Year

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CLASS OF 2020 STRIVE RECIPIENTS

The **STRIVE** program, sponsored by the Education Foundation of Sarasota County, annually celebrates and honors juniors and seniors from seven comprehensive high schools that are a part of Sarasota County Schools. **STRIVE** Award Recipients are chosen by teachers, counselors and principals for demonstrating resilience while overcoming seemingly insurmountable challenges and obstacles in school and their personal lives. Each recipient is recognized for their grit, determination and perseverance in their strive for success.

This year's Class of 2020 Sarasota High School **STRIVE** Recipients are Robbi Armstrong, Shalom Breakstone, Gabriel Elliott, Sufian Karachi and Nicholas Saslow. Each senior will receive \$1,000 to award their accomplishments. Junior **STRIVE** Recipients are Jason Chapman, Anthony Jenkins, Natalia Jimenez-Molinelli and Gabriella Miller. Junior recipients will have the opportunity to join the Education Foundation of Sarasota County's mentoring program. All **STRIVE** recipients will receive a \$125 gift card for their use in lieu of this year's canceled luncheon.

CONGRATULATIONS SAILOR STRIVE RECIPIENTS!



Robbi Armstrong

Shalom Breakstone

Gabriel Elliott

Sufian Karachi

Nicholas Saslow

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Aca-Orea, Brittany
Adams, A'Shari
Adams, Kristen
Agadier, Matthew
Aguilar Pena, Penelope
Aguilar-Ocampo, Tamara
Aguilera, Jacqueline
Agurto, Dennise
Ainscow, Joshua
Albers, Alec
Alfaro Gonzalez, Esmeralda
Alley, Daniel
Alley, James
Almira Rodriguez, Dennise
Alonso, Anthony
Alvarez, Marco
Anderson, Victoria
Angers, Alexis
Angeles, Aleacia
Annucci, Tyler
Anzures, Eduardo
Appleyard, Oliver
Arias Castillo, Ena
Armstrong, Robbi
Arroliga-Robles, Kayla
Azzolina, Luciana
Baez, Analysa
Baker, Samantha
Bane, Cris'Zaria
Barber, Kyah
Barbour, Debra
Barbour, Marylou
Barker, Gavin
Barrett, Kayl
Barrow, Amber
Barry, Aysha
Barth, Stephanie
Battie, Brian
Beckner, Grace
Bednarczyk, Lane
Bekhit, Veronica
Bell, Kevin
Bernardo, Anthony
Bernius, Hunter
Best, Jordan
Beyers, Maximilian
Biske, Nicole
Blair, Brett
Boeve, Aaron
Boman, Max
Bouck, Lacey
Boudreau, Cameron
Bowles, Kaden
Boyajian, Alexander
Boyas, Molly
Bradley, Cassandra
Bradley, Kennard
Brale, Nicholas
Brandt, Lauren
Braune, Shea
Breakstone, Shalom
Briceno, Shania
Broadfoot, Marty
Brown, Danny
Brown, Matthew
Brown, Patrick
Brunelle, Jay
Brush, Isabella
Bryant, Hope
Bryant, Mailik
Bural-Terres, Katherine
Burns, Tristan
Bussiere, Lucinda
Cain, Mckeyvion
Calderon, Antonio
Campana Diaz, Esteban
Campana, Cesia
Campbell, Destiny
Cardel, Antonio
Carmona-Rivera, Alexander
Carnes, Jacob
Carocci, Kaitlynn
Carpenter, Taylor
Carr, Alexandra
Carr, Savannah
Carroll, Adia
Carter, Tyler
Castilow, Ella
Castro, Payton
Catlin, Sylvana
Chavez Sanchez, Anabela
Chen, Brian
Chioldo, Jordyn
Clancy, Reese
Clayton, Kenyatta
Clevenger, Connor
Climaco, Gerson
Colburn, Dawson
Colina, Kozmo
Colin-Castruita, Ariel
Collins, Ke'Andre
Colon, Gabriella
Coney, Benja'Mya
Conner, Rose

Cook, Tyler
Cooper, Jaxon
Corona-Carmona, Delhi
Correa, Logan
Couvartier, Hannah
Crauwels, Rachel
Creadon, Trey
Crenshaw, Daryl
Crumpton, Jenna
Cruz-Guzman, Joseph
Cuadra, Julia
Cushman, Canyon
Dailey, Latavia
Dardon, Heidy
Davie, Alicia
Davis, Cameron
Davis, Jakherra
De Araujo, Victor
Debrosse, Jonas
Defilippi, Nicole
Degrasse, Todd
Dekmar, Aaron
Dela, Justin
Demint, Allison
Denord, Tyanna
Desouza, Samarah
Deulofoe, Janette
Devine, Matthew
Dillard, Riley
Dixon, Emily
Dobbert, Julia
Dobbari, Nisha
Dobbert, Julia
Donovan, Maia
Donovan, Carter
Dorsett, Veronica
Dosanjols, Olivia
Drews, August
Driskel, Zachary
Duplissiey, Maxwell
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Elliott, Ian
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Evans, Elhan
Evans, Kali
Evans, Sydney
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Fears, Aaron
Febish, Jordan
Fouck, Lacey
Fetterly, Dylan
Fields, Jenna
Fierro, Aniah
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Fitzgerald, Elizabeth
Fletcher, Kaila
Florio, Andrew
Forbis, Marley
Foreman, Janae
Foster, Kailin
Foxx, Destinee
Francis, Marcus
Freeman, Chancey
Freeman, Malcolm
Fregonese, Julianna
Gaertner, Velouria
Galambos, Aurora
Gallardo, Nicholas
Gamerio, Aaron
Garcia, Alexandra
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Gibbons, Marqus
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Gonzalez, Jorge
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Tindel, Dominique
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Trask, Eihan
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A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF MAST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Students in Sarasota High's MaST Research Institute had an incredible year, succeeding in the pursuit of scientific knowledge at levels not often seen in secondary education. Now, more than ever, the importance of solid scientific research is apparent, and our students are already contributing to the field. Some MaST highlights from this year are:

- The implementation of AP Seminar and AP Research into the MaST curriculum, providing students the opportunity to earn up to 6 hours of college credit for their work over their years in the program
- Three MaST students were selected for the prestigious Junior Science Engineering and Humanities Symposium at the University of Florida
- At the Sarasota Regional STEM Fair, MaST students won:
 - 8 out of 9 High School State Finalist Spots
 - 11 out of 13 1st Place Category Awards
 - 19 out of 25 Category Awards
 - 24 Special Awards
 - 11 Student Choice Awards
- Two Student Researchers, Ary Wolfe-Herman and Christian Knuth, were recognized as Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair Finalists.
- Students in AP Seminar worked individually and in groups to produce stellar work for their AP submissions.
- First year students participated in a ton of hands-on laboratory experiments and projects as they learned proper research methods.
- First year students also traveled to Mote Marine to learn about life in the bay and Research done at their facilities.
- Upperclassmen traveled to Disney for a unique take on biodiversity. They may have had a little fun there as well.
- Twenty-one seniors earned the title "MaST Research Scholar", the most by far in the history of the program.



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SOCIAL DISTANCING CAP & GOWN DISTRIBUTION

The Class of 2020 was showered with love and support as we hosted a drive-thru cap and gown pick-up for graduates. Sailor teachers and staff brought indescribable love, over-the-top school spirit and unmatched creativity forging unforgettable memories into the hearts of our seniors. The Bahia Vista parking lot was a sea of orange and black as vehicles and people alike were decked out to welcome seniors arriving to pick up their cap and gown. Horns were honking, flags were flying, music was blasting, and staff was cheering producing an unparalleled senior cap and gown pick-up experience. Sailor mascots, Sam and Sally, even joined in the fun. There was joy, there were tears, and at the end of the day there was much gratitude for the opportunity to share our smiles and support with our amazing Class of 2020.

Many thanks to Amanda Mavrikas and Melissa Dweck, who were the logistical geniuses behind the event, making sure we maintained the necessary social distancing protocols. We cheered and yelled for our seniors hoping that the drive-thru would bring a little joy in an otherwise difficult time. Thank you to our Sailor teachers and staff for their support of the Class of 2020 on this most momentous day! **CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020! WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU!**



Principal David Jones &
Asst. Principal Michelle Anderson



Kim Cullen,
English Teacher



Gina Barresi,
English Teacher



Sue Graham,
ESE Teacher



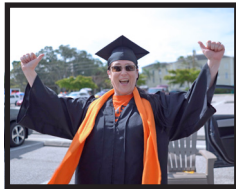
Ashley Harris,
English Teacher



Andy Harshman & Kristina Harshman,
Science Teachers



Debbie Kaplan,
Math Teacher



Sarah Sturzu,
Social Studies Teacher



SHS Mascots
Sammy & Sally



SENIOR DATES

Subject to approval by CDC Guidelines

SHS CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION

Thursday, July 16th, 8 PM

Cleland Stadium at Ihrig Field

SENIOR LUAU

Tuesday, July 14th, 6 PM – 10 PM

Ed Howell Gymnasium & Courtyard



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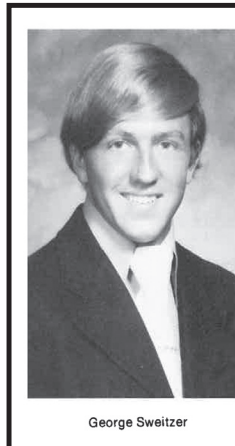
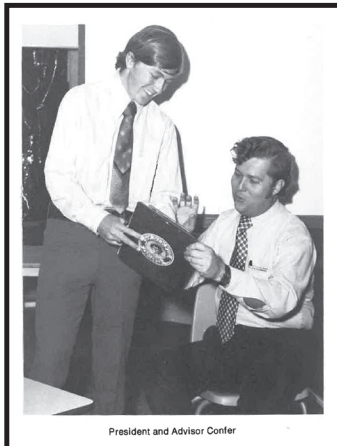
SAILORS BID FAREWELL TO MR. SWEITZER

The Sailor Family wishes to CONGRATULATE Mr. George Sweitzer on his upcoming retirement. Mr. Sweitzer is an ORIGINAL Sailor, having graduated from Sarasota High School in 1973. During his time as a Sailor, George sang with the Mixed Chorus and Changing Tide, served as an officer in the President's Club and was president of Student Council. As a senior, he was chosen by faculty for his leadership, character, service and dependability and included in *Steps of Honor*. Mr. Sweitzer also had the opportunity to attend Boys' State, a prestigious event in Tallahassee designed to be a mock governmental regime. Participants were twelfth grade representatives from Florida's high schools chosen by the American Legion on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and public speaking ability. Students involved filled the positions of our state executive, legislative, and judicial branches. And for the Class of 1973 Senior Notables, Mr. Sweitzer was voted Most School Spirited!

After several amazing years at his beloved Florida State University, George returned home to Sarasota and began working as a School Counselor at Bay Haven School of Basics Plus. Then during the summer of 1993, Mr. Sweitzer became a Sailor again when he accepted a position for School Counselor at Sarasota High School. After walking our halls and campus for twenty-seven years, Mr. Sweitzer will finish his career with Sarasota County Schools at the end of this school year.

George's genuine compassion and concern for others is evident in everything he does. The thousands of students, families and staff members he has served over the years have been blessed by his sweet spirit, great sense of humor and ability to remain calm when all around him are in turmoil.

With much love and appreciation, we wish him joy in his retirement. We also hope he will now get to enjoy his watermelon in peace! George, you will be GREATLY missed!



Sailors attend Boys' State

Every summer, twelfth grade representatives from Florida's high schools are chosen by the men and women of the American Legion on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and public speaking ability. The program in Tallahassee is designed to be a mock governmental regime, in which the students involved fill the positions of our stated executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

