



DECEMBER 2023

VOLUME 24
ISSUE 4

For Parents, Students, Staff
and Community of
South Lake
High School

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Eagle Family,

As we conclude this first half of the 2023-24 school year and prepare for the start of the second semester, I want to thank our SLHS faculty and staff for their continued perseverance and dedication to meeting the needs of our students, as well as serving you and our school community. In celebration of our school's 30th anniversary, we were thrilled to welcome back and honor each of the previous SLHS principals at the October 27 varsity football game against East Ridge HS: David Coggshall, David Tucker, David Bordenkircher, and Robert McCue. On that evening, we also inducted the inaugural class into the SLHS Athletic Hall of Fame: athletes Aurora Davis, Jeff Demps, Jeff Deardorff, and Jonothan Harrison; coach Bobby Heck; and community member Jack Gaines. We are grateful to each of these individuals for their contributions to SLHS and for the legacy they have left for our students.

Overall, the students have adapted well to the legislative change that bans cell phones in the classroom, adjusted to the new FOCUS student information system, and navigated the changes in bell schedules to accommodate three lunch periods and SOAR time, which is our additional period within the school day for remediation and acceleration purposes. I am extremely appreciative of your patience and flexibility as we encountered increased student enrollment this semester, which led to additional teacher hiring at the beginning of the school year and the corresponding schedule changes that were necessary to balance classes.

As we return from winter break, we will begin preparations for the upcoming 2024-25 school year and the process for soliciting student course selections and academic scheduling opportunities. Please have conversation with your child as you collaboratively develop the academic course plan that will best meet their needs and future goals. Our guidance counselors will be making presentations to current SLHS students in their classes over the next few months, visiting our feeder middle schools to speak with 8th grade students, and working with you to accommodate course requests as best as possible. Please be on the lookout for course request and scheduling information as it becomes available, and feel free to peruse our SLHS Curriculum Guide on the Student Services page of our school's website. Over the last few years, we have worked diligently

continued on page 2

WHO'S WHO AT SOUTH LAKE

Principal
Steve Benson

Assistant Principals

Caitlin Flynn -

9-12th grade; Last names: A-C

Rene James -

9-12th grade; Last names: D-I

Donna Jesaitis -

9-12th grade; Last names: J-M

Kevin Thompson -

9-12th grade; Last names: N-Sa

Linda Nichols -

9-12th grade; Last names: Sb-Z

Guidance Counselors

Melanie Googe -

Grade 9-12; Last Names: A-C

googem@lake.k12.fl.us

Donna Scheetz -

Grade 9-12; Last Names: D-I

scheetzd@lake.k12.fl.us

Betsy Bains -

Grade 9-12; Last Names: J-M

bainse@lake.k12.fl.us

Fabienne Desir

Grade 9-12; Last Names: N-Sb

desirf@lake.k12.fl.us

Juanita Stallings -

Grade 9-12; Last Names: Sc-Z

stallingsj1@lake.k12.fl.us

Telephone: 352/394-2100

Fax: 352/394-1972

Please visit South Lake High School's website: [www.https://slh.lake.k12.fl.us/](https://slh.lake.k12.fl.us/)

To download a PDF version of this newsletter, go to <http://academypublishing.com/schools/southlake/southlake.php>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

continued from cover

to increase academic opportunities and post-secondary options for students to prepare them for a variety of career paths. Students have the opportunity to choose courses among a variety of interest areas including Fine & Performing Arts, Career and Technical Education, Advanced Placement, AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education), NJROTC and aeronautics dual enrollment, off campus dual enrollment through Lake Sumter State College, and the Health Science Collegiate Academy among many other elective offerings. This fall, we entered a partnership with Beacon College in Leesburg to provide on campus dual enrollment opportunities for students with disabilities. We are excited about this new opportunity for our students, and firmly believe in and support our district's mission to provide every student with individual opportunities to excel.

Student attendance at school is critical to their success and achievement. There are still far too many students that are excessively absent from school, or who are earning Ds and Fs each grading period. Please continue to have conversations with your child about what they are learning, check FOCUS for real time grade information and attendance, and encourage them to be at school each day and in class on time. Together, we can continue to see our students grow and improve as they prepare for graduation and beyond!

Respectfully,
Steven Benson, Principal



"Flight Patterns"
December 2023
Published Four Times Per Year
South Lake High School
15600 Silver Eagle Rd.
Groveland, FL 34736
Issue #4

HEALTH SCIENCE HAPPENINGS




We are excited to welcome the newest addition to our Health Science Program, Kecia Powell. Mrs Powell is a Physician Assistant and a Registered Nurse, so her knowledge and experience are an incredible asset to our students, and our program. Mrs. Powell joins us in the role of instructor for Health Science Anatomy and Physiology and Health Science Foundations. These two courses are the prerequisites for the industry certification courses we offer, Allied Health and Nurse Assisting. Mrs. Carroll is excited to work alongside Mrs. Powell, continuing to build the Health Science Program here at South Lake High School.



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EAGLES OF THE WEEK

The following have been selected as our inaugural Eagles of the Week:

- 9th grade: Deon Givens
 - Gianna Gonzalez
- 10th grade: Emily Caldwell
 - Malik Holman
- 11th grade: Angela Bautista
 - Lewis Scott
- 12th grade: Julissa Luna
- Kimberly Lupian Esquivel

Eagles of the week for the week of 12/4:

9th: Jair Rivas
 Brooke Eschbach
 10th: Itzel Reyna
 Daniel Alejandro
 11th: Wesley Conrad
 Natalia Alvarez
 12th: Thomas Shabluk
 Jazlynne Luna

Eagles of the Week for the week of 12/11:

- 9th grade: Brianna Armstrong
 - Quoy Nelson
- 10th grade: Jesse Mora
 - Jasmin Premchand
- 11th grade: Eduardo Presa
 - La'rice Anderson
- 12th grade: Annie Mitchell
 - William Yates

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SENIOR INFORMATION

Order your cap and gown from Jostens.com. The current cheapest unit that includes everything you need is \$60.

Yearbooks can still be pre-ordered through yearbookforever.com. Senior Ads will be on sale through January 24th.

Gradbash will be on April 13th and tickets should go on sale in February.

Honors stoles will be on sale starting in February. If your student has a 3.5 or above during their January GPA they qualify for one.

- Summa Cum Laude 4.00 weighted GPA or above
- Magna Cum Laude 3.75-3.99 weighted GPA
- Cum Laude 3.50-3.74 weighted GPA

If students are unsure if they qualify or not, I will have a list that I can check late January.



Cords are mostly sold through the different clubs or programs that students are in. Students can check with their sponsors/coaches to find out how to order their different cords.



The SLHS stole comes with all the cap and gown orders from Jostens.com.

Please email fisherc1@lake.k12.fl.us if you have any questions.



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SENIOR YEAR POSSIBLE EXPENSE LIST

Prices and Dates may vary

This chart Created by Ms. Fisher fisherc1@lake.k12.fl.us

Name of Expense	Estimated Month to Purchase (Not event date)	Estimated amount(s)	Where?
Homecoming	August-September	\$25-40	RevTrac
Senior Dues	Due by September 9th to receive the senior shirt	\$20	RevTrac Senior Class Tab
Senior Pictures (Basic)	Before Thanksgiving	\$30 Sitting Fee	cadystudios.com
Senior Pages in the yearbook	August-January	Full - \$200 1/2 - \$150 1/4 - \$100 1/8 - \$50	Yearbookforever.com
Cap and Gown (Basic)	October (least expensive month)	\$70-100 (Prices will rise over time—the later you order, the more expensive the shipping and cap/gown will be)	Jostens.com
Yearbooks	Pre-order August-January Note: there is no guarantee that you will get a book if you do not pre-order (We completely sold out last year)	\$60-80	Yearbookforever.com
Club/Certain Class Cords	February-March Pre-Order only!	\$10-15	RevTrac Senior Class Tab
Grad Bash	February-March	\$150-200 (Includes Charter bus and early Mix-In at Universal meaning we will be in the park from 4pm-2am)	RevTrac Senior Class Tab

Name of Expense	Estimated Month to Purchase (Not event date)	Estimated amount(s)	Where?
Prom	February-April	\$80-130	RevTrac
Senior Yard Signs	March-April	\$10-20	RevTrac Senior Class Tab
Honors Stoles (3.5 GPA or higher as of December)	April-May	\$20	RevTrac Senior Class Tab



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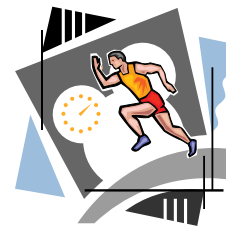
SPRING



SPORTS

Spring Sports will be here fast. You have to be cleared on athletic clearance to participate in tryouts or conditioning. Please visit the athletic webpage for more information.

- Baseball and softball will start arm conditioning on Jan 8.
- Boys Weight Lifting will start on Jan 8.
- Baseball, softball, lacrosse, and tennis tryouts will start on Jan 22.
- Track and field will start on Jan 29
- Spring Football will start on April 29



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Dear alma mater,
blue and silver shine,
Now while we face
our foes and
mountains climb.
We will never
lose our way;
your guidance
shall endure.
Among the hills,
our South Lake High
shall never
stand obscure!

FOOTBALL

On Wednesday October 25th the Florida Athletic Coaches Association Football District 8 coaches from Lake, Sumter, and Citrus County met and voted for the FACA all district team. South Lake High School was represented well.

First Team Players:

- Kevens Charles- Running back
- Brendon Robinson- Defensive End

Second Team

- Marlon Trask- Free Safety
- Marcel Walker- Athlete- # 1 in in Kick Return Yardage in all of 4S, # 10 in the state, 213 in the country

Honorable Mention

- Jonathan Knight- Offensive Line
- Jake Billsten- Offensive Line
- Connor Plummer - Offensive Line
- Junior Misere- Defensive End
- Jean Casimer- Offensive Line
- Jesse Barker- Offensive Line
- Kevens Charles placed third overall for the player of the year.

Eagle Football Players in Area All Star Games:

- Cure Classic- At East Ridge December 9th at 2PM
- Marlon Trask II- Athlete
- Jordan Dillon- Outside Linebacker
- Brendon Robinson- Defensive End
- Kevens Charles- Running Back
- Florida Athletic Coaches Association- Florida North / South Game December 20th at the Villages
- Kevens Charles- RB



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of South Lake High!



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TUTORING

SLHS is now offering free English/ELA tutoring every Monday and Tuesday from 2:30-3:30 in room 01-235.

Students Improve



*Inside
this issue*

**Health Science
Eagles of the Week
Senior Information
Senior Expense List
Sports
and more!**