

THE BUZZ

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Principal's Notes



Dr. DeArmas Graham

Yellow Jacket Family, our mission at St. Augustine High School is to prepare all students for college and careers through rigorous and diverse programs of study which inspires good character and individual talents and abilities via an accepting and rewarding environment. SAHS is an AVID site and we focus on Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading (W.I.C.O.R.) strategies for students and teachers. Inquiry is the "I" in WICOR, one of the five foundational characteristics of AVID's system of college readiness and success.

Inquiry—the asking of questions —makes us wonder, driving us to seek knowledge and understanding. As our students learn to develop and respond to compelling questions by looking more deeply into an issue or subject, students become curious and begin to experience the excitement of investigating questions that have no right or wrong answer. Ultimately, they realize that they can find answers themselves—thereby creating their own learning. As students learn to assume responsibility for their own learning, then become more successful academically, and are more likely to persist to graduation.

"Inquiry" —which derives from the Latin *quaerere*, meaning to ask or to seek ---has been identified as a key, if not the central, component of critical thinking. According to the Foundation of Critical Thinking, "thinking is not driven by answers but by questions... Only students who have questions are really thinking and learning. Moreover, the quality of the questions students ask determines the quality of the thinking they are doing."

Critical thinking as all forms of thinking that are more complex, deeper, and require a greater degree of reflection than that associated with mere acquisition of knowledge via memorization and rote recall of factual information.

Parents, I would like to remind you to check Home Access Center (HAC) weekly to view your child's academic progress and to encourage your child to attend school everyday! Also, the expectation is for all teachers to post assignments on Schoology. Please check your child's teacher Schoology page to get all assignments. If you have any questions, please email michelle.davis@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

GO JACKETS! #UnstoppAble
Dr. DeArmas Graham

St. Augustine High School

- Principal: DeArmas Graham, Ed.D.
- Assistant Principals: Michelle Davis
Jill Lee
- Executive Secretary: Susan Wyatt
- Athletic Director: Serge Lipovetsky
- Career Specialist: Sherry Gaynor
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 - Cammy Barber..... H-P
 - Marjorie Bennett Q-Z
 - Dena Bechtle AICE

www-sahs.stjohns.k12.fl.us

**For the Parents, Staff,
Students & Community of
St. Augustine High School**

Mission Statement
The St. Johns County School District will inspire in all students good character and a passion for lifelong learning, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.

'THE BUZZ'
November 2019
Published Five Times Per Year
Saint Johns County School District
40 Orange Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084
Issue # 5

A I C E News

The year is off to a great start! The Nov. 2019 AICE exam session offered students an opportunity to re-take exams from the June 2019 exam session and results will be available in Jan. 2020. Official AICE Certificates from the June 2019 Exam Session have arrived and have been distributed in English classes, so please help students make sure these Cambridge Certificates are kept in a safe place – they are VERY expensive to replace!!

Our Juniors in the Class of 2021 were honored on October 22nd at the 23rd Annual AICE Induction and Awards Program. Juniors were officially inducted into the AICE Program and outstanding achievements were recognized. Each student received their Induction Certificate and an AICE Pin that they will wear on their AICE Stole at graduation next year. Congratulations to the Class of 2021 on this milestone in the AICE Program! Induction Certificates for students who did not attend the Induction Ceremony are available from Ms. Galloza, and AICE Pins are available from Ms. Bechtle.

The Spring 2020 AICE Exam Final Timetable will be emailed out in November to all AICE parent/student email addresses and will be available on the AICE Website. **Please make sure you consult this schedule and verify what exams your student will be taking before planning any summer trips! The Cambridge Spring Exam session typically runs into the middle of June – so **PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK!**** Your student can help identify the individual “Papers” associated with each of their AICE Level courses (no Pre-AICE exams will be given) & teachers will have the schedule and know the dates for the exams corresponding to their courses.

The AICE Advisory Board (AAB) meets every Thursday morning at 8:30 am in (C302). The AAB meetings are open to ALL AICE students – as well as parents! Please congratulate our new officers: **President**, Rachel Boyd; **Vice President**, Elijah Bauer; **Secretary**, Cynthia Jones; **Publications Officers**, Gabe Gunnells, Ashley Herbert and Michael O’Brien; **Fund Raising Officers**, Caeli Benyacko and Devon Philcox. We already have several events in the planning stages – with more to come, so join us!

College Tour

Our first College Tour of the year was in Gainesville, touring UF on Oct. 29th. We had almost 60 students/chaperones attend.

THANK YOU to **AICE Booster Club** for helping to make the college tours affordable!! We are planning our 2nd college tour to New College in Sarasota for February, 2020, so be on the lookout for that information after the Holiday Break. Remember - *scholarships are always available if there is a financial need.*



Stay Informed!!

1. Use the AICE Website at <http://www-sahs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/aice/>
2. **NEW AICE text Remind accounts!** Please contact Ms. Bechtle if you did not receive the emails with instructions for signing up for text messages for each grade level student and parent text accounts.
3. If you're not receiving emails from Ms. Bechtle, please email her at Dena.Bechtle@stjohns.k12.fl.us to be added to the list.



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St. Augustine/Ketterlinus High School Alumni News

2019 Hall of Fame Dinner

The St. Augustine/Ketterlinus High School Alumni Association (a nonprofit 501(c) (3) Organization) would like to congratulate again the 2019 St. Augustine/Ketterlinus High School Hall of Fame Inductees. This year's hall of fame inductees were chosen for their contributions to society and their outstanding representation of the St. Augustine/Ketterlinus High School tradition of excellence.

The induction dinner ceremony was held this past Thursday, October 10, 2019 at First Coast Technical College. The plaque unveiling was done on Friday morning, October 11, 2019 at the Hall of Fame Wall at St. Augustine High School.

Proceeds from the dinner are used to fund scholarships for St. Augustine High School graduates and for special projects at St. Augustine High School. Information about our organization can be seen at our website at www.mysahs.com.



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SJCCA News



SJCCA DANCE



IN
OUR ELEMENT

21 n o v e m b e r 22

Dance

The SJCCA Dance program is putting on a dance concert entitled, "In Our Element" on Thursday, November 21st and Friday, November 22nd at 7:00pm in the St. Augustine High School auditorium. The theme of this show is based on the elements: water, wind, fire, and Earth.

This dance concert will feature works from our dance director, Kaila Schippani, but also a piece from SJCS D curriculum specialist, Antonio Scott. SJCCA alum. Kiera Pheffer choreographed a contemporary ballet piece and also some student choreographers have set pieces to show off their creative abilities and leadership skills.

We are excited to introduce a new element (*see what we did there?*) to our performances and that is a live improvisation challenge (or "Improv. Challenge") where some of our bravest dancers volunteer to perform a 1 minute solo on stage to a surprise song. This means they will dress for any style of dance not knowing what song is going to play and try their best to show off their skills within 1 minute. An Improv. Challenge winner will be selected at each show.

We hope you can make it to one or both of our shows to support the talented dancers at St. Augustine High School. Tickets will be \$15 for adults and \$10 for students (with an ID). Follow our Instagram page: @sjccadance or check our website: www.msschippandance.weebly.com for information regarding online ticket sales this year!

– Kaila Schippani, *SJCCA Dance Director*
www.msschippandance.weebly.com

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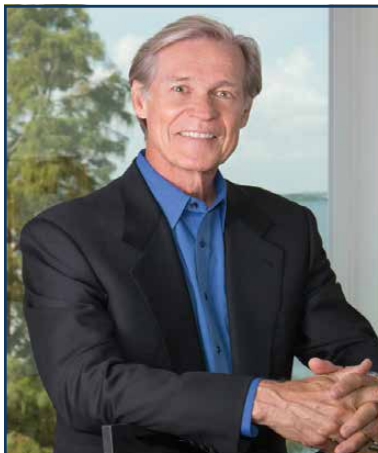
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Theater

The SJCCA Theater Department was thrilled to present Henrik Ibsen's Hedda Gabler in November! Staring Alex Mowrey, Madison Mintzer, Tyler Wankowski, Quinn Cote, Cal Knippenberg, Mia Hammond and Skyla Stephens. The story follows a newlywed as she struggles with to find happiness in her new role of wife.

The SJCCA Theater program will head to NYC in January for the Unified College Auditions for seniors. In addition, they will see three shows on Broadway and a show at the world renowned

Brooklyn Academy of Music.

On November 23, 93 Theater students will attend the District Theater Festival. They will compete with over 1100 other theater students in a wide variety of areas including Large Group Musical, Ensemble Acting, Solo Musical and Monologues. In December a group of 20 students will perform The Little Prince for the One Act Play portion of the festival.




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Winter Season Performance Schedule

The SJCCA choral program will be hard at work during the winter holiday season performing throughout the community and a variety of events. Here are a few of the performance dates and events. We hope you will be able to catch a holiday performance to put you in the holiday spirit!

November 24	St. Augustine Visitor's Center	6:00-8:00pm	
December 4	Lighthouse Luminary	7:00pm	Chamber Women
December 4&5	Lightner Museum	7:00pm	Chamber Singers
December 8	Winter Concert at SAHS	3:00pm	Entire chorus program
December 15	St. Augustine Visitor's Center	6:00-8:00pm	

Winter Extravaganza

The entire SJCCA program will present a winter extravaganza on Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 7:00pm. This is a benefit performance to support SJCCA, Inc. which will feature all of the performing and visual arts groups. This performance will have a winter holiday theme. You will want to make plans to this extravaganza featuring over 500 SJCCA students!



Middle School Tour

The SJCCA performing arts groups will travel to selected middle schools on Friday, December 13, 2019. This middle school tour is a part of the St. Johns County academy presentation to help 8th grade students be informed of the programs available to them as a high school student. We are excited to show potential 2020-2021 high school students the opportunities that SJCCA can offer them.

Attention SENIORS

SENIOR CLASS SPONSORS: Mr. Richard Ranick
Ms. Melody Cashwell

SIGN UP for SENIOR info, text @20-seniors to 81010

Flower: Hibiscus

Quote: Let's get crazy by Bob Ross

Song: "Look Ma, I Made It!" by Panic! at the Disco

Prom is May 17th, 2020 at the Embassy Suites on St Augustine Beach

Grad Bash is May 24th, 2020 at Universal Studios in Orlando
Graduation is May 21st at the St Augustine Amphitheatre

SAHS Policy for Prom and Grad Bash

(approved by Dr. Graham)

- NO OSS
- On track to graduate
- Less than 15 UNEXCUSED Absences from the 1st Day of School



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Guidance Department

School Counselor Contact Information and Appointments

Yellow Jacket Families - The SAHS School Counselors work in conjunction with teachers, families, students, and other staff members to maximize student achievement. We serve all students regarding academic planning, personal/social challenges, and assist them in planning future education and career choices.

Students may visit the school counselors during lunch or set up an appointment request on the homepage of the SAHS website <http://www-sahs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

Parents, please contact Carrie Richardson to schedule an appointment or request an appointment on the homepage of the SAHS website. We are here to assist students and families!

Counselor	Alpha	Email
Mrs. Melody Cashwell	A-G	Melody.Cashwell@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Cammy Barber	H-P	Cammy.Barber@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Ms. Marjorie Bennett	Q-Z	Marjorie.Bennett@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Dena Bechtle	AICE	Dena.Bechtle@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Carrie Richardson	Secretary	Carrie.Richardson@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Gail Godzich	Clerk	Gail.Godzich@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Ashley Wimpelberg	Registrar	Ashley.Wimpelberg@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Karen Evans	Computer Operator	Karen.Evans@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Ms. Heather Naughton	Testing Coordinator	Heather.Naughton@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Home Access Center

Home Access Center is used to view student's grades, transcripts, submit course requests during registration, and monitor attendance. If you do not have your username and password, please select the "Forgot My Username or Password" link and follow the necessary prompts. If you need additional assistance, please contact our computer operator, Karen Evans, at Karen.Evans@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Seniors in Danger of Not Meeting Graduation Requirements

Senior warning letters will go out every quarter to notify you if your student is failing a course, is not meeting the GPA requirement, has not passed the Alg. 1 EOC or 10th Grade FSA ELA, or is missing other required credits. Seniors in danger of not graduating will also be invited to conference with his/her counselor each quarter.

How to Order Transcripts

To order your transcripts, please go to SAHS Website and click on transcript request link. You will be prompted to set up an account. Once you have an account, you are able to begin ordering your transcripts for colleges or other organizations. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Karen Evans in the school counseling department at 904-547-8517 or Karen.Evans@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Financial Aid and Scholarships for Seniors

Seniors, if you need financial aid to help you pay for college, you will need to fill out The Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) and the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA). FFAA is the application for Bright Futures and other Florida Aid. For national, state, and local scholarship opportunities, please review the virtual scholarship bulletin. <http://www-sahs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/scholarships/>

#ACCEPTED

Some seniors have good news in hand already while others are still waiting to hear where they will be accepted. Remind your student to stop by to see their school counselor with their college decision letter and get their free #ACCEPTED t-shirt!



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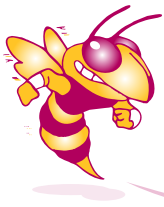
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Inside This Issue

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AICE News and more!



St. Johns County School District prohibits discrimination against students, employees and applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, ethnicity, national or ethnic origin, marital status, disability and political beliefs.

The St. Johns County School District Board Policy 2.16 contains the grievance procedure related to harassment and discrimination for employees, students and applicants.

If you believe you have been harassed or discriminated against, contact the School Administration or a member of the Equity Committee: Rhoda Ferrell – Coordinator/Chairperson(547-7602), Scott Sherman (547-7684), Lisa Bell (547-7537), Joann Johnson (547-7682), George Leidigh (547-3869).