

PANTHERPRESS

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Administrative Dates

2/4 Principal's Advisory Meeting
 2/8 PTSO Meeting
 2/9 School Council Meeting
 2/15 President's Day Holiday
 2/16 Winter Break
 2/22 FCBOE Meeting
 3/2 Honors Breakfast
 3/3 Principal's Advisory Meeting
 3/8 School Council Meeting
 3/14 8th Grade Parent Night
 PTSO Meeting
 3/21 FCBOE Meeting

Communication

Infinite Campus Messenger sends weekly emails from ic.messenger@mail.fcboe.org

The school website starrsmillhighschool.org has information about each academic department, sports and fine arts booster clubs, student and PTSO newsletters, and a current school calendar.

Social Media

Follow Starr's Mill on Twitter:
 @StarrsMillHS
 PTSO Facebook page:
 Starr's Mill High School PTSO



Classroom Requests

The PTSO has currently funded approximately \$4400.00 of teacher requests this school year. After receiving a list of needs from each department, the PTSO reviewed numerous requests during the January meeting. Mr. Leonard and the attendees discussed needs and funding options for each line item. Some of the requests will be funded through the school and other grants; however, many of the items required PTSO funds. Meeting these classroom needs is such a vital part of providing the best learning environment for our students and making the best use of current resources and technology. Thank you so much to all of the parents, teachers, and staff that helped through your membership with PTSO! Some of the fantastic materials provided were Kindle Fire tablets for math classes; non-mercury and infrared thermometers, electronic and digital balances, and ice melting blocks for science; graphing calculators, video cameras, tripods, printers, DVDs, workbooks, headsets, and other items for the English, ESOL, Language, and Special Ed departments.

Pg 5 - Thanks from Mr. Campbell





PTSO Scholarships

The SMHS PTSO will award three scholarships in May to the winners of a senior essay contest: the \$1,500 Sam Sweat Honorary Scholarship, the \$1,250 Audrey Toney Honorary Scholarship, and the \$1,000 PTSO Scholarship.

Interested Seniors are asked to submit a five to seven paragraph essay addressing the following topic:

Which Starr's Mill educator has had the greatest influence on you, and in what ways has this person impacted your life so far? How do you think his or her influence will impact your future?

Essays, which will be judged anonymously, are due in the SMHS Guidance Office by 3:45 pm on **Tuesday, March 1, 2016**. Late entries will not be considered. Scholarships will be awarded at SMHS Honors Night.

If you have questions, contact Lynda Poole, PTSO Scholarship Chairman, at slpoole@bellsouth.net.

Letter from Leonard

Dear Panthers,

As we enter the middle of second semester the end of the year is in sight and planning for next year has already begun. This is a busy time for our Panthers as winter sports conclude and spring sports get started. In addition our students will take SLO tests March 21-31, Milestone EOC tests April 25-29, and AP exams May 2-13. Remember the Milestone EOC and AP tests will replace a student's final exams for the semester but the SLOs will not. We will also start ramping up for all of our end of the year performances and banquets as well.

One of our big activities starting in the coming weeks is registration. We will do registration online again this year and instructions will be forthcoming through as many channels as we can broadcast it. Students will request their classes and meet with counselors to ensure the classes they register for meet their needs moving toward graduation. Take this process seriously and with careful consideration as it defines your courses often not just for next year but also for years to come.

There are frequent breaks for our students and teachers during the semester with winter and spring break coming up. The end of the semester will be here before you know it. Stay on top of your classwork and take action early if your performance is not where you want it to be. It's much easier to maintain a high average than to rebuild it after a bad start. If you are struggling, seek help from your teachers, counselors, or administrators as soon as possible so you can get on the right path.

I look forward to the remainder of the school year and my first opportunity to shake the hands of our graduates as I give them their diploma in Panther Stadium. The work you do today is what ensures you will be there then.

Go Panthers!

Allen Leonard

Principal



Performances & Happenings



- 2/5 PALS Pageant
- 2/12 Junior Class Ring Delivery
- 2/25 Orchestra Concert
- 2/29 Band Concert
- 3/11 - 3/13 Legally Blonde Musical
- 3/19 GATA Varsity State
- 3/23 Special Olympics
- 3/31 Band - Percussion Ensemble

Sports Schedules - school website
starrsmillhighschool.org



PTSO Teacher Appreciation Committee

When we have an attitude of gratitude, we encourage others and learn to appreciate each others' strengths. Because we want to encourage and support the school personnel who invest in our children's lives on a regular basis, we have a monthly appreciation event. For February, we will be hosting a Soup and Salad Luncheon on Friday, February 5. If you would like to participate by providing an item, please contact Tammy at [770-317-1742](tel:770-317-1742). We will need the following items:

- Crock pot of soup
- Dozen rolls
- Large Salad

Thank you for your help in making this happen,
 Tammy Pattison

Ann Buck
[678-778-5626](tel:678-778-5626)
 Debrah Payne
[678-654-8104](tel:678-654-8104)



Musings

MUSINGS, the annual SMHS literary-art magazine, is once again selling Valentine's Day carnations.

Carnations can be purchased for \$1 each or a bouquet of a dozen for \$10. Flowers will be delivered to 1st period teachers on Friday, February 12.

To place an order and make payment arrangements, please contact Mrs. Jillian Bowen at bowen.jillian@mail.fcboe.org or Mr. Justin Spencer at spencer.justin@mail.fcboe.org.

Carnations are a great way to show your child or your child's favorite teacher(s) that you care while also supporting the creative arts at Starr's Mill.

--
 Justin Spencer
 English Teacher, *MUSINGS* co-adviser,
 The Prowler adviser

Class of 2017

1. Junior class dues are now \$110. The last day to pay junior dues is March 1st. A collection box is located in the front office. Please put your student's name in the memo line if sending in a check.

***Remember that junior dues cover the cost of your prom ticket for both junior and senior year.

2. The junior class needs parent volunteers and donations for Senior Night. Our class is hosting Senior Night on May 12, so the senior parents can enjoy the evening. We need parents for set-up, serving, clean-up, and donating food. Food needs are cookies, brownies, sheet cakes, cut up fruit, and bottled water. Please contact your class sponsors if you are willing to help and/or donate food.

Shannon Gagliano gagliano.shannon@mail.fcboe.org

Valerie Hughey hughey.valerie@mail.fcboe.org

Jodi Morrow morrow.jodi@mail.fcboe.org



National Honor Society

Attention all parents of new National Honor Society members: Due to various scheduling conflicts, the date for induction has been changed from Wednesday, March 23, 2016, to Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

Thanks!

Tara Burnette

Study Abroad

Students interested in studying abroad in Spain this summer need to see Mrs. Rodriguez (room 662) after school or send Mrs. Rodriguez and e-mail at rodriguez.madeline@fcboe.org

The program we have always used is Centro Mundo Lengua www.centromundolengua.com
David Hirsch - Director

Students must be at least 16 years old and enrolled in Spanish 3 or above. Graduating seniors may also apply.

Programs are offered, for two or three weeks, in Sevilla, Cadiz or Madrid, Spain. Students stay with a local family. This is an all inclusive program approximately 2,500 dollars. Airline tickets are NOT included.

Madeline Rodríguez

Starr's Mill High School





Math Team

The Math Team placed 1st overall in the Griffin RESA 2016 Regional High School Math Contest held January 20th. Ricky Macke placed 2nd overall and Joshua Tysor placed 3rd overall!

Pictured from left to right-
Brayden Jenks, JC
Talbot, Joshua Tysor, Maria
Curry, Ricky Macke

Wendy Willoughby
Math Teacher/ Math Team
Sponsor

Dear PTSO members,

On behalf of myself, Mrs. Willoughby, and the entire Mathematics Department of Starr's Mill High School, I would like to say thank you for the recent approval, purchase, and super-fast delivery of a 24 Kindle Fire tablets and accessories. Your generosity to our department will make it possible for our students to understand and explore mathematics like never before. These hand held devices will allow students to visualize math topics in a variety of different ways, while giving teachers more mathematical interaction with students as well as the ability to monitor and track student progress. Thank you once again for your generosity and your dedication to making Starr's Mill High School such a wonderful place to be a part of.

Sincerely,

J.B. Campbell