



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

September 4, 2017

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Principal's Corner

We have a short week due to the holiday but it will be a busy one with the **"Back to School" evenings** scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. We hope you will be able to come follow your child's schedule to give you a better idea of what they are doing during the eight hours they are at school. I know many feel you are seeing and hearing the same thing year after year, but the teachers are new in the elementary grades and the subject matter is new every year for all students. This is an opportunity for you to learn how the teachers teach and the expectations they have for their students. This is especially true of the middle schoolers. The biggest and most frequent complaint I receive from parents of fourth through eighth grade parents is that they don't know what is happening. When you come Wednesday or Thursday night, you will hear how to best communicate with and receive information from the teachers as well as course changes. It will be time well-spent.

Last week we had the first meeting of the School Advisory Council for 2017-18. We have had the same committee members for the last three years so it was especially gratifying to have three new parents join us for this year. The purpose of a SAC is to assist in the preparation and evaluation (developing and evaluating) of the results of the school improvement plan. The SAC also helps us develop a special goal that can be supported by one of our business partners. Last year the emphasis was on math improvement. Before that we had targeted attendance and academic improvement of students as measured by i-ready. This month we will decide on a target for 2017-18. Thank you to the members of the 2017-18 SAC: Joe Solano, Chair, Jeff Kolowith, Kathy Bechtel, Leyanit Barron, Sally Malatesta, Sabrina Lugo, Shannon Dromgool, Meg Curulla, Miranda Lansdale, and Elizabeth Ortiz.

Next week we will have the **September Governing Board meeting** at 8:00 Monday morning in room 9. On Tuesday, Sept. 12 we have **school pictures** for the yearbook (You will be receiving the order forms tomorrow.) The girls' volleyball team has games Tuesday and Wednesday. You can find reminders of all of these events on the school calendar. Also on Tuesday is the first **Family Skate Night**.

Have a good week. See you Wednesday and Thursday.

Sincerely,
Cecilia Blankenship, Principal

Upcoming Dates:

Be sure to check the SAA Calendar on the school website frequently as that has the most current information!

Tuesday - 9/5/17

- 3:20pm Volleyball team leaves
- 4:00pm Volleyball Game - Imagine School of Northport

Wednesday - 9/6/17

- 4:15pm Volleyball Practice
- **6:00pm K- 5 Back to School Schedule Night**

Thursday - 9/7/17

- Volleyball Practice @ 4:15pm
- **6:00pm Middle School Back to School Schedule Night**

Monday - 9/11/17

- 8:00am SAA Board Meeting
- 4:15pm Volleyball Practice

Tuesday - 9/12/17

- School Picture Day!
- 4:00pm Volleyball team leaves
- 4:45pm Volleyball Game - Sarasota Military Academy
- 6:00pm - SAA Skate Night at Stardust

Wednesday - 9/13/17

- 3:20pm Volleyball team leaves
- 4:00pm Volleyball Game: SAA @ SKY Venice
- 4:00pm Volleyball Game: SAA @ SKY Venice (JV)

Thursday - 9/14/17

- 4:15pm Volleyball Practice



Back to School/Schedule Nights - September 6th & 7th

Please come and learn about the exciting plans our teachers have in store for your students this year. Schedule Night is a very important evening as it gives you the opportunity to learn more about your student's school, teacher, and the curriculum.

Teachers will go over

- Classroom Expectations
- Curriculum
- Homework Expectations
- Classroom Policies and Procedures

You will follow your student's schedule on an abbreviated scale and will start promptly at 6:00pmso please arrive early. You are strongly encouraged to attend these informative evenings!

Wednesday, September 6th for Kindergarten thru 5th Grade - 6:00pm

Thursday, September 7th for Middle School (6th - 8th Grade) - 6:00pm



Car Window Tags

We still have several car window tags, for afternoon dismissal, that were pre-ordered and have still not been picked up. Please stop by the office and pick up this week.

Picture Day - September 12th

Be on the lookout for school portraits order forms that are coming home this week. Picture Day will take place on Tuesday morning, September 12th. Photos will be taken of all students for the yearbook, whether you purchase any or not.

Please note that you must send in the envelope with your child that day and a check, credit card information, or prepay confirmation if you wish to purchase pictures. Additional order forms/envelopes will be available in the office.



Volunteer Opportunities

We have a continuous need for help at SAA and post opportunities on an ongoing basis. Please check Remind, and text messages from Kelly Marsh, as well as our Group Page on the Signup.com website: <http://signup.com/go/8rZMTY>

There are many opportunities available to meet your volunteer hours!