



Simsbury High School

Stephen Patrina, Principal

SHS Principal Weekly Message *December 3, 2021*

Dear SHS Trojan Parents/Guardians:

December has arrived and it won't be long before we celebrate the holidays! To kick off the celebrations, the music department is proud to present 'A Joyous Occasion' that will be held next Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 pm. Please see the [concert invitation](#) to view a list of performers, select your seat, and learn about the food drive for all concerts in December. We hope you can join us!

Once again, the Tech Ed and Engineering Department is sponsoring our 9th annual Toy Drive and Stuff-a-Cruiser event. Please help families in need in our area have a bright holiday season by sending in a new, unwrapped toy suitable for children from ages 3-13 by December 14. It doesn't have to be expensive, even a \$5.00 toy will help make a child's holiday brighter. Let's stuff the box!

With our new schedule this year, we are realizing that there is a need to build in some time in anticipation of snow days. As a follow up to our [letter](#) that was shared last week with families, we decided to modify a few weeks between January and February to accommodate time that may be missed. This decision does not come lightly, as meetings with administration, faculty and students have all played an important role in understanding the needs at SHS. Our calendars have been updated to reflect the changes for these months. Please refer to the new [January](#), [February](#), and [Yearly calendars](#) attached for planning.

This week at SHS, we have been notified of 5 students who tested positive for COVID-19. In our effort to communicate to the community about COVID case updates, we would like to point you to our district website. The [weekly dashboard](#) is updated every Friday. For information about positive cases in our schools, please refer to the dashboard.

We encourage students who are struggling or having difficulty with their work to take advantage of our Trojan After-School Help Center. The center provides drop-in support (no reservation needed!) in Math, English, Study Skills, and organizational help with your homework. If students need support in any other subjects, please email [Ms. Weiser](#) to arrange for tutoring. The TASC hours are Monday - Thursday from 2:30-4:00 pm in room A216. After school buses are also available on those days for those who need transportation.

Looking for help with French and Spanish? The Spanish National Honor Society is helping providing tutoring and help with homework in the Trojan After School Center every Wednesday from 2:30-3:30 in room A216. In addition, the French National Honor Society is offering tutors, by appointment only, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2:30-4:00. To sign up, students should contact their French teacher.

Next week there will be a slight change to our schedule due to an early dismissal on Wednesday, December 8. Please see the [early dismissal schedule](#) for an A day.

Upcoming events and [athletic calendar](#):

- December 7 Band Concert
- December 8 Early Dismissal/PD
- December 13 Jazz Concert
- December 15 Connect B Day
- December 15 Orchestra Concert
- December 21 Choral Concert

Have a good weekend! *Go Trojans!*

Steve Patrina
Principal

A Message from Clubs & Activities:

Have you ever wondered what it was like to create a podcast? Well now you can! The SHS Podcasters Club provides an opportunity for students to “get their message” out to friends and family in a school-and age-appropriate environment. There will be an informational meeting held on Monday, December 6 in the school counseling office at 2:30. Those interested should contact [Mr. Hall](#) with any questions.

Important Messages from School Counseling:

Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors: PSAT scores will be available on December 6 on the College Board [website](#). If students do not have a College Board account, they should go to the website and follow instructions to create a new account. **Students with an existing account should not create another one.** If you are having problems logging in or creating an account, please call College Board at 866-756-7346.

College Board has partnered with Khan Academy to provide free practice tests to help students improve academic skills and prepare for the SAT. Students should link their College Board accounts with Khan Academy accounts on the College Board website.

In addition to the electronic score reports, students will receive a paper score report in mid-December. We will distribute these reports along with the students’ test booklets (in student English classes) when we receive them from College Board. The information that is contained on the paper score report is the same that can be found on the electronic report. Scores, percentiles, predicted PSAT and SAT scores and a list of skills noting student proficiency and those needing more practice are contained in these reports. Students can link their score reports with Khan Academy and receive free practice tests to address areas needing improvement.

If you have any questions after reviewing your student’s score report please contact the student’s school counselor.

SAT Classes for Juniors:

College Planning Partnerships is offering two sessions of online SAT classes for SHS juniors. Session one runs from January 24 – March 16 and will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and a few Thursdays. Session two runs from January 25 through March 17 and will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays and a few Fridays. Both sessions are taught by CPP tutors and are offered in either the afternoon (3:15-4:30 pm) or evening (6:30-7:45 pm). The fee for the course is \$449 with the following **promo code: TROJANS2022**. The course includes: 20 hours of SAT Prep, The

College Board's *Official SAT Study Guide* and CPP's *SAT Study Manual*. Register with CPP [online](#). For more information, please visit the [School Counseling Website](#).

Seniors – The annual Big Y Scholarship is accepting applications! Big Y recognizes the most academically outstanding students in the area with over 300 scholarships every year! Applications are available [online](#). The deadline to apply is Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

Holiday Hours: The School Counseling Office will be closed for the holidays from noon on December 23 through January 2. **Transcript requests will not be processed during the holiday recess.**