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DATES TO REMEMBER

October

- 3 Board of Education Public Work Session—7pm
Forum regarding “Elementary Class Balancing” - 7:30pm
- 9 Schools Closed—Columbus Day
- 18 Board of Education Meeting

November

- 2 Board of Education Public Work Session
- 7 Schools Closed for Students—Election Day
- 8 SSHS Open House
- 15 Board of Education Meeting
- 22-24 Schools Closed—Thanksgiving

Welcome to the 2017/2018 school year! We look forward to a year filled with the joy of learning in the classroom, on the stage, on fields and courts, and throughout our community. Some of our upcoming events are:

- The 6th Annual RVC Family Fun Fitness Fair and Substance Use Awareness Walkathon will be held at 10am on October 14th at South Side Middle School. This event emphasizes the importance of creating positive self-images and making healthy choices in our lives. It features fitness activities, nutritional information, health checks, face painting and a DJ.
- Red Ribbon Week is an annual event celebrated in classrooms in October across the country. During the week students learn about and advocate for alcohol, tobacco, drug and violence prevention in order to bring awareness to children and parents and advocate for policy changes from elected leaders.
- High School Spirit Week is filled with events that unite the grades and teaches our students the value of teamwork and the importance of helping others. Activities throughout the week include the building of floats, lip-synch, a pie-eating contest, tug of war, and Mind Olympics. Students collect canned foods and small toys to be distributed to those in need. The final celebration of Spirit Week is the Homecoming Parade and Football Game which will be held on October 28th. The parade features floats designed and created by students. The parade starts at 12pm on Long Beach Road. Kickoff for the game is at 2pm at South Side High School.
- On the day of Halloween our elementary students can look forward to showing off their costumes to friends and family during the annual Halloween Parades.
- On Wednesday, November 8th the community is invited to the 2nd Annual South Side High School Open House. Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the building and see how education comes alive in our high school classrooms. Meet our faculty and students, learn about academic offerings and programs and visit representatives from the many clubs and extracurricular activities that are offered to our students. The open house will be from 7-8:30pm.

To All Rockville Centre School District Residents

If you believe that your school-age or preschool child may have a disability, please contact Dr. Noreen Leahy, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education, (516) 255-8928, or Dr. Orly Gadon, Chairperson of the Committee on Special Education/Preschool Education at (516) 255-8942.

For the most up-to-date information about the District we invite you to visit our website at www.rvcschools.org, download our App by searching Rockville Centre Schools in the app store, “Like” our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter. We also invite all residents to attend our meetings or to watch them on Thursday evenings on the RVC School Channel (channel 19 for Cablevision subscribers or channel 36 for Verizon FIOS subscribers). For a complete list of Board of Education meetings please visit our website. Your input about our District will enable us to continue to provide students with the best education possible.

Surfers Healing

Students from our CORE Program spent an afternoon with professional surfers during the Surfers Healing Event in Lido Beach. They were outfitted with life jackets and accompanied by instructors as they made their way into the water to embark upon their own unique surfing adventures. Each child took on new challenges and gained a sense of self-accomplishment while riding waves back to shore. At the end of the day students received medals that were offered with encouragement, high-fives and praise to the triumphant beginners.

Surfers Healing, which was founded in 1996, is a program that helps children with special needs experience the excitement of surfing under the guiding hands of professional surfers and other volunteers. This program was created by world champion surfer Izzy Paskowitz and his wife, Danielle, after their oldest son was diagnosed with autism.



Meet The New Staff 2017-2018

Ms. Jamie Abruzzo earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degree at Adelphi University. Ms. Abruzzo will be teaching English at South Side Middle School. *Ms. Jacquelyn Azueta* earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Queens College and her Master of Arts degree at Molloy College. Ms. Azueta will be teaching at Wilson Elementary. *Ms. Alexandra Bacotti* earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at SUNY Geneseo. Ms. Bacotti is currently pursuing her Masters' degree at Columbia University. Ms. Bacotti will be teaching English at South Side High School. *Ms. Brianna Brickman* earned her Bachelor's degree in Music Education at Hofstra University. Ms. Brickman will be teaching Music District-wide. *Ms. Lauren Erickson* earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Molloy College and is pursuing her Masters' degree at Queens College. Ms. Erickson will be teaching at Watson Elementary. *Ms. Dawn Farrell* earned her Bachelor of Science degree from University of Hartford and her Master of Science degree from Long Island University. She also earned her Advanced Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis from Queens College. Ms. Farrell will be teaching Special Education at Hewitt. *Ms. Kerry Figueiredo* received her Bachelor of Science degree at LIU CW Post and her Master of Arts degree at SUNY Stony Brook. Ms. Figueiredo will be teaching Health at South Side High School. *Ms. Alexandra Foukalas* earned her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree at St. John's University. Ms. Foukalas will be a Guidance Counselor at South Side High School. *Ms. Nicole Garcia* earned her Bachelor of Arts degree and is pursuing her Masters' degree at Molloy College. Ms. Garcia will teach Special Education at South Side Middle School. *Ms. Allison Giambrone* earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at The College of Saint Rose and her Master of Science degree at Hofstra University. Ms. Giambrone will be teaching Mathematics at South Side High School. *Ms. Dana Goldstein* earned her Bachelor of Science degree at SUNY Cortland and her Master of Science degree at Molloy College. Ms. Goldstein is teaching at Wilson Elementary. *Ms. Jennifer Herman* earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Boston University and her Master of Science degree at Hofstra University. Ms. Herman will be teaching Special Education at South Side Middle School. *Ms. Lindsey McDonald* earned her Bachelor of Arts from St. Joseph's College and her Master of Arts at Columbia University. Ms. McDonald will be teaching at Wilson School. *Ms. Frances Morr* earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Molloy College and her Master of Arts degree at Hofstra University. Ms. Morr will teach Speech District-wide. *Mr. Bart Swegler* earned his Bachelor of Arts and his Master of Business Administration at Rutgers University. Mr. Swegler will be teaching Business at South Side High School. *Ms. Andrea Wapnick* earned her Bachelor of Science and her Master of Science degrees at Long Island University. Ms. Wapnick will teach Mathematics at South Side High School.



Pictured L to R:

Front Row:

Brianna Brickman, Fran Morr, Dana Goldstein, Jamie Abruzzo, Nicole Garcia

Back Row:

Beverly Pead, Allison Giambrone, Kerry Figueiredo, Jennifer Herman, Lauren Erickson, Dawn Farrell, Bart Swegler

Not pictured:

Jacquelyn Azueta, Alexandra Foukalas, Lindsey McDonald, Andrea Wapnick



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First Day of School



Coding at South Side High School

As we continue to look for innovative ways to include information technology in the classroom, South Side High School is offering a new elective; Introduction to Coding. This course is designed to help students learn problem-solving and programming skills in a creative setting. Students will learn coding principles through a series of teacher-led classes and tutorials designed to teach students at different levels. The course integrates Visual Arts, Technology, Computer Science, Mathematics and English.

During the summer we redesigned and outfitted a classroom to facilitate our new coding course. This classroom features a 70" interactive monitor and 20 computer stations with new iMac computers that include Adobe Creative Cloud, Apple Xcode and Adobe Dreamweaver. In addition to Coding, IB film and TV Studio students will utilize this classroom and its equipment.