





At last night's South West Regional Chamber of Commerce 5th Annual Excellence Awards, South Fayette Township School District was the winner in the School District category. Thank you to everyone who makes up this amazing district as you all participated in making this recognition possible.

Annual Uncommon Conference Unites More Than Ever

The fifth annual Uncommon Conference on joy, equity, diversity, and inclusion was larger than ever at the High School today with 29 registered schools and more than 400 participating students.



The day started with an opening in the Theatre by Dr. Herring and led into an interview with Ebtehal Badawi regarding her work with Pittsburgh Builds Bridges. SHOUT students then performed "The Exhibit" showcasing a variety of cultures and traditions through dynamic dance performances. Guests then separated into breakout sessions which included opportunities to interact with a therapy pony, meet South Fayette's robotic dog, learn hands-only CPR, talk with a panel of neurodiverse college students, and practice restorative circles. Participants then returned to the

Theatre for an enlightening Religions of the World panel followed by the dynamic keynote speaker Emmai Alaquiva who, after his speech on remixing his life, led the audience in several fun battles on dancing, DJing, and rapping with his partner Selecta. The crowd was hyped and participation was at a maximum throughout the day.

The Uncommon Conference is organized and hosted by SHOUT with the goal of making equity, inclusion, and belonging a reality for the students, faculty, and staff at schools in our region.

Eighth Grade Celebrates Annual "Outsiders" Day

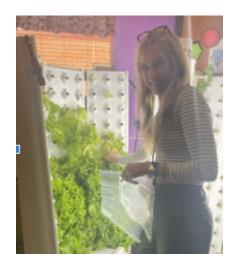
Monday was the annual "Outsiders" Day for 8th Grade as they dressed like their favorite Greaser or Soc and celebrated all they'd learned about the beloved S.E. Hinton novel. Numerous activities throughout the day included a costume contest and watching the movie. Winners and runners up for the best dressed Greasers and Socs included **Jossyln Graham, Ava Quinn, Chloe Young, Molly Grella, Carter Rivera, Aiden Lyons, Jonathan Hoskins,** and **Connor Eisel.**



New Growth Happening in the ES

Elementary students in **Mrs. Colangelo**'s Learning Lab have been working with a new Flex Farm hydroponic system and are excited to begin reaping the benefits of their labors. So far this year, they have successfully planted seeds in the nursery, transplanted them into the Flex Farm, and, most recently, harvested fresh lettuce and basil! This hands-on experience has significantly enhanced the Lion Learners' understanding of plant biology and sustainable agriculture.

It's safe to say these young farmers are looking forward to their next harvest.



Virtual Learning Days Reminders

The District is approved to use Virtual Learning Days to count for an official day of school when weather, an emergency, or other event prevents students from attending school in the buildings. When the District has a Virtual Learning Day, students will be expected to attend virtual instruction using their school-issued devices.

Here are some important reminders regarding Virtual Learning Days:

- A Virtual Learning Day will be announced on the District's website, as a recorded message on the school district's main phone line, and sent as a message to families through School Messenger.
- In order to provide all families with the opportunity to take the necessary measures to prepare for virtual instruction and arrange childcare coverage, all schools will operate on a 2-Hour Delay Schedule on Virtual Learning Days. Building administrators will share specific schedules and instructions with their families, but the following will be virtual start times by grade levels.
 - 9-12 students will begin their day at 9:20 AM.
 - 6-8 students will begin their day at 10:10 AM.
 - 1-5 students will begin their day at 11:00 AM.
 - Kindergarten AM will begin their day at 11:00 AM and end their day at 12:39 PM.
 - Kindergarten PM will begin their day at 1:45 PM and end their day at 3:23 PM.
 - Little Lions Academy will not be in session. Students and parents can complete work in their School Weather Closure Packets.
- In the event that multiple, consecutive days of closure are expected, the District may choose to follow a schedule that begins at the typical start time. If this would occur, the change would be communicated with all families.
- Attendance will be taken on Virtual Learning Days and the process for each building will be shared by building administrators in a follow-up communication.

South Fayette Township School District has been using Canvas as our learning management system. All students have been instructed on how to use Canvas to access assignments, resources, and live meets in anticipation of Virtual Learning Days. The school buildings will each be sending a subsequent message that will share more specific information to their students and families. For questions about Virtual Learning Days in a specific school, please contact that building's administrators.

Reminders

- Information about Virtual Learning Days is available under Flexible Instruction Days (FID) from the QR Code on the "What Every Lion Needs to Know" magnet that all families received at the beginning of the school year.
- Download the WPIAL Official App from both the <u>App Store</u> and <u>Google Play</u> by searching "WPIAL", or by visiting the <u>WPIAL Official App page on the league website</u>.
- Campus construction updates are available online at a <u>dedicated page</u> on the district website.

Student and Staff Shout Outs

★ HUGE congratulations to the **Girls Varsity Soccer Team** for winning the WPIAL Class 3-A Championship for the second year in a row! It was a 4-0 victory over Fox Chapel on Saturday, November 2 at Highmark Stadium with two goals scored by **Mia Deramo**, and singles by **Gabby Beinecke** and **Emma Ferrari**. Goaltender **Caitlyn Thompson** had the clean sheet. The Lady Lions went unchallenged again on Tuesday with a 5-0 win over Dubois in the first round of the PIAA 3-A playoffs and will take on Mars in the quarterfinals tomorrow. Goals on Tuesday were scored by **Emma Ferrari**, **Mia Patel**, and **Gabby Beinecke** had a hat trick!

★ Congratulations to Students of the Month for October who were selected based on the theme of School Spirit: Freshmen: Luci LeMendola and Jacob Tierney; Sophomores: Emma Billing and Vomero Omodior; Juniors: Angeline Brusco and Maria Gabriel; Seniors Camryn Hondru and Tessa Schwarzmiller.



 ★ Way to go, Juliette Leroux who was named to the All-WPIAL Girls Volleyball First Team and received All-Section First Team honors. Receiving All-Section Second Team honors were Charlotte
Dzicki and Madisyn Jones and Third Team recognition went to Lola Jacobs and Lanna Thomas!
★ This week's Lion Card raffle winners at the IS from each grade who have been proudly making safe, kind, and responsible choices are: 3rd Grade: Devyn Jordan and Zara Khazi Syed; 4th Grade: Addilyn Fernandez and Nivedh Loveson; 5th Grade: Josh Budavich and Edward Self. Congratulations and great job!

Lions in the News

The front page of this week's Almanac features photos of both our Boys Varsity Colf Team and Girls Varsity Cross Country Team.

Boys Basketball **Coach Mislan** was highlighted on <u>KDKA-TV News</u> for his upcoming Musial Award for sportsmanship.

Governing Magazine shared <u>the article</u> from the *Post-Gazette* showcasing **Mr. Gregg** and the **Honors Civics classes** as they learned about the election.

Of course, our repeat WPIAL Class 3-A Champion **Girls Soccer Team** received lots of coverage in the local media after their victory last Saturday: <u>Almanac</u>, <u>Observer-Reporter</u>, <u>Post-Gazette</u>, <u>Tribune-Review</u>.

Events Next Week

November 9, 2024 Fall Showcase, 7 pm, HS Theatre **November 11, 2024** Veterans Day Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive Begins (through December 6) **November 12, 2024** PTA General Membership Meeting, 7 pm, ES Library

November 13, 2024

ES & IS Picture Make Ups HS Powder Puff Game, 7 pm, Stadium

Upcoming Dates to Remember

November 16, 2024 Garba Festival, 7 pm, HS Gym

November 21, 2024 PTA Science Fair for ES & IS, 6:30 pm, IS Gym

November 28 - December 2, 2024 School Closed - Fall Break

December 4 - 6, 2024 Keystone Exams

December 10 - 12 Keystone Exam Make-Up Days

December 13, 2024 PTA Holiday Market, 4 - 8 pm, HS Studio & Theatre Corridor Carols & Cocoa featuring IS Beginning Band, 5th Grade Band, HS Wind Ensemble, 7 pm, IS Gym

December 17, 2024 5th Grade Band, Choir & Orff Ensemble, & Orchestra Concert, 7 pm, HS Theatre

December 20, 2024 Early Dismissal for Winter Break **November 25 - 27, 2024** No School for Students -Parent/Teacher Conferences MS Student-Led Conferences

November 28, 2024 Thanksgiving

December 5, 2024 MS Holiday Chorus Concert, 6 pm, MS Auditorium

December 11, 2024 3rd & 4th Grade Winter Orchestra Concert, 7 pm, IS Gym Coffee and Conversation with District Leadership, 9 - 10 am, Pride Room

December 14, 2024 Breakfast with Santa, 9 - 11 am, HS Commons PTA Holiday Market, 10 am - 2 pm, HS Studio & Theatre Corridor

December 18, 2024 HS Music Department Holiday Concert, 7 pm, HS Theatre

December 21, 2024 Little Lions Early Learning Academy Lottery Request Period Closes **November 19, 2024** School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

November 26, 2024 School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

December 2, 2024 Little Lions Early Learning Academy Lottery Request Period Opens School Board Reorganization Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

December 6, 2024 End of Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive Interim Report Cards Available on Parent Portal

December 12, 2024 MS Holiday Orchestra Concert, 6:30 pm, Auditorium MS Holiday Band Concert, 8 pm, Auditorium

December 16, 2024 Two-Hour Delay for Students

December 19, 2024 ES & IS PTA Holiday Parties

December 23, 2024 - January 1, 2025 School Closed - Winter Break

December 25, 2024

Christmas Day

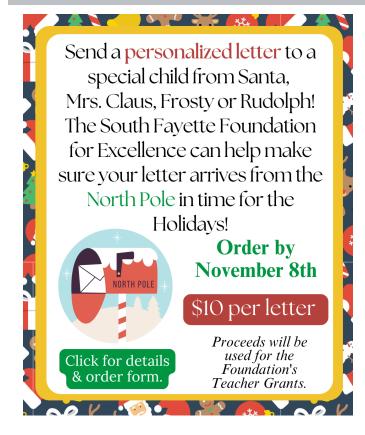
January 1, 2025 New Year's Day **December 26, 2024** Hanukkah Kwanzaa December 31, 2024 New Year's Eve



Have news to share?* Article drafts, flyers, ads, .jpg or .png images can be emailed to: Jennifer Donovan, Director of Communications at **Deadline:** 10 am Thursday prior to release/issue date. Example: newsletter date is Friday, August 30, submission deadline is 10 am on Thursday, August 29. *Submission does not guarantee placement in upcoming issue(s).

Community Resources

Fundraisers

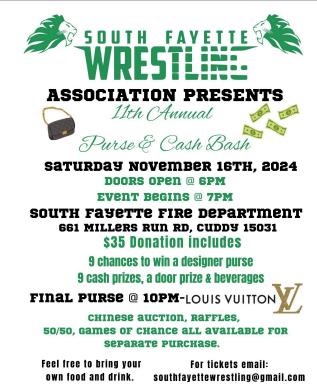




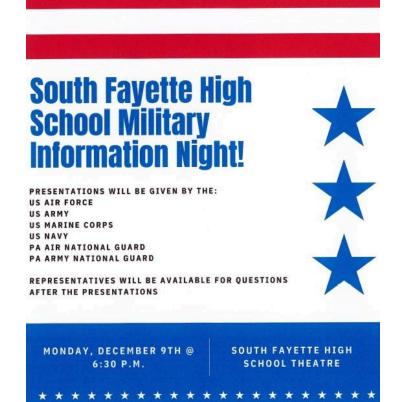


District Events





Must be 18 years old to attend



Junior Scientists and Inventors, Time to Register!

2024 Science and Invention Fair

Thursday, November 21, 6:00pm-7:45pm, IS Gym Project drop-off is Wednesday, November 20 6:30-8pm



*Grades K-5, Individuals or Groups (up to 4) *Registration required! *Win great prizes - like tickets to the Children's Museum, a signed picture from Cam Hayward, and more!

More Info and Registration at:



https://forms.gle/HmQKmfRsRqL3pUQ7A



JOIN US TO BE PART OF THE KIDS OF STEEL PROGRAM AT SOUTH FAYETTE AND RUN IN THE PITTSBURGH KIDS MARATHON!

Training is in person at both the Elementary and Intermediate schools.



For more information, visit South Fayette's Lions of Steel websites: ES - https://lions-of-steel.webnode.com/ IS - https://sites.google.com/view/sfiskidsofsteel



FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROGRAM, CONTACT: Mrs. Colangelo (ES) - racolangelo@southfayette.org Miss Fornella (IS) - cmfornella@southfayette.org

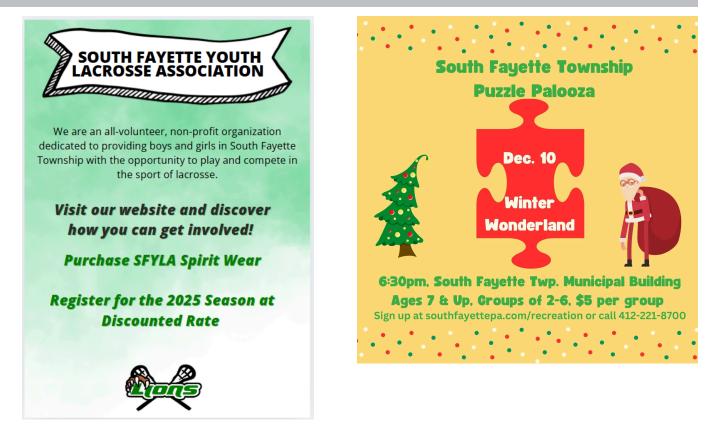
COFFEE & CONVERSATION with District Leadership

Join District Leadership for Coffee in The Pride Room, located in the Administrative Offices.*

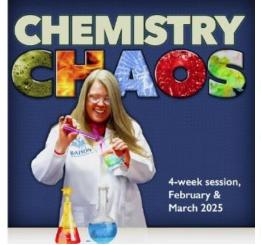
Our District Superintendent and fellow leaders will provide updates on the exciting ways the District is "Future-Focused, Student-Centered, and Innovation-Driven."



Community Activities







South Fayette Science Enrichment Program For grades 1–3

Have you ever wanted to perform your own science experiments? Here's your chance! We'll explore chemistry and physics in a very hands-on (MESSY!) way.

You may have played with slime before, but have you ever seen a flying tea bag?

Mrs. Joan Batson will teach this exciting science enrichment series. Join us in Chemistry Chaos as we break out the beakers to mix some oozing and erupting concoctions! Don't miss it!

When: 5:30pm-6:30pm, Tuesdays February 25-March 18

Where: South Fayette Senior Center, 515 Millers Run Rd.

Program fee: \$95

To register, visit the South Fayette website:

https://pasfayetteweb.myvscloud.com/webtrac/web/iteminfo.html?Module=AR&FMID=12307413

