

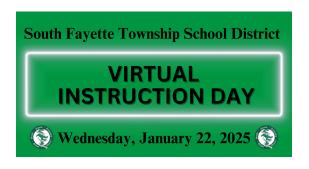
Clickable **LINKS.** Check weekly for more information.



Safety is not Limited by FID

So far this school year, the District has enacted four Virtual Instruction Days due to weather/road conditions/ dangerously low temperatures. These dates have included January 3, 6, 16, and 22.

While SFTSD has been granted a maximum of five Flexible Instruction Days (FID) through the PA Department of Education, students and families



can be assured that if inclement weather continues to be a challenge this season, the District can utilize virtual instruction as often as needed.

District administration recently consulted with the Pennsylvania Department of Education to confirm that there is nothing in school code that precludes a district from moving from in-person learning to virtual instruction. Therefore, should we use our fifth and final FID and additional virtual instruction days are needed, we can continue offering virtual instruction without adjusting or lengthening the current 2024-25 academic year calendar.

In-school instruction is always the District preference, however, virtual instruction remains a viable option when holding classes in-person presents safety concerns.

American Heart Challenge Keeps Beating at SF

Our local American Heart Association Representative for School Engagement, and proud SF parent, Ashley Collins, is very excited that all four District schools are participating in this year's American Heart Challenge. Our Middle School students have already done an incredible job with their challenge, and today kicks off the efforts of the ES. The IS will begin their challenge on February 3 with the HS following on Valentine's Day.

Let's see if 100% of our students. staff. and families can learn the critical life saving skill of Hands-Only CPR, utilize the health and wellness resources available, and help kids with special hearts. To participate, register at heart.org/schools and download the free "AHA Schools" app. Then complete Finn's Mission through which you'll learn the life saving skill of Hands-Only CPR and how to recognize a stroke. Complete the 7 steps and be entered to win two Super Bowl tickets!

Did you know we have our very own local Youth Heart Ambassador, **Grayson Cannon**, in the Intermediate school? He and his family have shared his story to spread more awareness, and it's available for you to read above.

HEART HERO Grayson

4th Grade

I am a student at South Fayette Intermediate School and live with my parents, older brother, younger sister, and new puppy. In my free time I love to play sports. I was born with an Atrial Septal Defect (ASD) and a Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD). The ASD was small and closed on its own a few years ago. The VSD was a larger hole between my lower chambers and recently had to be closed through open heart surgery. I'm still recovering from surgery but am feeling good. I can't wait to get back to playing baseball, hockey and basketball! I am

happy my school is participating in the Kids Heart Challenge so everyone can learn

about heart health and help kids with special hearts like me! And I want other kids with special hearts to know that even though what they are going through can be scary, the American Heart Association can help them through what they're dealing with and not feel alone.

THE **KIDS HEART CHALLENGE** AND **AMERICAN HEART CHALLENGE** FUNDS RESEARCH THAT HELPS KIDS HAVE LONGER AND STRONGER LIVES. YOUR SUPPORT HELPS FAMILIES HAVE HOPE AND FOR THAT THEY ARE SO GRATEFUL.

TOGETHER, WE ARE CREATING A WORLD OF LONGER, HEALTHIER LIVES.

Top District Jobs



Reminders

- <u>Vote</u> for **Pranita Chakkingal's** "I Voted" sticker by Monday, January 27, 2025. Help her win this contest in Allegheny County.
- **Class of 2025** don't forget to <u>order your Cap and Gown</u> through Jostens.
- 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.
- Campus construction updates are available online at a <u>dedicated page</u> on the district website. Information for submitting bids for the Intermediate School project is now available.

Student and Staff Shout Outs

★ Good luck to **Owen Chiappetta, Trevor D'Alessandro, Eli Petter,** and **Nathaniel Keller** who are playing this Sunday, January 26, in the PIHL AAA Hockey All Star game! The puck drops at 7:20 pm at Robert Morris Island Sports Center.

★ Congratulations to **Akshath Giridhar** for winning the Best Delegate Award for Outer Space Affairs at the Duquesne Model UN Conference last Friday, and to the entire SF **Model UN Club** for a great day of competition!

★ Cheers to the Middle School writers who recently learned that their 100-word stories are being published by the Young Writers organization: 8th graders **Ayush Kathale** and **Dolika Yajna Havishya Varadi** and 7th graders **Diya Thirumurugan, Diya Patel,** and **Nithin Raja** all participated in the *Fright Club* Writing Contest, and 6th grader **Anushka Joshi**'s submission to the *Scary Tales* Writing Contest was also chosen for publication.

★ Bravo sixth grader **Vishnu Sreekumar** who finished in third in the 2025 New Year's Music Competition as part of the online Charleston International Music Competition. Vishnu's performance of Concerto No. 2 in G Major Op. 13 by F. Seitz on the violin can be <u>viewed here</u>.

★ At the indoor track meet at Youngstown State University last weekend, new school records were achieved in two events: **Luke Gillen** in the 400-meter race finished at 51.15 seconds and **Angela Zeng** wrapped up the 1600-meter run in 5 minutes and 10.57 seconds. Fantastic!

★ Ella Trahan and **Azlynn Dean** finished 3rd and 6th, respectively, in their wrestling weight classes at the 2nd Annual Sharpsville Girls Battle Against Breast Cancer Tournament. Nice work!

★ Way to go to the following Varsity Wrestlers who placed in their respective weight classes at the Allegheny County Wrestling Tournament last weekend: Luke Dunlap 2nd, Talan Mizenko 4th, Brock Dennison 6th, and Peter Leventis 7th.

★ Congrats to our **Jr High Wrestling Team** who finished 4-1 at the Bebout Brawl Team Tournament last Saturday, defeating Hampton, Brownsville, Ringgold, and Shaler. **Clark Julius** and **Connor Dean** both went undefeated that day.

★ Announcing the IS Lion Card raffle winners from the past two weeks! Students from each grade who have been proudly making safe, kind, and responsible choices are: 3rd Grade: Alexa Culp, Gloria Greenwood, Shlok Patel, and Brady Quirk; 4th Grade: Rosie Manly, Alayna Morton, Nathan Spink, and Zane Willy; 5th Grade: Mason Forrester, Vienna Monz, Neil Pathak, and Garrett Pitts. Congratulations and great job!

★ Congratulations to the Lion Pride winners at the ES for the PBIS Program for last week: Kindergarten: Alma Fryer, Paisley Mrenak, Remington Reagan, and Juno Spears; 1st Grade: Adeline Dunn, Diva Lakhani, Valia Silko, and Evelyn Tripodi; 2nd Grade: Ryan Graham, Brooks Petruska, Adhrit Shah, and Milo Sommerer. These Super Lions showed that they are Safe, Kind, and Responsible and will be entered into the ES monthly drawing for the chance at a class or individual reward of their choice.

Lions in the News

Pittsburgh Union Progress highlighted Lady Lions basketball player **Ryan Oldaker** along with her mother, Dori Oldaker, in an <u>article this week</u>.

Events Next Week

January 28, 2025 School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio January 29, 2025 Lunar New Year

Upcoming Dates to Remember

February 2, 2025 Groundhog Day

February 5, 2025 5th Grade Drama Club Play, 7 pm, IS Gym Scheduling Information/AP Curriculum Night, 7 pm, HS Commons

February 14, 2025 Valentine's Day ES & IS Valentine's Day Parties

February 19, 2025 HS Parent Info & Scheduling Night, 7 pm, Theatre

February 28, 2025 Ramadan Interim Report Cards Available on Parent Portal Best Buddies Mardi Gras Dance, 6 - 9 pm, HS Commons MS Musical, 7 pm, MS Auditorium

March 3, 2025 ES Family Reading Night, 6:30 pm

March 9, 2025 Daylight Saving Time begins **February 25, 2025** School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

School Closed - Presidents' Day

February 10, 2025

February 17, 2025

Two-Hour Delay for Students

March 1, 2025 MS Musical, 2 pm, MS Auditorium

March 5, 2025 Ash Wednesday

March 10, 2025 Two-Hour Delay for Students

March 15, 2025 HS Spring Musical, 7 pm, HS Theatre

February 12, 2025

ASVAB Testing, 7:30 - 10 am, HS PTA General Membership Meeting, 7 pm, IS Cafeteria HS Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, & Jazz Band Concert, 7 pm, Theatre

February 18, 2025 School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

February 27, 2025 MS Musical, 7 pm, MS Auditorium

March 3 - 7, 2025 ES PTA Book Fair

March 7, 2025 Mini-THON District-Wide "Blue Out" Mini-THON HS Stall Day IS Battle of the Books (Grades 4 & 5), 6:30 pm

March 12, 2025 MS PAC Meeting, 9 am

March 14, 2025 Holi HS Spring Musical, 7 pm, HS Theatre

The Weekly Green Scene p. 5

March 16, 2025 HS Spring Musical, 2 pm, HS Theatre

March 25, 2025 School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

March 17, 2025 St. Patrick's Day

March 27, 2025

End of 3rd Quarter Early Dismissal for all students Celebration of Excellence in Learning at all schools 4th Grade Orchestra Spring Concert, 7 pm, IS Gym

March 31. 2025 Eid Al-Fitr No School for Students

March 18, 2025 School Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, HS Studio

March 28, 2025 No School for Students

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

District Fundraisers

2025 Blue Out Shirt Orders

Support the kick-off to the 2025 Mini-THON season by purchasing an official shirt to wear on March 7, the district-wide "Blue Out."

Short Sleeve: \$15 Sweatshirt (hoodie or crewneck): \$25 Order deadline: Friday, January 24, 2025

Ordering instructions can be found <u>HERE</u>.

Or simply scan the QR Code

FOUR DIAMONDS-

Conquering Childhood Cancer

mu



Friday - Saturday hon May 2 & 3

6 pm - 6 am

SOUTH FAYETTE'S 2025 SOUPER BOWL TACKLES HUNGER!

Now through February 10



Bring non-perishable soup donations to the collection boxes in any of the South **Fayette Township School District** buildings.

Donations benefit Bridgeville Community Food Bank. 740 Washington Ave. Bridgeville, PA 15017

District Events



Kindergarten registration for the 2025 - 2026 school year opens on Saturday, February 1.

Please click the link for detailed information: Kindergarten Registration 2025-2026

The South Fayette Swim & Dive Team announce their: OL PARTY WHEN: Friday, February 7th, 2025 TIME: 6:30-8:45 pm WHERE: SF Middle School Pool (entrance on the left side of the school) WHO. SF Students in 4TH, 5TH & 6TH GRADES COST: \$10 per swimmer (includes slice of pizza)

Additional PIZZA, DRINKS, SNACKS and LUCKY DUCKS will be available for sale!

Drop off and pick up inside the pool lobby. Parties are supervised by coaches, lifeguards, swim parents, and members of the swim team.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Click to watch an amazing student video!



VING **Comprehensive diving**

program for all skill levels

Practices: 1 or 2 days/week Must be 6 years of age Must be able to swim

independently

Winter 2025 Season Begins Monday, January 6!

www.steelcityaquatics.org



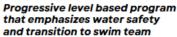




Class Dates		
Winter 1	January 6	Jonuory 8
	January 13	January 15
	January 20	January 22
	January 27	January 29
Winter 2	February 3	February 5
	February 10	February 12
	February 17	February 19
	February 24	February 28







DETAILS

LOCATION: SOUTH FAYETTE MS

CLASS OFFERING:

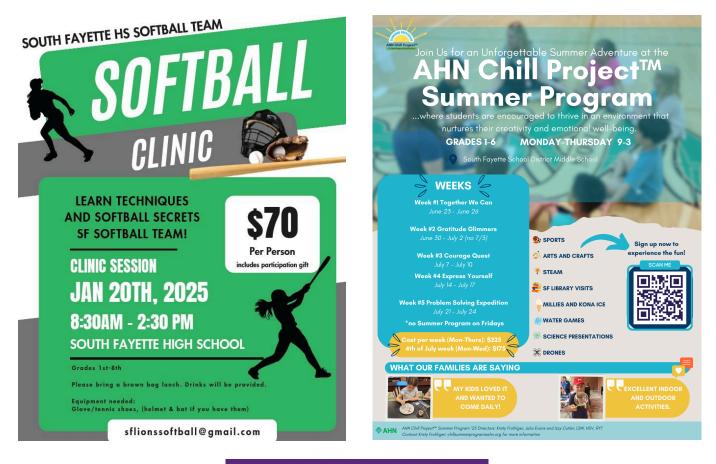
EIGHT, 30 MINUTE CLASSES OFFERED 2X PER WEEK IN A SESSION

CONTACT

Meghan Aitken - Learn2Swim Director learn2swim@steelcityaquatics.org

www.steelcityaquatics.org





DONATE NOW! SAY YES TO THE DRESS

A SECOND LIFE FOR YOUR FORMAL DRESSES

- Prom/Homecoming
- Interview Attire
- Sports Banquets
- Cocktail Dresses



DRESSES CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE LIBRARY OR AT THE SFHS STADIUM Be entered for a chance to win a FREE PROM TICKET and other prizes!

SPONSORED BY SF STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Community Activities







Jigsaw Puzzle EXCHANGE



Saturday, February 1 9:00am-12:00pm

For everyone who donated jigsaw puzzles to the Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange - it's time to get your new-to-me puzzles! You can select the same number of puzzles that you donated for the exchange.

Drop off puzzles for donation during the week of January 27-31





SF YOUTH FOOTBALL SUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER 2/2/25 • 12PM-3PM MCCLELLAND'S





Let your voice be heard!...or read.

In these mini writing workshops, each week we focus on an aspect of storytelling and/or writing that can help you grow your skills as a storyteller. Each participant will be encouraged to work on a unique short story.

2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAYS GRADES 9-12 @ 3:00PM GRADES 6-8 @ 6:00PM

SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP



WORKSHOPS

W/ THE TUFTING STUDIO Tufting shoots yarn into a canvas to create art. Explore your creativity and craftsmanship through our tufting workshop with an experienced instructor who will teach you how to create a tufted masterpiece.

FEBRUARY 15 4pm-6pm Tufting w/ your Valentine Couples Age 18+ MARCH 16 12pm-2pm Parent & Me Tufting: St. Patrick's Day Age 10+ w/ Adult WHAT YOU'LL GET: • Tools and Materials • Expert Guidance • Hands-on Practice • Tools and Materials • Expert Guidance • Hands-on Practice

SOUTHFAYETTEPA.COM/RECREATION

412-221-8700 EXT.222 IMCNEILL@SFTWP.COM







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/web/rac/web/iteminfo.html?Module=AR&FMID=12307413

