

August 2017

Dear South Shore Families,

I want to officially welcome all of you to the 2017-2018 school year! I hope you enjoyed a summer vacation filled with fun and exciting memories with your loved ones. I am thrilled to welcome all of you back to a new school year of learning and growing. I look forward to continue building a strong relationship with all of you in the upcoming year. As we enter this new school year, I want to let you know that our staff will be engaging in conversations around personalized learning with a focus on rigorous instruction for all. I believe that every person in this building should always be growing and learning.

We are going to have another incredible and productive school year. Our dedicated staff has been working hard to ensure a successful **start of school on Tuesday, September 5, 2017**. Our enthusiastic office team is registering new families, ordering needed materials and updating student files. Our hard working custodians have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning the facility. Our much-appreciated PTA is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities, and offer other exciting events and programs.

Lots of important updates are below:

NEW TO SOUTH SHORE

I am thrilled to share with you the following staff members who will be joining our family:

Jaclyn Haslun

Leigh Magdelinskas

Kelly Sokol

School Counselor

Special Education

ESOL Teacher

To learn more about our new staff members, be sure to check our first school newsletter.

SNEAK A PEEK AND BOOK SWAP:

We will host our annual "Sneak a Peek" opportunity to drop off school supplies and briefly meet your child's teacher on Thursday, August 31st from 1:30 PM-2:30 PM After the "Sneak a Peek," please head down to the gym for a Book Swap. See the enclosed handout for more details.

SCHOOL HOURS:

A reminder that our start and end times will be changing this school year. Doors will open at 8:20 AM and school will start at 8:35 AM. School will

"Together We are Making our Mark on the World!"

end at 3:00 PM. These new hours will result in a 15 minute shift to our entire schedule.

GRADED WORK AND TUESDAY FOLDERS:

This year all students will be given a Graded Work Envelope as well as a Take Home Folder. Please ask your child for these folders every Tuesday. It is one primary way for us to maintain the lines of communication between school and home. Information regarding programs, events, PTA, instructional changes, etc. will be found in these folders, and parents are asked to sign the folders each week and return them promptly with their child on Wednesday.

MAKING OUR MARK ON THE WORLD:

Our students will continue to take action and make inquiries into their interests. This year, we will conduct our PYP self-study. During this self-study we will evaluate our PYP program, making adjustments. We will look for your feedback to continue making South Shore the best we can be. Some new things this year to look forward to include monthly book talks and a cafeteria DJ. ☺ We are going to have a great year!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sneak a Peek and Book Swap	Thursday, August 31 st from 1:30 PM-2:30 PM
1st Day of School(Grades 1-5)	Tuesday, September 5 th
Kindergarten Conferences and Staggered Entrance for Kindergarten	See Letters Mailed Home For Personal Schedules
First Day for ALL Kindergarteners	Tuesday, September 12 th
Back to School Night	Thursday, September 14 th at 6:00 PM

VOLUNTEERS:

Because it is so important that teachers and parents work together in making a child’s school year a happy and successful one, it is hoped that you will be able to spend some time during the school year helping in the classroom or at home. **Please note: Volunteer policies and procedures for AACPS have changed this school year.** Before volunteering, **everyone** must attend a Volunteer Orientation held at South Shore. More information will come home shortly.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

“Together We are Making our Mark on the World!”

A great deal of time, effort and thought has gone into the process of student placement for the 2017-2018 school year. Class assignment post cards will be mailed early next week. Careful consideration was given to input from staff and families as well as student learning styles. Classrooms have been balanced academically and socially. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable class sizes at each grade level. Thank you so much for being positive with your child and helping him or her understand that it is impossible to place all students with a preferred best friend or teacher. ALL of our staff works hard to make school a positive experience for ALL students.

SUMMER READING:

Don't forget to finish your summer reading passport. If you need another one, please contact the school office. They will be due to your teacher on September 8th so that prizes will can be rewarded to all participants. I can't wait to hear about all of the exciting books that were read over the summer.

I eagerly look forward to greeting students and families again. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. We are a remarkable community that continues to support our students and our school with diversity, positivity, and a growth mindset. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for everyone. If you have any questions related to school policy and procedures, schedules, etc., please feel free to notify the main office at 410.222.3865, check our school website at ssepandas.org or email me at sshafran@aacps.org. Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

Your very proud principal,

Stacy Shafran

“Together We are Making our Mark on the World!”

Please Join Us for a Book Swap

Clean Off Your Bookshelves and Look Under Your Bed to Find those Books You've Already Read!

Who? All South Shore Students

What? A Schoolwide Book Swap

Why? Fall Reading

When? August 31st 1:30 PM-2:30 PM

Where? SSES Gym

How? Once you have met your new teacher and classmates, come down to the gym for th book swap. For every book you bring to the book swap you will receive a Book Buck good for another book at the swap.

**** Please bring books appropriate for elementary school aged children.****

