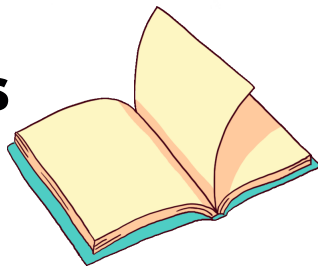




WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SOUTHMORELAND

Reading Buddies



By Sheri Zimmerman

Twenty YEA students from our high school enthusiastically volunteered their time to pair up with kindergarteners and first graders for Reading Buddies at SPC. Our young Scotties enjoyed hearing great stories and many were excited to share their own reading abilities with their high school buddies. The YEA students will return to SPC each month throughout the school year to promote the joy of reading.

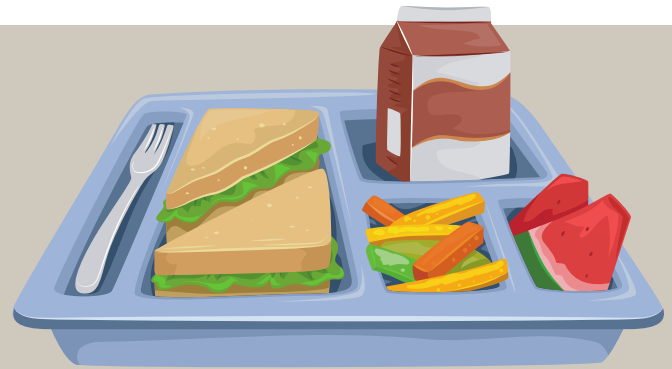
HERE'S WHAT'S UP!

- Food Service Department
- Wall of Honor
- Kindergarten Registration
- Pumpkin Drop
- Southmoreland Chatbot
- SPC
- SES
- SMS
- SHS
- Winter Sports Highlights
- School Board Changes & Calendar





Food Service Department



Food Service



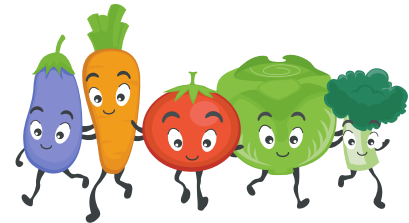
*By Zachary Malavite
Food Service Director*

Southmoreland Food Service was the recipient of a \$500.00 charitable donation from the Pennsylvania Regional Food Services Director (PRFSD) group towards backpack and food pantry programs. This donation will be passed along to the Center Bethel Church of God, located in Alverton. Senior Pastor Lee Kline and Kim Semon spearhead the program and provide this generous initiative for our qualifying Southmoreland students. We are grateful for their support within our community and for our students' health and nutrition!

Additionally, Southmoreland Food Service was informed that they will be awarded a 2023 Child Hunger Hero Bronze award from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. This is now the second year in a row the department has attained this award. The Food Service Director, Zachary Malavite, will be accepting the award on

behalf of the department in the coming months and a list of all winners will be released in February 2024.

Southmoreland Food Service is honored and grateful to be acknowledged for the hard work and effort put forth to provide healthy and nutritious meals in an innovative way as we continue to strive towards improving the overall level of quality in our nutrition services for all students in our community!



Healthy
FOOD

"If you keep good food in your fridge, you will eat good food."



Wall of Honor



by *Dr. Daniel Clara*
Assistant to the Superintendent

In the fall of 2022, veterans in our learning community and district administration met to discuss how we might recognize our graduates who have chosen the path of service upon leaving our schools. These conversations led to the development of a vision and a plan to honor our veterans through the establishment of the Scottie Wall of Honor, which will be housed in our High School Student Union for our students and the community to visit.

Through the generosity of our Veterans for the Park group, our project began with a POW/MIA table, which is adorned with the required pieces. Details regarding the symbolic representations for those items may be found [here](#).

The Scottie Wall of Honor was completed in November of 2023 by students from our high school and our [Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center](#).

A pallet wall is the base for six shadow boxes. Each box represents a branch of our armed forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force). For each of those boxes, the Veterans for the Park has graciously provided dog tags that honor our graduates and their branch of service. This wall is also the home to a piece of art designed by veteran Mr. David Mates.

On November 11, 2023, the Wall of Honor was unveiled at a ceremony that included local representatives, families and friends, and most especially, our veterans. Please [click here](#) to watch the ceremony. This [short clip](#) shows the completed wall.

Veterans, current service members and families of service members who would like to recognize a graduate who serves or has served in our military should complete the [Southmoreland Wall of Honor Nomination Form](#). Upon verification of service, the Veterans for the Park will order the creation of the dog tag and then we will place it in the service box so that it may be seen by students and visitors alike. Our future plans include the establishment of an interactive collection of interviews from our veterans that will be collected by our students.



An article about the construction of the wall in the Independent-Observer may be found [here](#).

An article about the unveiling of the wall may be found [here](#).

Should you have questions or wish to support this program, you may direct your emails to: Dr. Daniel Clara, Assistant to the Superintendent, at: clarad@southmoreland.net

or the Veterans for the Park at: Veteransforthepark2022@gmail.com



Wall of Honor How to be included:



There is no cost involved for a Southmoreland veteran to be included in the Wall of Honor. Veterans and their loved ones can visit southmoreland.net and select the following:

- Our District
- District Information
- Honoring our Veterans:
Southmoreland Wall of Honor
- Southmoreland Wall of Honor
Nomination Form

Or click this link to complete the form: [Southmoreland Wall of Honor Nomination Form](#)



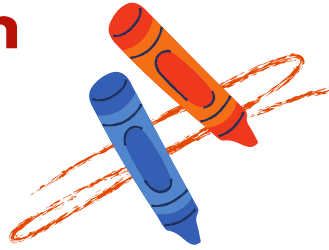
★★★★ THANK YOU ★★★★★

VETERANS

Honoring all who served!



Kindergarten Registration



By Lori Herman, District Registrar

Kindergarten Registration will be open from **February 5th - April 12th**. All students must be registered online within this window to be included in our Kindergarten Screenings and Orientation.

Registrations will not be processed until all required documents are received.

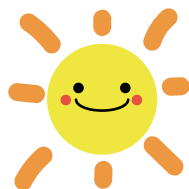
Eligibility:

For a child to register for Kindergarten they must:

- Be five years of age by September 1st of the current school term
- Have a birth certificate
- Meet state immunization law requirements

Required Documents:

- Proof of Residency
- Birth Certificate
- Immunizations



Registration/No Internet:

For families that do not have a computer or internet connection please contact the district registrar to make an appointment:

Mrs. Lori Herman
District Registrar
registrar@southmoreland.net
724-887-2000 *7202



Click here to register:

<https://www.southmoreland.net/Page/2060>

Or scan the QR Code





Pumpkin Drop



by Zachary Cavalier

On October 27, students from SES, SMS, and SHS traveled to WVU to participate in the annual pumpkin drop event. In preparing for the drop event, students learned about energy, gravity, acceleration, momentum, and other forces. They put their learning into action preparing their devices. Southmoreland entered 5 drop teams (1 elementary, 1 middle, and 3 high school). Of the 5 pumpkins dropped by SHS students, 3 survived the 10 story drop. The high school team made up of Faith Tarr and Nolan Blaze created a minimalist device that survived to 120 foot drop. The middle school team made up of Brandon Puskar, Laurel Cavalier, Will Byrd, and Jaycee Pire created a device that also effectively protected their pumpkin, and the elementary device designed and built by Will Cavalier and Gracie Ansell allowed their pumpkin to make the drop unscathed. After dropping, the students explored exhibits put on by various WVU engineering students. There were high powered rockets, RC drones, offroad

vehicles, remote controlled rovers that looked like they belonged on Mars, compact race cars, and electric vehicles. The students all enjoyed hearing the college students describe the design and construction of the vehicles.

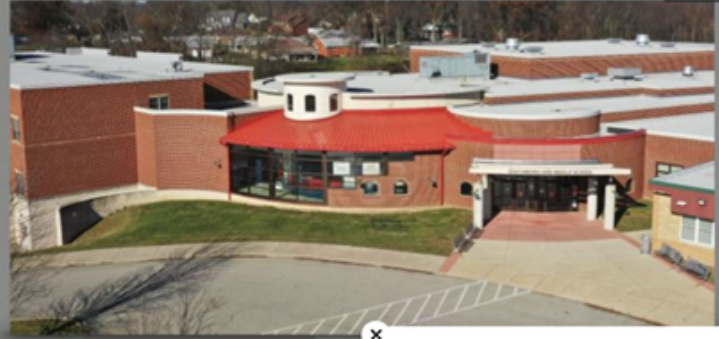




SOUTHMORELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
High Quality Learning for All

DISTRICT

SCHOOLS



x Ask the Southmoreland chatbot!

Southmoreland Chatbot

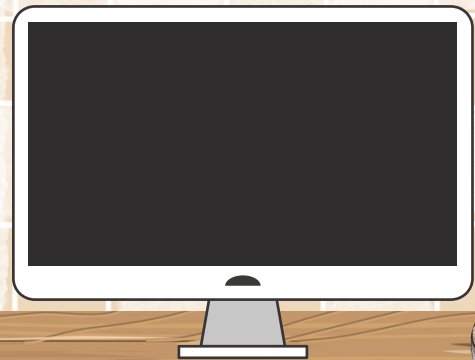


by Lori Herman

On November 28th Southmoreland added a new feature to their website, that feature is the Southmoreland Chatbot. You can click on the chatbot and enter a question and it will take you directly to what you are looking for on our website.

Learning is a constant process of discovery - a process without end.

Bruce Lee



X

Ask the Southmoreland Chatbot!



SOUTHMORELAND PRIMARY CENTER



SPC Countdown to Christmas

Friday, December 1 – Elf on Shelf Day - Dress like your favorite elf

Monday, December 4 – Family Picture Day - Wear your favorite plaid

Tuesday, December 5 - Santa Is Coming to Town
Wear favorite Christmas Hat

Wednesday, December 6 – Stocking Day - Wear holiday socks

Thursday, December 7 – Christmas Bling Day
wear something that makes you sparkle like the snow

Friday, December 8 – Holiday Shirt Day
wear your favorite holiday shirt

Monday, December 11 – Polar Express Day - Wear holiday PJ's

Tuesday, December 12 – Candy Cane Day – wear red and white

Wednesday, December 13 – O Christmas Tree
dress like a Christmas Tree

Thursday, December 14 – “Frozen” Day
wear a snowman shirt or blue and white

Friday, December 15 – Ugly Christmas Sweater

Monday, December 18 – Rudolph the Red nosed Reindeer
wear antlers and your red nose

Tuesday, December 19– Baby It's Cold Outside - wear your favorite scarf

Wednesday, December 20 – “Grinch” Day – wear green or a Grinchy costume

Thursday, December 21– Jingle Bells

"THE HOLIDAY SEASON
IS A PERFECT TIME
TO REFLECT ON OUR BLESSINGS
AND SEEK OUT WAYS TO
MAKE LIFE BETTER
FOR THOSE AROUND US."

-FERRI MARSHALL





SOUTHMORELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Toy Drive



by Tracey Kuchar-Long, Principal

During the month of November the Scottsdale Elementary School teamed up with JJ's Pizza and the Blue Knights Chapter 1 of Westmoreland to collect unwrapped, new toys/donations for local children in foster care during the holidays! Mrs. King's classroom collected the most toys/donations and received a free pizza party. There were a total of 429 toys collected. Way to go SES!!



No act of kindness,
however small, is ever
wasted

- Aesop



Let it
Snow!



SOUTHMORELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SES COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

- Friday, December 1 – Elf of the Shelf –
Dress like your favorite Elf
- Monday, December 4 – Family Picture Day –
Wear your favorite plaid
- Tuesday, December 5 – Santa is Coming to Town –
Wear favorite Christmas Hat
- Wednesday, December 6 – Stocking Day –
Wear holiday socks
- Thursday, December 7 – Christmas Bling Day –
wear something that make you sparkle like the snow
- Friday, December 8 – Holiday Shirt Day –
wear your favorite holiday shirt
- Monday, December 11 – “Frozen” Day –
wear a snowman shirt or blue and white
- Tuesday, December 12- Candy Cane Day –
wear red and white
- Wednesday, December 13 – O Christmas Tree –
dress like a Christmas Tree
- Thursday, December 14 – Polar Express Day –
wear holiday PJ’s
- Friday, December 15 – Ugly Christmas Sweater –
wear your Ugly Christmas Sweater
- Monday, December 18 – Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer –
wear antlers and your red nose
- Tuesday, December 19 – Baby It’s Cold Outside –
wear your favorite scarf
- Wednesday, December 20 – “Grinch” Day –
wear green
- Thursday, December 21 – Jingle Bells –
wear your favorite jingle bells



RUDOLPH THE RED NOSE REINDEER

Monday, December 18



wear your antlers and red nose



wednesday, December 6



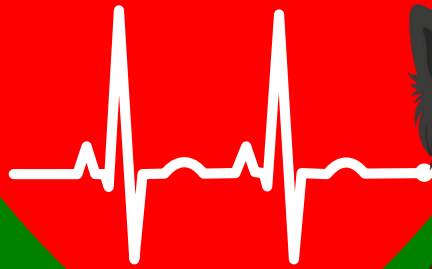
Stocking Day





SOUTHMORELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Scotties giving



to others

We sold over 250 T-Shirts and countless amounts of bracelets and paper mustaches. The high school had a very successful bake sale. There were many staff that donated their time and talents to the cause as well. As always, I am very thankful that I get to be a part of a school community that is so kind and supportive. I know that Marshall and his family are extremely thankful and grateful.



Mustache Club



by Jason Bandemer

The Mustache Club was a huge success this year. All four buildings participated in the fundraiser for Marshall Fee and his family. Together as a school community we raised over \$5,000.00 for Marshall. The money will go directly to help cover the medical expenses associated with Marshall's heart transplant surgery.

The best way to spread holiday cheer is to sing loud for all to hear! Our Student Council and NJHS members spent the morning visiting several businesses caroling to their favorite songs.

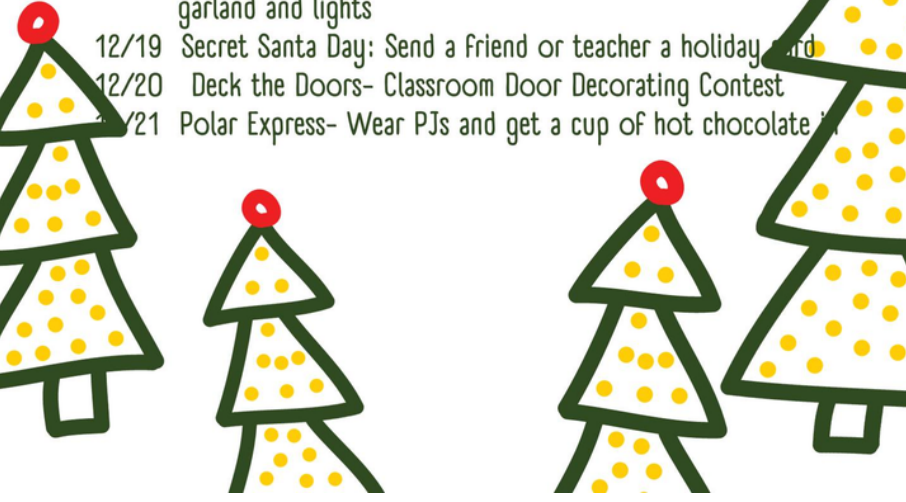
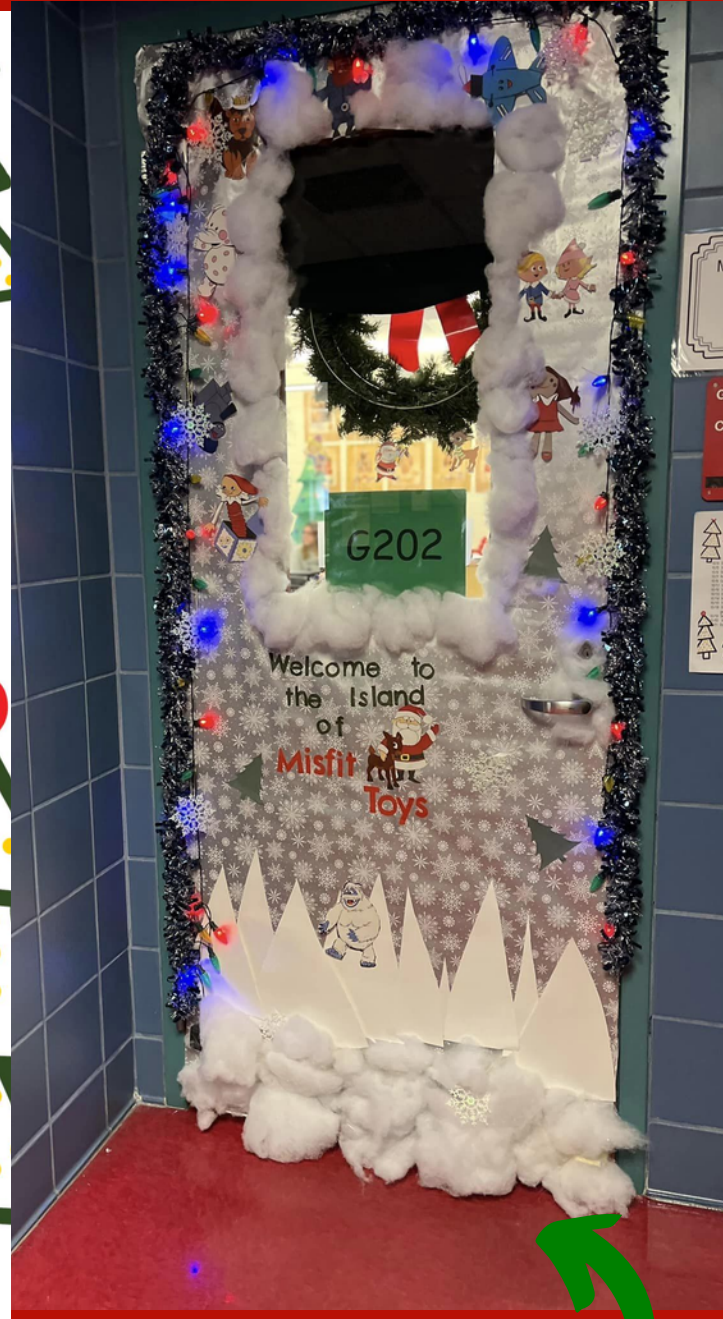




SOUTHMORELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Southmoreland Middle School 12 Days of Christmas December 7- December 22

- 12/4 Christmas Crew- 6th Red & Green, 7th green, 8th red
- 12/5 Jingle Bell Day- Wear Jingle Bells
- 12/6 Christmas Warmth- Wear Flannels
- 12/7 Rockin Around the Christmas Tree - Holiday Socks
- 12/8 Candy Cane Lane- Wear Red and White
- 12/11 Ugly Sweater Day- Wear your best one!
- 12/12 Two Turtle Doves Day- Twin with a Friend
- 12/13 Christmas Vacation Day- Wear Hawaiian shirts, sunglasses
- 12/14 Grinch Day- Wear Green or Grinch Shirt
- 12/15 Tree Topper- Wear your favorite holiday hat
- 12/18 Christmas Tree Day- Be a Christmas tree and wear green, garland and lights
- 12/19 Secret Santa Day: Send a friend or teacher a holiday card
- 12/20 Deck the Doors- Classroom Door Decorating Contest
- 12/21 Polar Express- Wear PJs and get a cup of hot chocolate



Middle School classroom door decorating

Middle School students work on building gingerbread houses



SOUTHMORELAND HIGH SCHOOL

Photoshop



by Charity Colebank, Assistant Principal



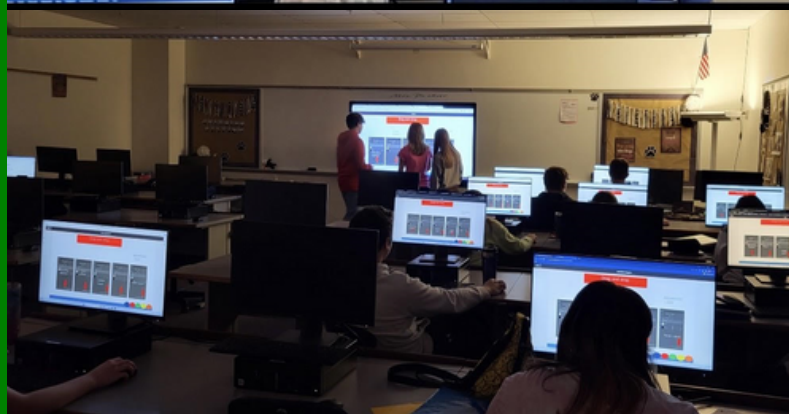
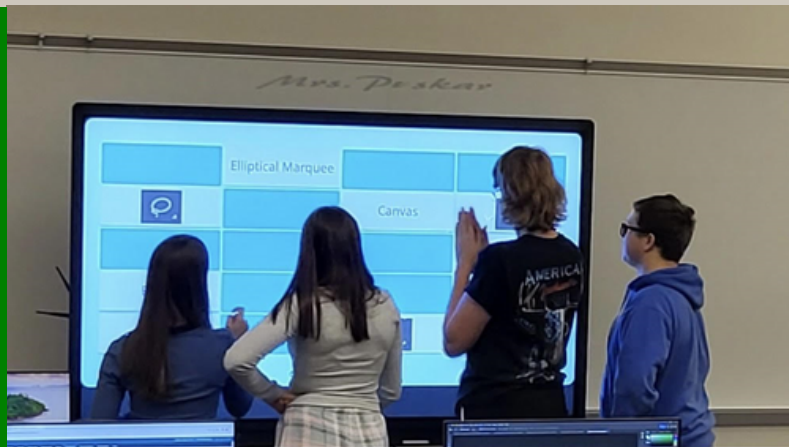
Students in Mrs. Puskar’s classroom engaged in a comprehensive review of Photoshop tools and layers, harnessing the power of an interactive program showcased on the Promethean board or computer.

Bots IQ Team



by Charity Colebank, Assistant Principal

Members of the Southmoreland Bots IQ Team participated in Manufacturing Month by touring a local manufacturing company, Duraloy Technologies of Scottdale. Students were given a brief overview of the company’s history and the services they provide, then got to walk through the foundry area.



“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

- Thomas Edison



SOUTHMORELAND HIGH SCHOOL



Art News



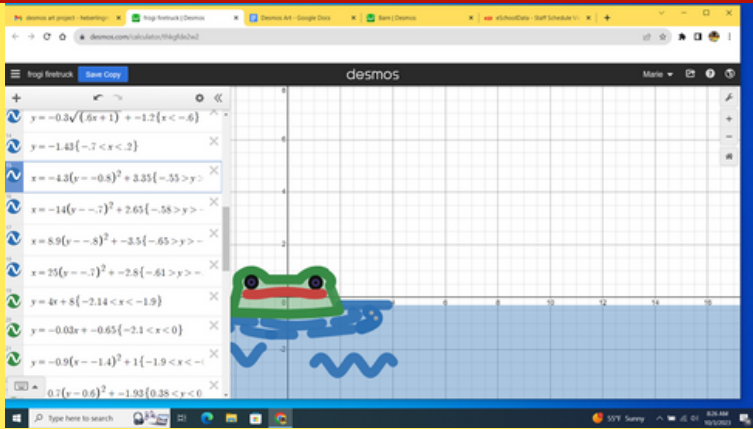
by Charity Colebank, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Goodman's Art I students recently finished studying the elements and principles of design. Students created unique designs highlighting their knowledge and understanding of these important basic building blocks. Mrs. Goodman is so proud of the unique outcomes!





SOUTHMORELAND HIGH SCHOOL



AP Precalculus and AP Calculus Project

by Marie Heberling

The students created an image or uploaded an image in Desmos. Desmos is a free online calculator.

The purpose of the assignment was to emphasize the relationship between parent functions and their translations. The students also had to analyze and alter the domain and range of the function to limit the drawing.

Spanish Field Trip



by Charity Colebank, Assistant Principal

On Thursday, October 26th, Sra. Elliott's Spanish 2-4 visited the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall for a Hispanic dance/music show. While there students learned about dances from different Hispanic countries, including the flamenco, salsa, jarabe, samba, and more. There was also a live band that played different styles of Hispanic music and at the end some students were able to participate in the show! After the show, we enjoyed authentic Mexican cuisine at El Campesino. Un dia inolvidable!





IMPORTANT REMINDER:



Please Check The CSIU Parent Portal to keep current on your child's grades and attendance.



- Southmoreland won the Third Annual WPIAL Food Drive and will receive a banner at half time during a WPIAL Basketball Championship Game at the Peterson Event Center in early March! Southmoreland led all schools with 11,397 meals raised as it collected \$2,176.65 in monetary donations and 4,056 physical donations. Thank you, Scottie Nation!

Winter Sports Highlights

by Brian Pritts, Athletic Director



- Varsity Wrestling has qualified for the WPIAL Team Playoffs and are currently ranked #10 in the WPIAL
- The Varsity Boys Basketball team is currently 13-2 and in second place in their section
- Spring Sports will officially begin on March 4th



"I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

-Michael Jordan





School Board Changes



by Lorie McTavish

We had the pleasure of welcoming four new and one returning board member to the scottie family with each of them taking their oath of office at the December reorganization meeting.



Welcome To:

- Mr. Samuel Accipiter
- Mr. John Eutsey
- Dr. Catherine Fike
- Mr. Richard Grabiak
- Mr. Scott Olsen



Newly Appointed Officers and Representatives:

- Mr. Duane Frund, President
- Mrs. Stephanie Geyer, Vice President
- Mr. Richard Grabiak, PSBA Legislative Liaison
- Mr. John Eutsey, CWCTC Representative
- Mrs. Stephanie Geyer, SEF Representative





SCHOOL BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

SOUTHMORELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT



SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS 2024

Executive Session Start Time is 5:30 PM
Discussion/Voting Meeting Start Time is 6:30 PM
Location - Southmoreland Middle School Cafeteria
200 Scottie Way, Scottdale, PA 15683

January 16, 2024
February 20, 2024
March 19, 2024
April 16, 2024
May 21, 2024
June 18, 2024
June 24, 2024 Special Budget Voting Meeting
August 20, 2024
September 17, 2024
October 15, 2024
November 19, 2024
December 4, 2024

DECEMBER 4, 2024 is scheduled as the
Reorganization/General
Business Purposes Meeting



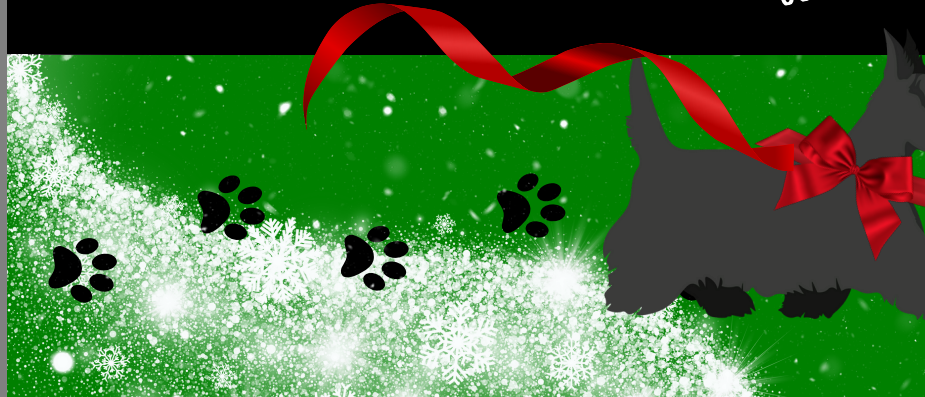
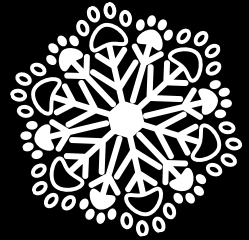
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

- Dr. Jason Boone**
Superintendent
- Dr. Daniel Clara**
Assistant to the Superintendent
- Ms. Pam Mondock**
Business Manager
Transportation Director
- Mr. Ron Heitchue**
Director of Special Education
Primary School Principal
- Mrs. Melissa Redinger**
School Psychologist
- Mr. John Puskar**
Technology Coordinator
- Mr. Steve Smithula**
Network Administrator
- Mr. Greg Keefer**
Supervisor of School Police
- Mr. Brian Pritts**
Athletic Director
- Mr. Calvin Trader**
Director of Buildings and Grounds
- Mr. Zachary Malavite**
Food Service Director
- Mr. Daniel Krofcheck**
High School Principal
- Mrs. Charity Colebank**
High School Assistant Principal
- Mr. James Klugh**
Middle School Principal
- Mrs. Tracey Kuchar-Long**
Elementary School Principal



SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mr. Duane Frund, President
- Mrs. Stephanie Geyer, Vice President
- Mr. Samuel Accipiter
- Mr. John Eutsey
- Dr. Catherine Fike
- Mr. Richard Grabiak
- Mrs. Nicole O’Rear
- Mr. Scott Olsen
- Mr. Brian Shipley



Southmoreland School District’s Newsletter will accept news submissions of school or community interest. Please send them to Mrs. Lori Herman at ssdnewsletter.net, please include your name and phone number in your message.

SOUTHMORELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT



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"HIGH QUALITY LEARNING FOR ALL"