

*Sebastian River High School*  
**SHARK TALES**

**NOVEMBER - JANUARY**

**2020-2021, Issue 2**





# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings Shark Nation, We have completed the first semester under some extremely difficult circumstances. COVID has affected all of us in many different ways. Whether you are a student, staff member, or parent we have all had to cope with circumstances that were beyond our control. I am truly proud to say that the students and staff members at Sebastian River High School have handled these challenges and surprises in a way that should make our community proud. The students have not disappointed with their behavior. They show up every day with a willingness to adapt to our rapidly changing times and still have a hunger for learning and achievement. For how they continue to empress and handle it all, I say THANK YOU! The staff here has also risen to the challenge. They are putting in countless hours to deliver the education to student learning in the building and at home, taking calls from parents and students when a child is out, making sure our student's mental health needs are met, and making sure the building remains clean and safe for everyone. They too deserve a huge THANK YOU as well.

Our goal as a high school staff was to develop and adapt our course work in a manner that was accessible to all students, while addressing the essential standards that are critical to our student's overall success. We also wanted to ensure that the course work could be seamlessly delivered whether face to face, in a remote transitional setting through Canvas, or completely virtual utilizing Edgenuity. We also wanted to hold our students accountable by continuing to hold them to high expectation, while also exercising grace and compassion. To our delight, we were able to accomplish those goals and as a result, we had a very successful first semester.

So, what were the results of our work in semester one?

For most of the semester, we were able to meet face to face with over two thirds of our students in our classrooms, which left approximately less than a third choosing to participate in one of the two innovative learning models (transitional or virtual instruction). When the need arose for students who were brick and mortar, needing to be out of school, moving them to the remote process was fairly smooth and seamless. Students have been able to access their normal classroom assignments through Canvas and communicate with their instructors through school email, FOCUS messenger, or through Canvas messenger. Some



teachers and students even connected through Microsoft TEAMS meetings and Canvas video conferencing. Our staff and students were able to remain relatively healthy and adjusted to the restrictions created by COVID.

Overall failing grades and lack of academic progress at a high school level, across our country, skyrocketed to about 40% in many places. We on the other hand, at Sebastian River High School, were able to remain under 15%. That is pretty amazing considering what our students have been through. As a result of this, we are committed to providing our students with the needed support and credit recovery opportunities to ensure they get back on track. Currently, many of the students who were not showing adequate academic progress have returned to brick and mortar instruction and are being provided the additional needed support to recover those failing grades. This now leaves only approximately 17% of students in the innovative learning models. We will continue to offer after school tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays for all students in all three learning models for English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Foreign Language. We encourage

our students and parents to please to reach out to your teachers, school counselor, and administrators for extra support to ensure success.

Our students have been able to participate in extracurricular activities. Certainly, there were some bumps in the road, but if you remember originally the odds of us participating in extracurriculars at all were very slim. However, our athletic department has put together extensive protocols that helped to keep our athletes and fans safe and health. As a result, our students have been able to participate in their normal extracurricular activities that will help them make it to the next level of competition and education.

Student behavior and discipline issues were and continue to be amazingly low. Students were respectful and cooperative under some very stressful circumstances. This year has thrown us plenty of curve balls, but we have been able to adjust and overcome. Our staff and students are truly doing an excellent job. We look forward to continuing and improving upon our successes and thank you for your support and all you do for your student(s).

Christopher Cummings, Principal  
Jacqueline Contri, Assistant Principal  
Robert Riskin, Assistant Principal  
James Thimmer, Assistant Principal  
Kevin Van Brimmer, Assistant Principal

# REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR FACE MASK DAILY



**After you have received 3 free masks from the office, you will be charged for each additional mask.**

*FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED ON CAMPUS.*



# ESE Inclusion Dance



Despite the challenges of Covid-19, the students did a great job at fall include dance.

**SPRING DANCE PRODUCTION**  
**May 6 @ Noon**  
**Doors Open to the public at 11:30AM**



# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

## Q) What tests do I have to pass to graduate and what counts as a passing score on these tests?

**A) For our current 11th and 12th grade students—students who entered 9th grade in 2016/2017 or 2017/2018:**

### **FSA English Language Arts Test (taken in 10th grade):**

- Earning an achievement level of 3 or higher on the FSA (given fall & spring)
- Earn a score of 19 on the ACT Reading subtest
- Earn an average of 18 between the ACT English & Reading subtests
- Earn a score of 24 on the SAT Reading subtest
- Earn a score of 430 on the SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing

### **Algebra 1 EOC Test (taken at the end of Algebra 1—usually between 7th-10th grade):**

- Earn an achievement level of 3 or higher on the ALG 1 EOC (given fall, winter & spring)
- Earn a score of 97 on the PERT Math section
- Earn a score of 16 on the ACT Math subtest
- Earn a score of 420 on the SAT Math subtest
- Earn a score of 430 on the PSAT Math section

**A) For our current 9th and 10th grade students—students who entered 9th grade in 2018/2019 or 2019/2020:**

### **FSA English Language Arts Test (taken in 10th grade):**

- Earning an achievement level of 3 or higher on the FSA (given in the spring of 10th grade)
- Earn an average of 18 between the ACT English & Reading subtests
- Earn a score of 480 on the SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing

### **Algebra 1 EOC Test (taken at the end of Algebra 1—usually between 7th-10th grade):**

- Earn an achievement level of 3 or higher on the ALG 1 EOC (given late spring when they have algebra)
- Earn a score of 16 on the ACT Math subtest
- Earn a score of 420 on the SAT Math subtest
- Earn a score of 430 on the PSAT Math section

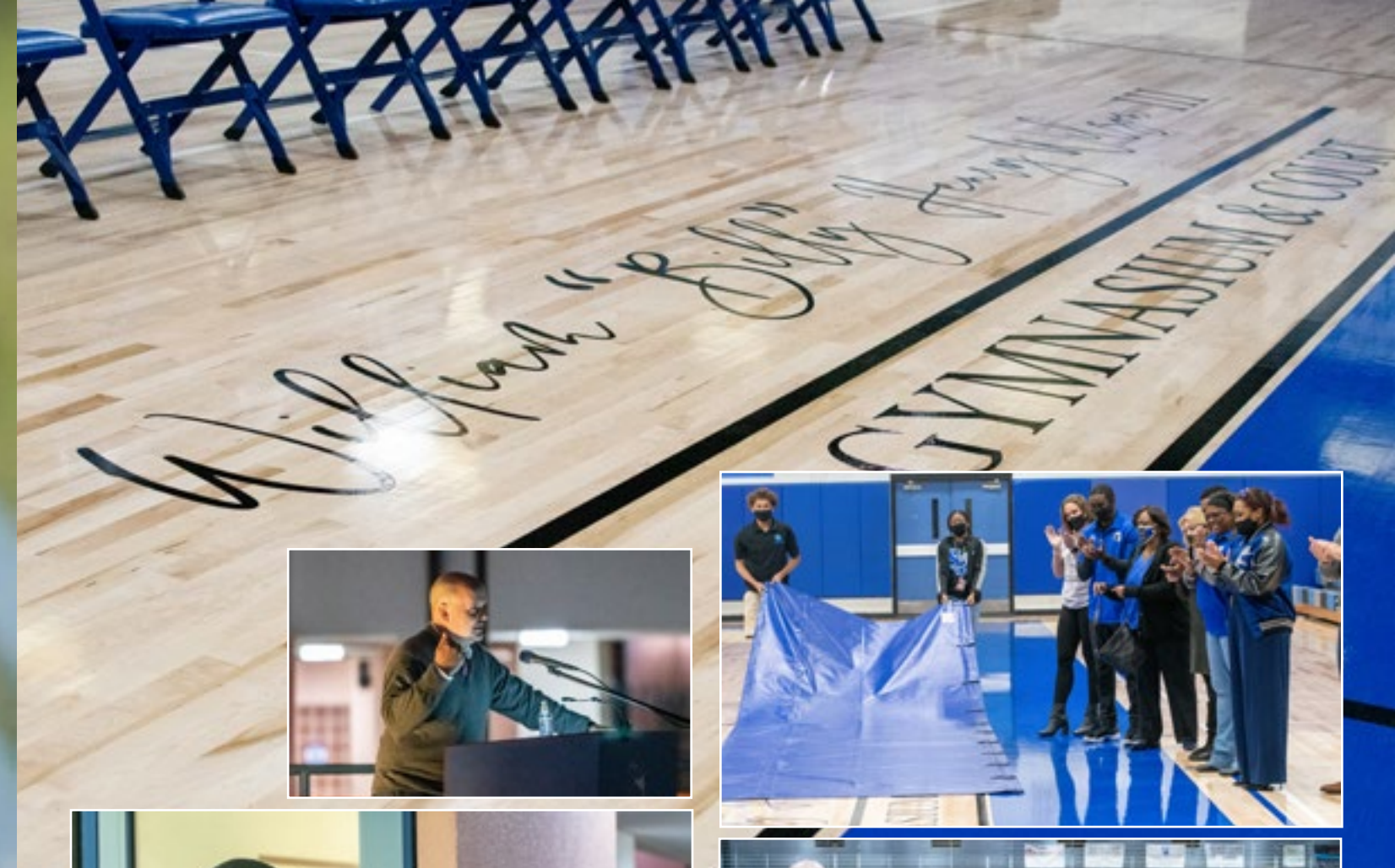
\*Students with disabilities should look at their IEPs or ask their case manager.

\*\*EOC tests count as 30% of the student's course grade and must be taken for grades to be assigned.



# Remembering an SRHS Legend

On January 4, 2021, we celebrated the memory of former assistant principal, William “Billy” Henry Wilson III, during a ceremony naming the gymnasium and court in his honor.



Top Left: Superintendent Dr. David Moore. Top Right: The Wilson family during the unveiling of the new court. Middle Left: The Wilson family cutting the ribbon to the newly dedicate gym. Middle Right: SRHS administration. Bottom. The 2020-21 Boy's Varsity basketball team during the unveiling of the newly dedicated court and gymnasium.



## NOVEMBER

### Jorge Sanchez

- IB Diploma Candidate
- Weighted GPA—4.41
- Class Rank—22nd
- National Honor Society
- Bilingual (Spanish and English)
- CAS Project—Teens Listen. It is a program that interviews and records local citizens as part of an Oral History project. Currently interviewing veterans from various branches and decades.
- Earned a passing score in IB Social, Cultural Anthropology
- Volunteers at his church
- He is an avid fisherman



### Jasmin Ramos

- IB Diploma Candidate
- Weighted GPA—4.536
- Class Rank—11th
- National Honor Society, President
- Yearbook, Chief Editor
- Student Council Member
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) member
- 1st Place District 17—Business Calculations
- AP Scholar
- Earned passing Scores in IB Mathematics, AP World History, and AP English Language & Composition (sat the exam, did not take the course), AP Spanish Language & Culture (sat the exam, did not take the course)
- Volunteers at her church—catechism teacher, various ministries
- Bilingual (Spanish and English)
- Loves photography

### Andres Ruiz

- IB Diploma Candidate
- Weighted GPA—4.556
- Class Rank—7th
- AP Scholar
- National Honor Society Member
- Earned passing Scores in IB Mathematics, IB Social, Cultural Anthropology, AP Human Geography, AP World History, and AP English Language & Composition (sat the exam, did not take the course)
- American Legion Scholastic Excellence for leadership and academics—2 times
- Accepted to the United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar—canceled due to Covid
- Received 2 Letters of Assurance: US Naval Academy; US Military Academy
- Delegate to Boys State (canceled due to Covid)
- Coxswain on crew team—won a State Championship; competed at National level
- Top 3 MIT Crew recruit for Coxswain
- Scholar Athlete
- NJROTC—Operations Manager of unit; Cyber Patriot Team CO; Area 7 Leadership Academy graduate
- Recipient: 4-year NJROTC and ROTC scholarships
- Takes Dual enrollment classes through Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- Volunteers with the National Parks Service—currently 400 hours
- Loves History (Civil War and the World Wars), and loves Physics

### Sarah Cosner

- IB Diploma Candidate
- Weighted GPA—4.639
- Class Rank—4th
- Excel Club President (2020-2021); Treasurer (2019-2020)
- Exchange Club Presidential Award of Honor (May 2020)
- College Board National Recognition Recipient—PSAT score was in the top 2.5%
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) member
- Florida District 17 President 2020-2021
- President of the SRHS FBLA Club
- 4th Place State Sales Presentation; qualified for National Competition
- AP Scholar
- National Honor Society Member
- SRHS Band
  - \* Drum Major 2019-2020 and 2020-2021
  - \* Top Band; member All-County Band and Four County Band
  - \* 7 Superior ratings on saxophone—solos and ensembles (2017-present)
- Earned passing Scores in IB Mathematics, IB Social, Cultural Anthropology, AP Human Geography, AP World History, and AP English Language & Composition (sat the exam, did not take the course)
- Founded "Forte to Feed"—hosted virtual concerts to raise money for local food banks during the Covid-19 pandemic
- In her spare time, Sarah works as a server at Chick-Fil-A

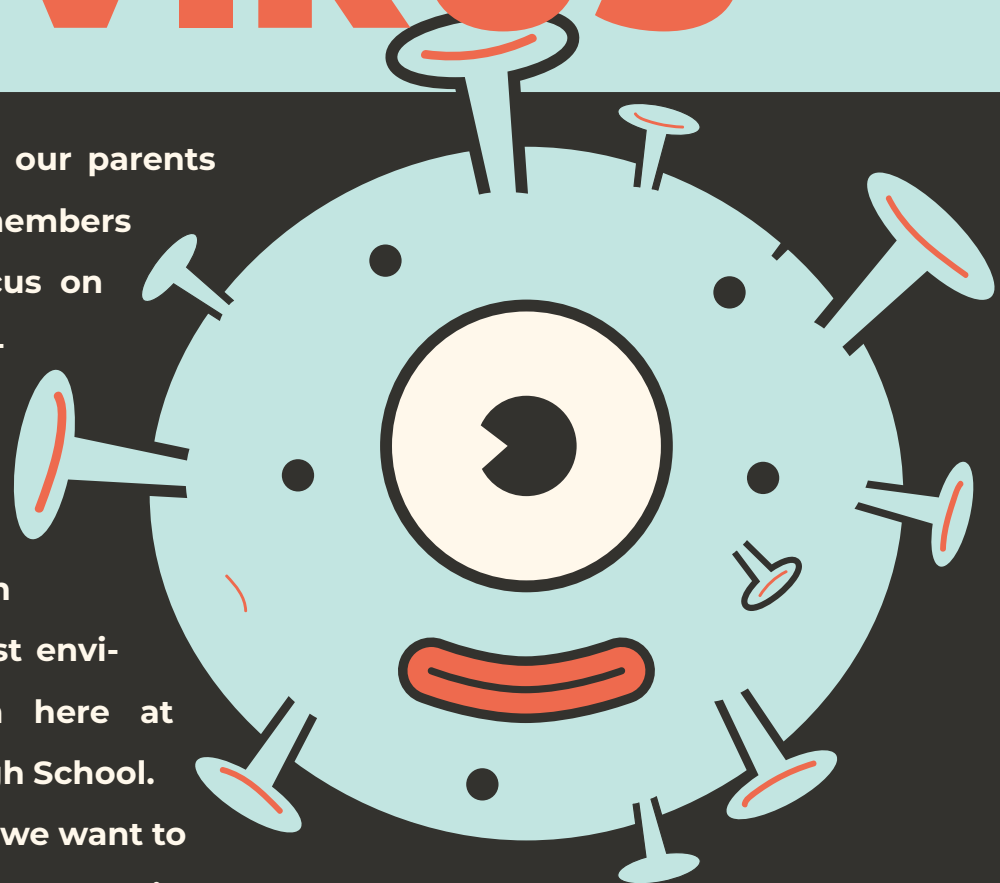




**THANK YOU  
FOR HELPING US FIGHT**

# CORONA VIRUS

We want to thank our parents and community members for all of their focus on managing the outbreak of COVID in our schools. We want to continue to be proactive in providing the safest environment to learn here at Sebastian River High School. In order to do that, we want to remind everyone of a few things. If your child is showing any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, please keep them home. If you become aware of someone in your household that is positive, please keep your child home and contact our front office. Also, please ensure that your



child comes to school each day with a mask. Repeated requests for a mask at the front office may result in a financial obligation after the third request. Thank you again for your help and please continue to be cautious.

## Sebastian River Athletics

Sebastian River Athletics continues to be successful while playing through a pandemic. Our Coaches and athletes have done an amazing job following guidelines and protocol put in place to keep everyone safe.

New this year, in order to recognize student athletes for their contributions to our school on and off the playing field we have implemented "Student Athlete of the Week". Each week an Athlete is nominated by their coach for their athletic and academic

performance, attitude and overall coachability. These student are recognized on social media and get a one of a kind, "Student Athlete of the Week" T-shirt.

The following athletes have been awarded this honor so far:  
Corrine Solis, Girls' Volleyball  
Cedric Stucky, Football  
Kayla Martellotti, Girl's Golf  
Caley Spaulding, Bowling  
Joey Twomey, Swimming  
Caterina Meier, Swimming

Emma Ford, Cheerleading  
Devon White, Football  
Niko Huff, Wrestling  
Lara Gargiule, Girl's Weightlifting  
Emma Doyle, Girls' Basketball  
Maurice Wilson, Boys' Basketball

## SPRING TRACK MEETS @ SHARK STADIUM

**3/13/21 - 8:00AM**  
Bill Wilson Invitational

**4/1/21 - 3:30PM**  
Treasure Lake Conference Track & Field Championship  
**4/14 - 3:30PM**  
3A D13 FHSA Track & Field Championship



# STAY INFORMED

Follow Us For Weekly Updates  
& Featured Students



facebook.com/sebastianriverhs



twitter.com/srhs\_sharks

There is no better way to know what is happening at SRHS than to follow us online. Every week we post about what is happening on campus and the things that our incredible students are doing.

## SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

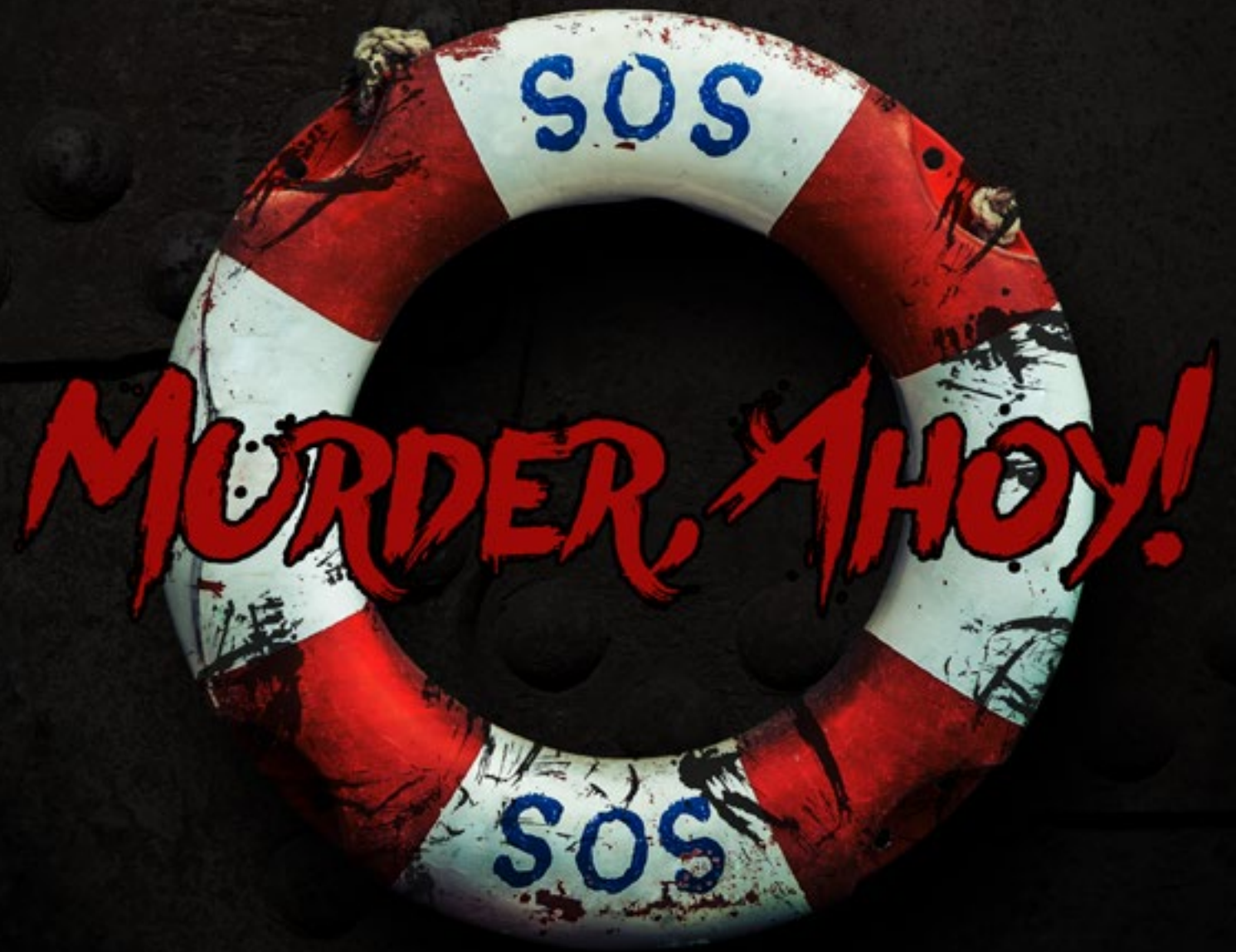
FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. We encourage all students, parents, and staff members to download the app on their mobile devices.

**getfortifyfl.com**

Your Safety is our Top Priority!



## SRHS DRAMA TROUPE'S SPRING PRODUCTION



**APRIL 22ND & 23RD @7:00PM**

**Sebastian River High School Performing Arts Center**

*Donations will be accepted in lieu of tickets.*

# LAST CHANCE TO BE IN THE YEARBOOK

PICTURE RETAKE DAY - FEBRUARY, 11



In-Person Students During Lunch  
Virtual & Transitional 2:00-3:00PM  
SRHS Performing Arts Center

# Order Your Yearbook Today!

## Only \$75

Save \$20 off the end  
of the year pricing.

Order online at  
**SRHSYEARBOOK.COM**  
or bring cash or check  
to room L101.

## NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS REGARDING OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS

(January, 12, 2021)

Included in this memo is a list of teachers or long-term substitute teachers at (Sebastian River High School) who have been reported as teaching out-of-field as required by Section 1012.42 of Florida Statute. Those teaching out-of-field are qualified to teach; however, all or part of their teaching assignment is not covered by their current certification. Individuals teaching out-of-field are required to complete additional coursework or testing until the coverage/endorsement is added to their certificate. Should you have any questions about these requirements, please call the school or Laurie Silvia, Certification Analyst (772-564-3116).

## AVISO PARA LOS PADRES SOBRE MAESTROS “FUERA DEL AREA”

\_21\_ de enero de 2020

Incluido en este aviso se encuentra una lista de maestros o maestros sustitutos a largo plazo en la escuela (Sebastian River High School) quienes han sido reportados como “fuera de área” como se requiere en Sección 1012.42 de Estatuto de Florida. Esto significa que los maestros están calificados para enseñar y tienen su certificado sin embargo les hace falta completar algunos requerimientos que solo aplican a su asignado trabajo de enseñanza. Estos individuos que están enseñando “fuera de su área” requieren completar un curso adicional o tomar un examen para cumplir con los requerimientos. Si Ud. tiene preguntas sobre los requerimientos favor de hablar con la escuela o Laurie Silvia, Analista de Certificación (772) 564-3116.

### Teacher/Maestro

Anderson, George  
Bell, Ruti  
Bridge, Lisa  
Emmons, Amber  
Gehrke, Zachariah  
Hallett, Kally  
Howe, James

Matthews, Keith  
Nathaniel, Joe  
Payne, Nina

Richards, Regina  
Wolff, Mary

### Course:/Curso

Business Education 6-12  
Social Science- 6-12  
Science 5-9, Gifted  
Elementary Education, Reading Endorsement  
Social Science 6-12  
English 6-12  
Comp Prg 3-Grade 3, Varying Exceptionalities K-12,  
Hme Ec 3-Grade 3  
Exceptional Student Education K-12  
Business Education 6-12  
Exceptional Student Education K-12,  
Elementary Education  
Exceptional Student Education K-12  
Biology 6-12

### Area of Out-of-Field Assignment/Fuera del Area

English 6-12  
English 6-12  
Science 6-12  
English 6-12  
English 6-12, ESOL  
ESOL  
Social Science 6-12  
  
Elementary Education  
English 6-12  
Social Science 6-12  
  
Elementary Education  
Earth Space Science 6-12