



Stallion News

A Newsletter for the Sandy Springs Charter Middle School Community

February 3, 2012

◆ Dr. Kay Walker, Principal ◆ Mr. Robert Stringer, Assistant Principal ◆ Mrs. Kim Whitfield, Assistant Principal

Principal's Corner

Hello and greetings from SSCMS!

I am thrilled to announce that we had two teams win first place medals in the annual Fulton County Technology Fair last Saturday! Please see articles on pages two and four about this great accomplishment! Our robotics and technology teams, sponsored by Mr. Branch and Mr. Thompson, are really taking off and doing great things this year. Stay tuned for more competition news.

Other very important news in this week's edition include:

- Rising ninth grade parent night at North Springs Charter High
- Announcement of the eighth grade girls and boys basketball teams
- Announcement of the baseball team
- Beta Club "Valentine Grams"
- And much more!!

We are now sending our newsletter through School Messenger which includes an email, a phone message, and delivery to two email addresses. If you would prefer not to receive the newsletter in this way, please let me know. We are reaching many more families. If you know someone who is not receiving the newsletter, please ask them to contact me.

We had a very good response to our first Prospective Parent Open House on Tuesday. Please note the schedule below. Our best PR comes from satisfied parents and students. Please "talk us up" in your neighborhood, on the baseball field, at dance or gymnastics or whenever you see or talk to prospective parents. All meetings will begin in the SSCMS media center. The remaining scheduled tours/Open Houses are:

February 16	9:00am
March 15	9:00am
April 17	6:30pm

As always, thanks for sharing your children with us!



[February - Black History Month](#)

[7th](#)

Career Day

[February 9th](#)

Rising 9th grade Parent Night at 6:30 PM at NSCHS
Progress Reports go Home

[February 14](#)

Orchestra LGPE Alpharetta HS.
Performance at 1:45 pm. Sandy Springs Music Supporters
Cordially Invited.

[February 14, 15, 16](#)

Mark your calendars: 8th grade tour to NSCHS. Detailed information to come!

[Feb. 22](#)

Scoliosis Screening

[Feb 29th](#)

Picture Day

Homework Hotline
404-843-7700

[Title I School Commitment](#)

Sandy Springs Charter Middle School qualifies to receive federal funds under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title I Part A for the 2010-2011 School Year. Our school has been designated as a Title I School.

Sandy Springs Charter Middle School Governance Board

All Governance Board meetings are open to the public. At our January meeting, we discussed the school budget, reach-out activities to our feeder elementary schools, our position in regards to the system charter, and many other interesting topics. These meetings take place once a month and are open to the public. The meetings are held at 7:45 am in the SSCMS media center conference room. The dates for meetings for the remainder of this school year are:

February 16
March 15
April 19
May 17



1st Place Winners

Please see page 4 for complete article

BASKETBALL



8th Grade Girls/Boys Schedule

Date	Time	Location
Feb. 8	5:00/6:00	Vs. Ridgeview @ Home
Feb. 15	5:00/6:00	Vs. Hopewell – There
Feb. 22	5:00/6:00	Vs. Crabapple @ Home
Feb. 24	5:00/6:00	Vs. Northwestern-There
Feb. 29	5:00/6:00	Vs. Elkins Pointe-There
Mar. 2	5:00/6:00	Vs. Holcomb Bridge @ Home
Mar. 8	5:00/6:00	Vs. SSCMS @ Home

8th Grade Girls Team

Collier, Summer	Meredith, Jada
Elor, Destiny	Rice, Tahira
Larocco, Sofia	Richardson, Taylor
Meredith, Alicia	Southwood, Alexis

Girls Play @ 5:00, Boys Play @ 6:00

8th Grade Boys Team

Achiron, Joshua	Howard, Kareem
Chitiyo, Tanaka	Muhammad, Khairi
Costello, Mark	Powell, Gibran
Devlin, Michael	Russ, Antwon
Hakim, Jaelin	Termure, Ryan

GO STALLIONS!!!!

Greg Thigpen, Coach
 Lauren Haire, Coach
 Coach Parsons, Intramural/Extramural Director



BSAEBALL

Thanks to everyone who tried out for the 2012 SSCMS Stallions Baseball team. We had over 30 players try out and we had some very difficult choices to make.

If you did not make the team, please do not be discouraged. Please continue to practice, work hard and plan on trying out again next year. If you need help finding a place to play this spring or summer, please let Ms. Cowart or Mr. Worrell know and they will be glad to help.

8th Grade Boys Baseball:

Achiron, Josh	Goldman, Jake
Cannon, Spencer	Hearn, Jack
Carson, Stephen	Johnson, Vincent
Crenshaw, Bradley	King, Charles
Disla, Robin	Murphy, Evan
Echemendia, Otto	Reid, Justin
Gilliam, Christian	Viensen, Rees



Greetings all 8th grade families!

North Springs Charter High School will be hosting our annual Rising 9th Grade Parent Night and we encourage you to attend! The event will take place on February 9th at 6:30 in the NSCHS Cafeteria and topics include:

- Information about school opportunities
- A review NSCHS 9th grade elective course offerings and graduation requirements
- Information regarding the Magnet Program
- The transition to high school
- Question and Answer Session

*Light refreshments will be served.

Greg Thigpen
Kim Whitfield

SCHOOL REQUESTS

Students who plan to attend after school activities (athletic events, concerts, the musical, etc.) must leave campus immediately after school and then return with a parent. Parents must attend the event and supervise their student during the after school event. Students cannot remain on campus after school waiting for the event to begin.

The SSCMS Cheerleaders will be selling pizza, sodas, and chips during the 8th grade girls and boys home basketball games. They will also be selling school spirit paraphernalia. You can purchase cow bells, clappers, boom sticks, tattoos, pom poms, and more. Please support your SSCMS Cheerleaders and Basketball Team.

Alana-Michele McLeMore
 6th Grade Special Education Math Teacher
 Cheerleading Coach

GREEK CLUB

I am excited to report that over 100 of our students are signed up for the National Latin Exam. We will take it during connections on one day during the week of March 12th - 16th. Mrs. Whitfield has kindly agreed to proctor the exam.

Latin students from SSCMS will be taking a trip to Rome and other Italian cities this spring.
 Tom Henderson
 Latin

SCOLIOSIS SCREENING

Screening will be held Wednesday, February 22, 2012 from 8:30am to noon. This is done for 6th and 8th grade students. The Fulton County School Health department sends nurses to the school for this, but we need parent volunteers as well. There will be a training session for volunteers here at SSCMS on February 13th from 9:30am to 11:30am in the SSCMS media center.

JR. BEVA



VALENTINEGRAMS

Buy your best friend or favorite teacher a Valentinegram!!!!

What is a valentinegram? Students will be able to write a message to a teacher or friend that will be delivered to that teacher or student on February 14th with a goodie bag.

How much? \$2.00

When? Between 8:00- 8:35 on the mornings of February 8th- 13th

Where? The valentinegrams will be sold in the front rotunda.



Jr. Spartans Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse

The Jr. Spartans lacrosse teams are the OFFICIAL feeder teams for North Springs High School and registration is now open online. Girls, grades 5-8 can register at www.jrspartansgirlslax.com and boys, grades 5-8 can register at www.jrspartanslax.com.

Spaces will fill up fast so sign up now! In addition, the SSCMS Foundation is offering iTunes gift cards for recruiting new players. The more friends you get to sign up and play, the more cards you are eligible to receive!

And remember to check the websites for the most up to date information on practices, schedules and parent information.

Jr. Spartans Boys Only:

Middle School Boys': Conditioning practices have started.

Regular Season Practice begins Tuesday, February 7th and will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:00pm.

If you have any questions contact Ms. Ryan in D108.



GREEN TEAM

The next two Green Team Meetings are as follows:

Monday, February 13 after school in F124

Tuesday, March 6 after school in F124

We are going to be starting an Eyeglass and Cell Phone Recycling Drive on Monday, February 6 for the month of February. The objects collected will be donated to a local Lions Club. More than 100,000 used eyeglasses are donated each year in Georgia.

www.lionslighthouse.org/programs/eyeglass_recycling is a great resource for more information.

Jen Hohman



Box Tops 4 Education 2011- 2012

We're off to a rather slow start this year but we are hoping things pick up with everyone going to games and needing snacks, etc. Please remember to save your box tops to bring to school (the front office) and mark them for the teacher you want to get credit for them. The contest is getting hotter and there is **ONLY ONE Pizza Party**.

LEADING TOPS NOW:

[Pena/606](#)

[Schechter/559](#)

[Roberts/283](#)



"Fate" takes a poor poet and his daughter through amazing adventures in the story of Kismet! Travel to Ancient Baghdad, 1100 A.D. and experience this wonderful Musical by Charles Lederer & Luther Davis, Music and Lyrics by Robert Wright & George Forrest. Love, Passion, Crime, Scheming, and Magic, or at least what looks like Magic! You'll laugh your way through this tale of intertwined character plots and smile at the "Happily-Ever-After" Ending!

Opening Night: Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at SSCMS

Second Showing: Friday, March 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at SSCMS

Matinee Final Performance: Saturday, March 3, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. at SSCMS

Purchase your tickets today! Cash or Check welcome—make checks payable to SSCMS.

Advertise in the Kismet Program and support our students!!! Promote your business or give "Proud-of-You" message to your favorite performer! Very Affordable at only \$25 for ¼ sheet, \$50 for ½ sheet, and \$100 for a full sheet ad! Please contact Elizabeth Demaree at demaree@fultonschools.org for more information and to purchase your ad today!

Girl Scout Fashion Show

Come support Sandy Springs Middle School 6th grade Cadette Girl Scouts Troop with their Second Annual Fashion Show. This year we are celebrating the timeless traditions of Girl Scouts in commemoration of its 100th anniversary. Many of Sandy Springs' locally owned businesses will auction off must-have items such as painting, clothing, jewelry, yoga sessions and so much more.

Hope to see you there!

Timeless Traditions Fashion Show and Silent Auction
Saturday, February 4, 2012

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Admission is only \$5



Dear Music Supporters:

Every year in the fall students in Georgia start their journey into the Georgia Music Educators Association All State Auditions which culminates with a performance with students from all over the state in the city of Savannah. All students wishing to embark in this endeavor must pass a series of auditions in order to participate in this well recognized and prestigious performance. This year 30 SSCMS students were considered, resulting in seven students passing the first audition in September. These students were Harry Bae, Rae Baker, Madeline Furlong, Taylor Gann, Gabriella Gonzales, Moon Hamilton and Grace Motahari.

The next step in the General Audition for All State and on October 22nd at the semi-finals, Rae, Madeline and Grace passed the first round. Rae and Madeline passed the second round and had their Final Audition Saturday, January 14, 2012.

Rae



Madeline



Grace



out I am pleased to announce that 8th grader Rae Baker passed the Final Audition and will be representing SSCMS in Savannah, GA for All State MS Concert, Saturday, March 3, 2012. As you can see, it takes a lot of work and determination to qualify for All State. Rae was selected from 83 MS cellists auditions of which 16 were selected. Rae placed 3rd of 16. Congratulations to Rae Baker and her parents for a job well done!

Lenin Peña/Orchestra Director

Sandy Springs Charter Middle School Students Win First Place in Technology Fair

What do robotics and 3-Dimensional Modeling have in common? Four students at Sandy Springs Charter Middle School were awarded first place in each of these divisions during the Fulton County Schools Technology Fair held at Riverwood High School on Saturday, January 28, 2012. Congratulations go to 8th graders Parsa Khorsani, Nicholas Wargo, Rachel Miller, and 6th grader Benjamin Miller.

Khorsani and Wargo competed against 11 robotics teams in the 7th and 8th grade division of the Technology Fair. The students designed and programmed a Lego Mindstorm robot to follow a sensor on an S-shaped track and pick up a red plastic ball. The robot had to bypass a blue ball and pick up the red ball, and return to its starting position after depositing the red ball in a designated bin. The students worked on this project after school in Mr. Thompson and Mr. Branch's After School All Star robotics program.

In addition, brother and sister, Rachel and Ben Miller won first place in the 3-dimensional modeling category. 8th grader, Rachel Miller, and 6th grader, Benjamin Miller competed in the 7th and 8th grade division against 6 teams. The students used Google Sketch Up to develop a 3 dimensional model of their home. After measuring each room, the students entered the exact dimensions of the rooms into the computer program. A 3 dimensional model was generated. Working together, the siblings designed furniture to fit into every room. The siblings developed several views of their home, including shadows on the home as would be seen during different times of the day. An aerial view was also presented.

Dr. Walker, principal of Sandy Springs Charter Middle School said, "We are so proud of these students! These projects were completed after school and at home, after the students completed all of their homework and other school responsibilities. The skills that they are mastering in these areas will help them exponentially as they prepare for higher education and careers in the twenty-first century. They are also an inspiration to other students working on extra-curricular projects in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.) This is a fantastic accomplishment for our whole school!"

Rachel and Ben Miller



Parsa Khorsani and Nicholas Wargo

