Welcome to the New Year!! I hope that all of our Shady Grove families had a wonderful holiday break! Our theme of “Fiercely Focused” on student’s social emotional learning and academic achievement is coming into fruition for this school year. On a daily basis I observe a high level of instruction and meaningful opportunities for our students to connect.

This year I am looking forward to our first all school social studies field trip to the Americas Museum of National History (6th), American Indian Museum (7th), and the African-American History Museum/America History Museum (8th). We are “fiercely focused” on providing all SGMS students with a wide exposure of the richness of our nation’s history.

So it is with excitement that we look forward to the spring and continue our work with the “BEST” students in Montgomery County Public Schools.

Alana D. Murray, PhD
“Proud Principal”

Dear Shady Grove families,

We had a wonderful first half of the school year and I’m looking forward to a great second semester.

The second semester brings us exciting events like Pep Rallies, Pride Time, soccer season, and the Spring Musical to name a few.

As we make our way into spring, students will also participate in several test administrations. The MISA science administration for 8th grade students will be in March. In April, students will take MAP, or the Measure of Academic Progress, a computerized adaptive test which helps teachers, parents, and administrators improve learning for all students and make informed decisions to promote a child’s academic growth. Students are assessed in reading and math. Be sure to ask your child their scores to see their growth throughout the year.

In May, students will take the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program, MCAP. Like MAP, students will be assessed in both reading and math.

Please encourage your student to:
- get a good night’s sleep before taking an assessment (and every day!)
- arrive to school on time
- read directions and questions carefully
- pace themselves

We look forward to our students having a successful and fun rest of the school year!

Barbara Escobar
Assistant Principal

Greetings Shady Grove Families,

It is hard to believe that the school year is half over! Soon it will be spring and the weather will be warming up. I am looking forward to the season changing as I am sure you are as well.

Student registration for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. SGMS counselors will be visiting rising 7th and 8th grade students to start the registration process and Magruder High School counselors have also come to SGMS to meet our rising 9th grade students to inform them about available courses and assist in the registration process. Rising 9th grade families should keep an eye out for future announcements regarding orientation dates at Magruder High School so students can get better acquainted with the staff and building.

As we help our students begin planning for the transition to the next grade level, please take this opportunity to talk with your students about their current school year and set goals for next year. Some questions you could ask them are: what did they enjoy most this year or what are some changes they could make to become or be more successful. Also, if you need support in any way, please reach out to us, we are here to support our students and families. I look forward to an equally fantastic second half of the year!

Jennifer K. Cooper
Assistant Principal
**News from the 6th Grade**

Hello 6th grade parents. Thank you to all the parents who came out to parent conferences in November. It was great having a chance to talk with you about your child and their school experience. Our sixth graders worked hard during the first quarter and we celebrated their successes with a cookie social for our Honor Roll recipients. We had 99 students on the Honor Roll for Quarter 1. We are currently planning the Quarter 2 Honor Roll Celebration. 6th graders participated in the Winter session of MAP testing for reading and math. We are so proud of our 6th graders’ success in their first semester at Shady Grove. They continue to build relationships through Timbertime on Tuesdays with community circles.

Even amidst snowfall, the show went on! Students and teachers participated in geocaching, stream study, team-building, hiking, community-building, service learning, campfires, a reptile show, and so much more. Some quotes from students include: “I met new people”, “I made new friends”, “When can we come back?” and “I did things I never thought I could do!”

**News from the 7th Grade**

Mr. Morrison and Ms. Scott would like to thank all of the students who participated in the annual College Field Trip on November 20th. Students from Shady Grove visited The University of Maryland College Park, Howard University, Dickinson College, and University of Maryland Baltimore County. It was a successful learning day!!

**Weinberg Theater**

Mr. Chupka and Mrs. Flores took their Humanities class on a trip to Weinberg Theater in Frederick, MD this past December. It was an opportunity for students to study (and enjoy) the art of public speaking and presentation, and create discourse around the difference between the written word and spoken expression.

**Upcoming Trip**

**Finance Park Field Trip:**
Who: ALL 7th Grade SGMS Students
What: JA Finance Park Simulation
Where: Edison High School, 3rd Floor
12501 Dalewood Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906
When: April 23 (Mr. Ferrante’s classes)
April 24 (Ms. Flores, Ms. Worthing, and Mr. Hull’s classes)
Estimated Departure Time: 8:30am
Estimated Return Time: 2:45pm

Cost: Free to all 7th Grade Students

About the Field Trip: Students will be participating in a real life finance simulation as a culmination of the Junior Achievement (JA) Finance Park unit that they have completed in their World Studies classes. Students will be given a role play scenario, which they must use to work out a budget for themselves.

We need volunteers! Parents—we need your help to make this field trip a success! If you want to sign up as a volunteer or have questions, please email Ms. Flores at Andra_N_Flores@mcpsmd.org.
**Student Service Learning Report**

It’s very exciting for SGMS to have 38 students earn the Superintendent’s SSL award already this year! These students have completed all 75 SSL hours while in middle school and it is a huge honor to reach this goal. We would love to have that number be even bigger. For those students who are still working toward this SSL award, they must have their service finished and their forms turned into the media center by the first Friday in April. The final deadline for the school year for any service performed since the beginning of last summer is the first Friday in June. Students will not be able to turn forms in for hours earned this school year after that date.

Some common ways students can earn SSL hours is helping either current or former teachers (SGMS or elementary school), and participating in community service activities with organizations of which they are already a member. If students are still looking for service opportunities, have them visit the Montgomery Volunteer Center’s website, www.montgomeryserves.org. This website allows you to look for opportunities by date, type, and location. Students can also look at the SSL bulletin board in the cafeteria for upcoming opportunities.

Just a few reminders for our students, please visit the MCPS SSL website for information about deadlines, forms, and a list of frequently asked questions at https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/. One common question from students is “Can I earn hours with my religious organization?” The answer is yes, so long as the activity they are doing serves the greater community outside their organization. For example, helping in the nursery or running the sound board during services does not count, but running a canned food drive to benefit the needy in the community does. Please have your student check with Mrs. Frashure in the media center if they have any questions about whether or not an activity qualifies before they do it. Also look at the MCPS website’s frequently asked questions that covers this topic in depth.

Lara Frashure
SSL Coordinator

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**World Languages & ESOL**

We have some very exciting news in the World Languages and ESOL department. First, this summer we are organizing a trip to Costa Rica. This is a great opportunity for all of our students studying Spanish to practice what they have been learning in class, or for any of our students to experience a new culture. There are still some spots left. Please email Ms. Quiroz (Raquel.E.Quiroz@mcpsmd.org) for more information.

Our ESOL students are currently finishing up their standardized ACCESS testing that will determine their level for next year. Congratulations to all of them on this accomplishment. They will now begin the second semester of the new Study Sync curriculum allowing them to access and work with rigorous grade-level texts in their ESOL classes.

As we head into the second semester of our World Language classes, please encourage students to continue to practice the language they are learning as much as possible outside of class. Some good resources are online programs like Duolingo but also streaming service like Netflix and amazon that have lots of French and Spanish language programming or simply one’s friends or family who might speak French or Spanish.

Let’s have a great second semester.

Brook Jefferson
Content Specialist
Semester 2 Science Updates -

New units starting soon! Below are the Enduring Understandings for each grade level.

**IS 6 - Human Impacts on the Environment**

Students will discover that natural resources are used by living things in a variety of ways, but how much and in what ways we use those resources affects the footprint of our planet. Students will learn that our use of fossil fuels has consequences on the environment. Students will investigate how human activity and use of resources impacts the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere and consider alternative solutions for the products we make and the resources we use. They will model a solution to a variety of environmental problems created from natural resource use.

**IS 7 Inheritance and Variation of Traits**

Students will study the principles of heredity and genetics. They will learn how organisms reproduce and transfer their genetic information to their offspring. Students will study how characteristics get passed on from generation to generation and research several genetic disorders that affect human offspring. Students will use biotechnical processes to explore the genetic characteristics of organisms. Students will conduct a DNA extraction and a microarray will be performed as a way of checking the genotypes of the offspring.

**IS 8 Forces, Motions, and Interactions**

Students will explore the effect of force and motion as being fundamental to all matter in the universe, and as integral parts of their daily lives. The unit will concentrate on Newton’s three laws of motion, how forces interact with objects to influence motion, and key forces including gravity, friction, and magnetism. Students will investigate the ways that energy can be stored, converted and exchanged through energy transfer. Students will apply their understanding of these concepts to design RFP Project X-51.
Health, Physical Education, FACS, Technology, Music and Arts

Art
Miss Hardiman has been enjoying her first year teaching here at Shady Grove Middle School. The students have been creating some fantastic and thought provoking art work in her class! 6th graders have focused on the theme of identity & have explored artists surrounding this theme. One highlight in 6th grade art included their personal identity mandalas, where students created unique symbols and created their own radially symmetrical mandala. Another standout are the text self portraits the students created, where they filled their portraits with words of themselves. Finally, another standout was the 6th graders’ surrealism landscapes, where students got to draw inspiration from Salvador Dali and Frida Kahlo to create fantasy landscapes based off of their dreams. 7th grade art has focused on the theme of relationships. One standout unit was when we created giant food sculptures. The students chose food that connected to a special memory from their life with a friend or family member. Students loved getting to make 3D art & give them as gifts to family members. Another highlight was our relationship collage unit. Students brought in personal photos to create a layered collage as a tribute to someone from their life. Another great unit was when students learned about textile art and created colorful weavings to fill the art room. 8th grade art focused on the theme of influence and looked at how artists are changing the world through art. Students kicked off the year creating comic book covers. The students designed superheroes that solve the biggest injustice that they see in the world today. The students considered the role they can play to be heroes in their own society. Another great unit was when we learned about representation through the work of Kehinde Wiley. First, students created monochromatic self portraits. Then students created printmaking stamps using symbols that described their identity. Finally, students created beautiful printed backgrounds across their self portraits. These portraits turned out incredible and hung proudly in the library for the majority of the semester. These portraits were a fantastic representation of the diversity and equality we strive for at SGMS. Another great unit in 8th grade art was our gargoyles unit. Students combined multiple animals together to create a clay gargoyle bust. Miss Hardiman has been amazed by the students' enthusiasm and creativity and can't wait to meet her next group of students!

Choir
Ms. Satterfield has really enjoyed her first semester at Shady Grove Middle School! The choirs have been working on literacy, vocal technique, musicality, audiation, and music vocabulary. We have been exploring music in different meters, tonalities, genres, and languages in order to challenge and excite students. Students are reading music using solfege, counting, and rhythm syllables to help them become independent musicians. Both the Advanced Choir and the 6th Grade Choir had a successful winter concert on December 18th. Looking ahead to the future, the students in Advanced Choir are working on upcoming performances at the Middle School Choral Adjudication in March and the Music in the Parks Festival on May 22nd. Both choirs will be participating in the spring concert on June 3rd where we will feature several soloists and work on authentically performing musical theatre pieces. We hope to see you at some of our upcoming events and performances!

FACS 7 – First Semester in Review
FACS 7 students were tremendously productive this semester! They started the beginning of the year with their pillow project. All students demonstrated mastery with hand sewing and produced quality stitches. Next, students moved into learning how to sew buttons onto fabric. They enthusiastically created tutorial videos on how to sew two-hole, four-hole, and shank buttons. Our housing unit came next and students delved into housing needs. They also explored elements of design and used this skill set to design a room. The final product for the housing unit
was creating a model of a functional living space. FACS 7 students finished up the semester with their cooking unit. They eagerly entered the kitchens armed with new food and kitchen safety. In the kitchens, students began developing the following foundational skills – reading & adjusting recipes, measuring, mixing, preparing, stovetop and oven cooking, timing, cleaning, teamwork, taste testing, and performance reflection. During our food unit we prepared – crispy rice treats, garlic toast pizza, monkey bread, ramen noodle stir-fry, mug cakes, and a variety of finger foods for our FACS party. If students enjoyed being in the kitchens, I encourage them to sign up for Food & Nutrition 8 next year. In 8th grade, they will focus on more complex recipes and continue to develop more advanced cooking skills.

Food & Nutrition 8 – First Semester in Review

Food & Nutrition 8 students dedicated themselves to developing safe and effective cooking skills during the first semester. As we progressed through the year, students increased their level of independence in the kitchen and started to self-select more challenging and complex recipes. Although all the cooking labs provided learning opportunities, there are few that need to be highlighted. 8th graders created an impressive feast for Thanksgiving. Mashed potatoes, stuffing, and pumpkin pies filled our table and stomachs at our SGMS Thanksgiving table. Students not only demonstrated impressive cooking skills, but also had a chance to show off their etiquette skills they learned in class. Just a few weeks after Thanksgiving, Food & Nutrition students wowed our taste buds again by developing menus from around the world and creating traditional dishes to represent the following countries – Germany, Italy, Greece, Mexico, and China. Finally, the 8th graders seamlessly put together a Super Bowl party that was well-organized and entertaining. If students enjoyed this class, I encourage them to sign up for culinary classes in high school. Magruder currently offers three Family & Consumer Sciences classes – Child Development, Cultures & Cuisine, and Culinary Essentials.

Health

The health and physical education team is happy to introduce our newest teacher, Mr. Matt Yaniga. It is great having Mr. Yaniga here at Shady Grove. Students will continue rotating out of physical education class into health for quarters 3 & 4. All students are required to take one quarter of health education each year of middle school. All students are expected to participate in all health units, with the exception of Disease Prevention (7th grade only) and Family Life and Human Sexuality (7th & 8th grade). A letter went home at the start of the school year. The letter provided parents/guardians with the opportunity to review the curriculum and to choose whether or not they would like to “opt” their student out of the unit(s). If you need a copy of the permission slip, please contact Mr. Yaniga or Mrs. Guitano-Stephens.

Instrumental Music

The band and orchestra students have been hard at work in the first semester! The students have been expensing their musical vocabulary and perfecting new skills on their instrument. All band and orchestra students played in successful winter concerts on Dec. 17th and Dec. 19th. In addition, Ana Malasquez and Bridget Zelaya were selected for the MCPS All-County Band, a selective group that consists of students from all around the county. Congratulations to them on a fantastic concert! Next up: many of our 6th graders were nominated for the MCPS 6th Grade Honors Band. Congratulations to Cristian Angueira, Leo Cavanaugh, Johan Choi, Alec DeLeon, Tavish Hamilton.

In the second semester, Advanced Band/Advanced Orchestra students will be busy! Both groups will perform in the MCPS Adjudication Festivals in March. These groups are also preparing for the Music in the Parks competition, which will take place on May 22nd. Please be on the lookout for the permission packets!
Technology

It has been a truly exciting year so far in the engineering courses at Shady Grove! Our 7th grade students in CADD-ARE have had an exciting 1st semester. They learned about the engineering design process through the building of gutter boats and towers. They learned how to communicate as engineers through technical drafting & 3D sketching. They also received an intro the CAD software. The students also spent time learning all about electrical components. They build circuits on solderless breadboards to learn about photocells, capacitors, resistors, speakers, transistors, switches, integrated circuits & more. Now, we have just begun the building of the Sea Perch robots. The Sea Perch is an underwater ROV (remotely operated vehicle). Each team researched, brainstormed, designed, & 3D sketched their own sea perch & the designs are amazing! The students have now begun the process of making their 3D designs come to life by building the electrical, mechanical, & structural systems. Later in the spring, the students will be taking their “Perches” to the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division in Bethesda, MD. While there, the robots & operators will perform a mission. Their robots will be required to collect oil globs floating on the surface of the water & ones that have been submerged (simulated by ping pong balls).

We can’t wait to see how the robots perform. While there, the students will also get to meet with engineers & receive a tour of the amazing facility to get an idea of the real work that goes on there. It’s going to be a great trip! After the Sea Perch unit, the students begin work as architectural engineers by designing a floor plan for a house.

The 8th grade IED students have been busy learning about all that goes into being an engineer. They finished a unit on the design process with a focus on brainstorming and research. In unit 2, they learned how to communicate as engineers by learning 3 types of 3D sketching & Multiview sketching. They just finished the measurement & statistics unit during which they learned how to measure with a fraction inch ruler, a metric ruler, & a dial caliper. They also learned how to convert values & units from the US to metric measurement systems and explored statistical analysis. They are about to begin learning to sketch & model objects in the 3D software, Autodesk Inventor.

They will also explore the geometry of shapes and reverse engineering in our upcoming unit before getting into documentation through drawings and dimensioning & the team projects – design a chess set & miniature golf course in the software. We’ll even print some chess pieces on our 3D printer!

The counseling department would like to thank students for their participation in semester one activities. The start of our year included Kindness Week and Wellness Week. Students enjoyed mindfulness stations at lunch, receiving uplifting notes on individual desks, yoga and mindfulness moments, and community circles. Below are other curriculum updates and important dates to remember!

Registration:

Course registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins this February. School counselors will be visiting classrooms to share course information for next year. Please take note of these upcoming dates:

February 6, 2020: Current 8th grade students need to return their course registration card for Col. Zadok Magruder High School. Online registration will take place this day.

February 7, 2020: Current 6th and 7th grade students should return their course registration letters to their science teachers. School counselors will keep these letters to track elective preferences for next year. Students will receive course bulletin information the week before and should review this information with their families as they select their elective offerings.

Naviance Updates:

School counselors have met with students throughout semester one to complete Naviance lessons. Through Naviance students develop SMART goals to build their resilience, perseverance, growth mindset, and maximize academic ability and achievement. Naviance helps students identify personal skills, interest, and abilities, and relate them to current career choice and course selections. Here is a review of Naviance activities by grade level:
6th Grade: Students worked on creating SMART academic and career goals. Students also completed a cluster finder survey that helps students identify career cluster matches based on their activities of interest, personal qualities, and favorite subjects in school.

7th Grade Students: Students completed a Strengths Explorer assessment. This assessment provides a better understanding of students’ top strengths and how they can use their strengths to accomplish their goals. Students will complete a Naviance activity in the second semester that is related to their experience at Finance Park.

8th Grade Students: Students worked on creating SMART academic goals and completing a Career & Technical Educational Survey as they explored high school programming offerings. During second semester, 8th grade students will complete a Career Key and their Graduation Course Planner.

Math News

LearnZillion Curriculum

As we start the second semester, we are halfway into the new curriculum! Here are the following units we will be working on for Math 6, Math 7, and Math 8.

Math 6

UNIT 5: Arithmetic in Base Ten
UNIT 6: Expressions and Equations
UNIT 7: Rational Numbers
UNIT 8: Data Sets and Distributions

Math 7

UNIT 5: Rational Number Arithmetic
UNIT 6: Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities
UNIT 7: Angles, Triangles, and Prisms
UNIT 8: Probability and Sampling

Math 8

UNIT 5: Functions and Volume
UNIT 6: Associations in Data
UNIT 7: Exponents and Scientific Notation
UNIT 8: Pythagorean Theorem and Irrational Numbers

These are the topics for IM, Applied IM, Algebra, and Honors Geometry:

IM and Applied IM Algebra I

Semester 2 in Algebra I will focus on Quadratic Functions, Analyzing Data Representations, and Function Families.

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<th>Unit 4</th>
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<td>Statistics and Probability</td>
<td>Rational Relationships</td>
<td>Functional Relationships and Linear Equations</td>
<td>Geometric Transformations</td>
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Honors Geometry

Semester 2 in Honors Geometry will focus on continuing Right Triangles and Trigonometry, Three-Dimensional Measurement, Coordinate Geometry, Parabolas and Circles, Circles and Angles, Points of Concurrency, and Arc Length and Area.

News from the 8th Grade

8th Grade Important Numbers & Dates

8th Grade has had a productive first semester! Take a look at our impressive statistics and mark your calendar for upcoming grade level events.

Honor Roll: 122 Students
Eligibility: 179 Students
Perfect Attendance: 22 Students
Team Athletes: 39 Students
Average MAP-R Score: 222
Average MAP-M Score: 229
SSL Hours Earned: 7,005.5
Magruder HS Pre-Registration: 2/3/2020
Magruder HS Registration: 2/6/2020
8th Grade Cruise: 5/29/2020
8th Grade Promotion: 6/11/2020