

Sebastian River Times



Staying the Course for
Success!

Dear SRMS Families,

As we enter another year at Sebastian River Middle, one important goal is maintaining parent involvement and support for our students. To do that, we must keep you well informed. You will be receiving newsletters each month and a report card each nine-week period. Progress Reports will be sent out in the middle of each grading period. Conference nights are scheduled in September and February. We are also increasing our efforts to contact you regularly. We also ask that you check FOCUS, our SRMS website, <https://www.indianriverschools.org/srms>, the SRMS Twitter account @SRMSCowboys, and SRMS Facebook @SebastianRiverMiddleSchool. We also use our automated phone service, School Messenger, to communicate important information and announcements.

Please consider getting involved with the School Advisory Committee (SAC), PTSA or in one of our many volunteer roles. WE are a stronger school with your involvement. Pair responsible conduct in school and at home with privileges you offer your child. Also, expect your child to have homework 3 to 5 nights each week and ensure that there is time for homework. Support your child's efforts in schoolwork, school activities, and friendships to strengthen his or her self-confidence. Attend conferences, programs, and athletic events. Your child needs you; for they are experiencing demands and pressures like never before. Please help us because your involvement and working together will ensure a successful outcome.

Mr. Todd Racine, Principal
Sebastian River Middle School

Sebastian River Middle School
9400 CR 512
Sebastian, FL 32958

Main Phone:

772-564-5111 (Answered 7:30
am - 3:15 pm)

www.indianriverschool.org/srms

ADMINISTRATION

Todd Racine,
Principal

Michele Holmes,
Assistant Principal

James Thimmer,
Assistant Principal

Guidance,
772-564-5122

Attendance,
772-564-5123

September Newsletter
Volume 3, Issue 1

The Attendance Corner

What You Should Know About Attendance

Absences must be reported to the school by the parent or guardian within Two days (48 hours) electronically to topatricia.giordano@indianriverschools.org, in writing or phone by calling 564-5111 Press Option 1.

You must give the following information for absence to be excused:

- A. First and Last Name
- B. Student ID Number
- C. Reason for Absence
- D. Your Name and who you are
- E. Date of Absence



Failure to report and explain the absence(s) shall result in unexcused absence(s).

When a student has at least five (5) unexcused or unexplained absences within a calendar month or Ten (10) unexcused or unexplained absences within a 90 day calendar period, the teacher will report to the Principal that the student may be exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance, if applicable. The principal will refer the case to the MTSS Team to determine if a pattern of truancy is developing and a meeting with the parent will be scheduled to identify potential remedies. If the problem is not resolved, the MTSS Team will implement interventions.

Tardiness

Tardiness is defined as an arrival to school or class after the designated time, or after the tardy signal has sounded. Tardiness is considered excessive when a student is **late four (4)** or more times within a nine-week grading period. Parent/Guardian will be notified and progressive interventions will be initiated by the MTSS Team. Parents should make every effort to get their child to school on time.



Important! - Fortify



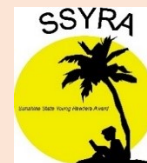
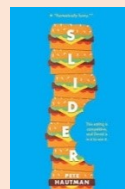
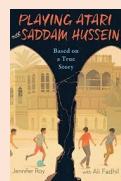
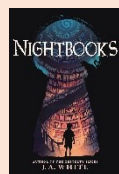
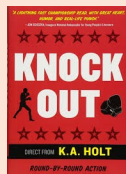
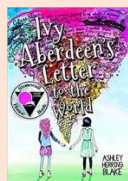
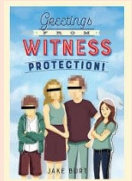
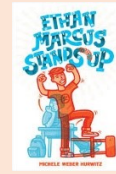
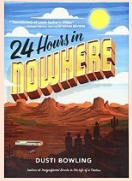
We are pleased to announce that the FortifyFL app is LIVE. Now, any student, educator, parent, or member of the public can report school safety concerns directly to law enforcement and school administrators anonymously and easily through the FortifyFL app or www.getfortifyfl.com. The app, which is available for download on Apple and Android mobile devices, is critical to ensuring all Florida schools are safe environments where students and educators can experience and share the joy of learning without fear. We hope that you will become familiar with this tool and help us spread the word about it with our students and their families. Please note that the official app's logo will look exactly as it does in the graphic above. You may also contact authorities by using their tip line.

IRCSO TIP Line : 772-978-6000 or email SchoolTips@ircsheriff.org

News from the Media Center

SRMS will be participating in the Sunshine State Young Readers Award Vote again this year. Students need to read three of the fifteen 2019/2020 Sunshine State Reader's Award titles and register with the Media Center to be invited to the Vote. Check out this year's selection of Grades 6-8 titles for Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Program at the following link:

https://www.floridamediaed.org/uploads/6/1/4/2/61420659/6-8_annotated_list_2019-2020.pdf



Student Check-out Policies

2 books per student

Books are due in 3 weeks

Students may place SRMS books on hold

Students are responsible for lost or damaged items

The SRMS Media Center is open for students in the morning from 7:30 - 7:50 A.M. Students may read, check-out books, use computers for school related activities, study and complete assignments.

As always, keep Reading!



Student Council News

- Student Council's 1st meeting was 8/28. If interested stop by 904 or 506 for more info!
- Student Council Officer Elections will be held on 9/12/19, and all SRMS Cowboys are invited to be a member of Student Council or run for office!
- All SRMS Cowboys will be voting for President, Vice-president, Treasurer and Secretary for the 2019-2020 school year! This is an exciting part of the school year!
- Upcoming Events: Spirit Week and a Pep Rally will be held this fall. Be sure to listen to announcements for more details. It is going to be **AWESOME!**

Student Council sponsors are Ms. DiRocco & Ms. White. Please see them for more info.





IB News & Updates

11th Annual IB Cowboy 5k

Please join us Saturday, November 2nd for the 11th Annual IB Cowboy Run/Walk 5k. The race will be held at Sebastian Municipal Golf Course and will start at 7:30 A.M. This is the main fundraiser for our school, and the proceeds will benefit the students and teachers at SRMS. Following the race, **FIVE lucky participants will each win TWO DISNEY PARK HOPPER PASSES!** Race entry forms will be located in the Front Office, or your child can ask their Social Studies teacher for a form. We hope to see you there!!

Volunteers Needed for the 5k

If you are interested in volunteering for the race, your help would GREATLY be appreciated. We need help getting local businesses to sponsor the race, setting up, cleaning up, passing out water, etc. Anyone who gets a local business to sponsor the race will receive two free race entries. If you are able to help with this year's 5k, please email or call Brad Wright at Bradley.wright@indianriverschools.org or 564-5127.

New Volunteer Website

We have made a change to our Volunteer Log website this year and will no longer be using Track-it-Forward. Please visit the SRMS website and click on the IB & Middle Years Program tab for the new volunteer logging website. Any hours that were logged on the Track-it-Forward website this summer (May 25th – August 5th), have been recorded.

Summer's Top Volunteers

Students: Robert Tuerke, Olivia Hodges, Reese DePeri

Parents: The Knight's & The DePeri's

A huge thank you to the students and parents who volunteered this summer and helped out in our community!!!



IB Parent Canvas Page

Please visit our IB Parent Canvas Page on the SRMS website under the IBO & Middle Years Program tab. The IB Parent Page has information about the IB Programme, volunteer opportunities, 6th and 7th grade Portfolio Extravaganza, 8th grade IB Community Project, and more.

IB Evaluation Year

In order to maintain our status as an IB World School, SRMS is required to participate in an ongoing process of review every five years to ensure that the IB Standards and Practices are being upheld with fidelity. As part of this process, we must complete a self-study to assess the implementation of the IB Programme at SRMS. In February, a pair of evaluators from the IBO will be visiting SRMS to verify our self-study, interview teachers, administrators, students, and parents, and give us feedback to improve our program. Parents, if you are interested in being part of this process, or wish to provide feedback about the IB Programme at SRMS, please email me at Bradley.wright@indianriverschools.org.



Clinic News



HEALTH ROOM INFORMATION

- Welcome back: This time of year tends to invite school germs. Please keep in mind that if your child is running a fever 100.0 degrees or higher, they need to stay home until fever free for 24 hours. If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea, please keep them home until symptom free for 24 hours. Please make sure that your contact information is up to date so that if your child becomes ill or injured at school we can reach you as soon as possible.
- If your child requires medication during the school day, please contact Mrs. Farina for proper forms and procedures. Students are not allowed to carry medication on them while at school unless they have a signed Authorization to Carry form used for inhalers, diabetic supplies, epi-pens, or other emergency medications. All other medications must be stored in the health room and a signed permission slip, and doctor's prescription is needed. This includes cough drops, Tylenol, ibuprofen, vitamins, etc.
- If your child has a medical condition please contact the school health assistant. An individualized care plan may be needed.
- Every student needs to have a Health and Wellness form on file in the health room. Health and Wellness forms went home with the students the first week of school. Have your child return the completed Health and Wellness form to the health room.
- A doctor's note is required for students to carry a water bottle and all medications: this includes inhalers, cough drops, PE excuses, use of wheelchair or crutches, or to wear shoes without a back strap for foot injuries. If your child requires accommodations due to a health/medical issue, please provide a doctor's note so that we can better help your child.
- 6th graders will have their State Mandated Health Screenings in October.
- For any health concerns contact our school's health assistant, Mrs. Farina, LPN @ 564-5198. You can also visit the District Website and click on departments then Health Services for more information and health forms.



Sebastian Times Staff

I am pleased to announce the 2019-2020 Sebastian Times Staff! This year our staff is made up of 25 editors. They are available to write articles and take pictures of events during the school year. Please email me at Kasey.Berchtold@indianriverschools.org for any questions!



SRMS Volleyball Schedule



<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
09/05	Thursday	Oslo Middle	SRMS	4:30PM
09/09	Monday	Sebastian Charter	SRMS	4:30PM
09/11	Wednesday	Palm Bay Academy	SRMS	4:30PM
09/16	Monday	Gifford Middle	Gifford Middle	4:30PM
09/19	Thursday	Storm Grove	SRMS	4:30PM
09/23	Monday	Osceola Middle	Osceola Middle	4:30PM
09/25	Wednesday	Imagine	SRMS	4:30PM
10/01	Tuesday	Renaissance Charter	SRMS	4:30PM
10/03	Thursday	Oslo Middle	Oslo Middle	4:30PM
10/07	Monday	Yearling	Yearling	4:30PM
10/14	Monday	Gifford Middle	SRMS	4:30PM
10/16	Wednesday	Storm Grove	Storm Grove	4:30PM
10/17	Thursday	Yearling Middle	SRMS	4:30PM
10/21, 10/22, & 10/24		District Tourney Games	Location & Time=TBA	

Congratulations to the 2019 SRMS Volleyball Team members! Way to go, Cowgirls!

8th graders: Kenna Barley, Kalena Keaton, Baylee Walker, Brennah Faulkner, Daphne Gibson, Olivia Hodges, Taylor Hunter, Emma Smith

7th graders: Ariyah Brown, Mikayla Lamb, Kalena Dicaro, Isabella Lowe, Morgan Macleary, Ava Rhea, Whitney Villars

6th graders: Danielle Primavera, **Manager:** Emmie Dayton **Coach Walker**

Science Corner

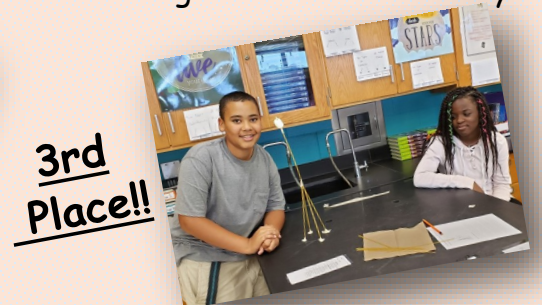
Mr. Crespo's students had fun in science class! They completed an Engineering Design Challenge, using marshmallows. Check out the top designers and their towers! Congrats to these Cowboys!



1st Place!!



2nd Place!!



3rd Place!!



SRMS Soccer Schedule



<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
09/05	Thursday	Oslo Middle	SRMS	4:30PM
09/11	Wednesday	Palm Bay Academy	SRMS	4:30PM
09/16	Monday	Gifford Middle	Gifford Middle	4:30PM
09/19	Thursday	Storm Grove	SRMS	4:30PM
09/23	Monday	Osceola Middle	Osceola Middle	4:30PM
09/25	Wednesday	Imagine	SRMS	4:30PM
10/01	Tuesday	Renaissance Charter	SRMS	4:30PM
10/03	Thursday	Oslo Middle	Oslo Middle	4:30PM
10/07	Monday	Yearling	Yearling	4:30PM
10/14	Monday	Gifford Middle	SRMS	4:30PM
10/16	Wednesday	Storm Grove	Storm Grove	4:30PM
10/17	Thursday	Yearling Middle	SRMS	4:30PM
10/21, 10/22, &10/24		District Tourney Games	Location & Time=TBA	

Congratulations to the 2019 SRMS Soccer Team members! Way to go, Cowboys!

8th Grade: Austin Emerson, Jaden Hernandez, Gio Carnerio, Cristian Cardenas, Anthony Pantojas, Kevin Martinez, Matthew Campbell, Jirawat Kusdsongserm, Emmanuel Castro

7th Grade: Andrew Simpson, Cristopher Espinoza, Tarro Kusdsongserm, Jovani Garcia, Ramces Chirino, Daniel Garibay, Omar Zamarripa

6th Grade: Justin Martinez & Julius Lewis

Coach Braaksma & Coach Failla



College Jersey Day!



Lifeskills News

Ms. Medeiros will be back again this year with LifeSkills. "I am so excited to see all the students whom I have worked with since 6th grade. It is so wonderful to see the students grow and flourish each year!"

Program Overview

The Botvin *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program is a groundbreaking substance abuse and violence prevention program based on more than 35 years of rigorous scientific research. Proven to be the most effective evidence-based program used in schools today, *LifeSkills Training* is comprehensive, dynamic, and developmentally designed to promote positive youth development. In addition to helping kids resist drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, the *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program also effectively supports the reduction of violence and other high-risk behaviors.

Program Learning Objectives

- **Personal Self-Management Skills** - Students develop skills that help them enhance self-esteem, develop problem-solving abilities, reduce stress and anxiety, and manage anger.
- **General Social Skills** - Students gain skills to meet personal challenges such as overcoming shyness, communicating clearly, building relationships, and avoiding violence.
- **Drug Resistance Skills** - Students build effective defenses against pressures to use tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.

6th grade receives 16 lessons

7th grade receives 12 lessons


8th grade receives 5 lessons



LST is a comprehensive, evidence-based prevention program that aims to prevent substance use and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behavior. Science has proved that prevention works! Students who receive this program are not only better prepared to deal with challenges of life but also less likely to smoke, drink, use drugs or engage in violent behavior. In addition to focusing on drug resistance skills, LST focuses on personal self-management skills and general social skills including increasing self-image, self-improvement, self-esteem, setting and achieving goals, increasing your ability to make decisions and solve problems, communicate effectively, avoid misunderstandings, manage and cope with anxiety and anger, make new friends, stand up for your rights, say 'no' to unfair requests and resist advertising pressures.

Each dedicated and certified LST Facilitator brings their special brand of magic to their campus. Some special programs and booster classes include proper nutrition guidance, Breakfast Club, Lunch Bunch, Together, Let's Unplug, Career Day, Flagler College Tour, Dress for Success, and Kindness Rally- Be the Change.

The LST team is committed to the health, safety and well-being of every child in our community because LifeSkills Training is not just a class, LifeSkills Training is a way of life!



Accidents aren't supposed to happen, but they do.

smic

School recess, one-day field trips and general day-to-day activities can all lead to injuries. Having coverage during school hours, or around the clock can insure your loved ones get the care they need without financial hardship to your family.

ELIGIBILITY

Any enrolled student is eligible for coverage.

K-12 ACCIDENT PLANS THAT ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH YOUR SCHOOL:

- School Time Accident Only
- 24-Hour Accident Only
- Interscholastic Sports
- 24-Hour Dental

All available plans are offered by Special Markets Insurance Consultants, Inc. To research which plans are being offered by your school, please visit our website's online enrollment tool at www.k12specialmarkets.com

PAYMENT

Parents or guardians of students are responsible for enrollment and premium payment.

HOW TO ENROLL

Enrolling is easy and only takes a few minutes.

Go to www.k12specialmarkets.com.

1. Click on Coverage Details at the top,
2. Select State and click "Look Up"
3. Click on School or District
4. Click on link to display plan details.

Parents can either print and complete the enrolment application to mail with check or money order or:

You can enroll online:

1. Enroll online by clicking "Enroll Now"
2. Select State and click "Look Up"
3. Click on School or District
4. Select school location name (if applicable)
5. Check the plan options
6. Complete online application (more than one child can be enrolled on the same application)
7. Pay by credit/debit
8. Print ID card

FOR QUESTIONS, CALL 772-287-7650

For further details of the coverage outlined above, including costs, benefits, exclusions and any reductions or limitation, and the terms under which the policy may be continued in force, please refer to www.k12specialmarkets.com. Students are able to purchase coverage only if his/her school district is a policyholder with the insurance company.



State Board of Education

Andy Tuck, Chair
Marva Johnson, Vice Chair
Members
Ben Gibson
Tom Grady
Michael Olenick
Joe York

Richard Corcoran
Commissioner of Education

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 9, 2019
TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Jacob Oliva
SUBJECT: 2018 Economic Security Report Summary

Contact Information:

Brianna Garcia
850-245-0446
Brianna.Garcia@fldoe.org
DPS: 2019-126

Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity has released their most recent Economic Security Report. This report is a great tool that is specific to the educational and economic environment of Florida and can be used to start informed conversations about the many opportunities to earn a number of recognized credentials at the middle school, high school and postsecondary levels. Encouraging families to start these conversations early is essential to the decision making around a student's college and career choices and ultimately their outcomes. Further, it is a statutory requirement to provide a summary of the Department of Economic Opportunity's annual Economic Security Report to parents of students in grades 6-12. The most recent (2018) report and summary is now posted on our website at <http://www.fldoe.org/policy/edu-laws-legislation/governmental-relations/> and may be distributed by your typical means of communication.

Florida's Economic Security Report is just one of the many college and career planning tools available to students and their families. Other resources include, but are not limited to, www.floridashines.org, www.careeronestop.org, and the resources found at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/college-career-planning/>.

Again, we encourage you share the many tools available to students and families that exist to help them make informed career decisions beyond what is mandated by law. Should you have any questions or need further assistance, you may contact Brianna Garcia at Brianna.Garcia@fldoe.org.

JO/he

JACOB OLIVA
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS