



THE SPARTAN MESSENGER

SOUTH TEXAS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A 2015 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

MISSION: STPA ENDEAVORS TO SERVE STUDENTS THROUGH ENGAGING AND CHALLENGING CURRICULUM THAT PREPARE THEM FOR FUTURE LEARNING
 VISION: STPA COMMUNITY PROMOTES SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS BY FOCUSING ON LEARNING, WORKING TOGETHER, AND BEING ACCOUNTABLE FOR RESULTS.
 PRINCIPAL: ANA CASTRO ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MARI SANCHEZ

Special points of interest:

- *Teacher Appreciation Week—May 2nd-6th/National Teacher Day & PSTO Appreciation Luncheon- Tues., May 3rd/11:15-12:15*
- *ROXIE Recycling Trailer pick up—Mon., May 2nd & 16th/SAT time*
- *SBDM Meeting—Teachers Lounge/ Tues., May 3rd @4:15 pm*
- *End of Q4 6-weeks—Tues., May 3rd*
- *7th Grade Awards Ceremony—Thurs., May 5th @ 7:00 pm /Wellness Center*
- *National School Nurse Day—Weds., May 11th*
- *UIL/Clubs Field Trip—Mon., May 16th*
- *PSTO Meeting—Tues., May 17th*
- *8th Grade Field Trip—Tues., May 17th*
- *7th Grade Field Trip—Wed., May 18th*
- *Theater Arts Performance—Wed., May 18 @ 6:30 pm*
- *Student Ambassadors Luncheon—Mon., May 23rd @ 11:15 am*
- *Most Improved Student Luncheon—Weds., May 25th @ 11:15 am*
- *Pep-rally-Team 72—Fri., May 20th @ 3:00 pm*
- *8th Grade Formal Dance—Fri., May 20th from 6:00-9:00*
- *8th Grade Award Ceremony/ Promotion Celebration—Fri., May 27th*

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Important Information

As we get closer to the end of the 2015-2016 school year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. It has been a pleasure having your child here at our school this year. We look forward to working with you in the future.

The last day of the fourth quarter 6-weeks grading period will be on Tuesday, May 3. Continue to closely monitor your child's grades and contact his/her counselor and/or teacher if you have any questions or concerns. The counselors will start signing up students for summer school soon.

The last day of classes will be Thursday, June 2nd. May 30 to June 2 have been assigned as exam release days. Students will be released at 2:00 pm on those days. **THERE WILL BE NO LATE BUSES THE LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL.** Please make plans to pick up your child early those days. Below is the second semester exam schedule that will be followed:

2nd SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE 2015-2016

Monday, May 30, 2016

Period 1A Exam	8:35 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.
Lunch	10:40 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
SAT/HS Lunch	11:20 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.
Period 3A Exam	12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO THEIR 3A CLASS DURING SAT.

Tuesday, May 31, 2016

Period 1B Exam	8:35 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.
Lunch	10:40 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
SAT/HS Lunch	11:20 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.
Period 3B Exam	12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO THEIR 3B CLASS DURING SAT.

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Period 2A Exam	8:35 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.
Lunch	10:40 a.m. - 11:15a.m.
SAT/HS Lunch	11:20 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

Period 4A Exam	12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
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STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO THEIR 4A CLASS DURING SAT.

Thursday, June 2, 2016

Period 2B Exam	8:35 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.
Lunch	10:40 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
SAT/HS Lunch	11:20a.m. - 11:55 a.m.
Period 4B Exam	12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

STUDENTS WILL REPORT TO THEIR 4B CLASS DURING SAT.

STAAR/EOC Exams Schedule

End-of-Course—The testing window for the Algebra I and Biology I STAAR End of Course Exams is May 2-6. STPA students will be testing on the following dates:

Algebra I/7th & 8th —Mon. May 2/Make-up Day—Tues. May 3; Biology I/8th —Wed. May 4/Make -up Day—Thurs. May 5

STAAR Tests—Math 8 STAAR (7th graders) retest—Mon. May 9; Reading 7 & Reading 8 retest—Tues. May 10; Science 8 (7th graders) & 8th new to STPA—Wed. May 11; Social Studies—Thurs. May 12

Please make note of these important dates on your calendar so that your child is not absent on these days. It is important that your child goes to bed early the night before a test and that he/she also has a good breakfast.

End of Year Awards Ceremonies

The 7th Grade Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2016 in the Wellness Center at 7:00 pm. Students who will be recognized with an award will receive an invitation by standard mail.

The 8th Grade Promotion Celebration & Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 27, 2016 in the STPA Wellness Center at 6:30 pm. An invitation with an RSVP card enclosed will arrive by mail. If you plan to attend this event, please fill out the RSVP card and return to the front office by Friday, May 20th. It is crucial to have a head count for proper accom-

modations in seating and food. Appetizers & refreshments will be served before the ceremony.

Formal Dance

A *Great Gatsby* formal dance for 8th graders will take place on Friday, May 20th, from 6:00-9:00 pm in the Cafeteria. Tickets will be \$10 and may be purchased in room 103 (Ms. Ramirez). Parents, please drop off and pick up your child in the back of the school, behind the cafeteria. Students will not be allowed to come to the front parking lot.

Student Recognitions

Writing Contest Winners—Congratulations to students in Ms. Power's English I classes who were named winners in the "Censored in America" Stossel in the classroom 2016 writing contest. Evan Rendon, Mia Cano, and Subash Jagadeesan were named semi-finalists (\$100 winners) and Daniel Fleming, Eira Saenz, and Mia Almaguer were named honorable mention (\$50 winners). Ms. Power will receive an autographed copy of John Stossel's latest book for being the teacher of these winning students.

This year John Stossel received over 3,800 essays from students across the United States, so all winning essays—including Honorable Mentions—were among the top 3.3% of all essays submitted in the nation. We are all very proud of these young writers' achievements and for the national honors they bring to their teacher and STPA!

TSA State Competition Results-Bio Technology—Team 1: Divya Patel, Elaijah Islam, Brooklyn Berry & Yasmin Hammami-1st place; Team 2: Ian Guajardo, Jeswin Thomas, & Satya Holla-2nd place; **CAD Foundations**—Team 1: Haya Albustamy-2nd place; **Career Prep**—Team 1: Kissimmee Vargas-2nd place; **Challenging Technology Issues**—Team 1: Jaime Saveron & Antoine Wiley-4th place; Team 2: Amanda Garcia & Jysela Gonzalez- 1st place; Team 3: Emma Morales & Aislyn Morales-2nd place; **Children Stories**—Team 1: Alaisa Garza, Anyssa Mujica & Emily Shi-2nd place; **CO2 Dragster**—Team 1: Haya Albustamy-2nd place; **Digital Photography**—Team 1: Jeswin Thomas-5th place; Team 2: Brooklyn Berry- 6th place; Team 3: Ruben Mohme-3rd place; **Essays on Technology**—Team 1: Emily Shi-1st place; Team 2: Sophia Mao- 5th place; Team 3: Javier Mayorga-4th place; **Jr. Solar Sprint**—Team 1: Pablo Vidal, Youssef Galal & Subash Jagadeesan-3rd place; **Medical Technology**—Team 1: Dominique De Los Reyes, Alyssa Sepulveda & Erika De Los Reyes-2nd place; **Prepared Speech**—Team 1: Yasmin Hammami-2nd place; **Problem Solving**—Team 1: Alyssa Sepulveda & Divya Patel-5th place; **Structural Engineering**—Team 1: Haya Albustamy & Maysam Daghestani-2nd place; **Technology Bowl**—Team 1: Jaime Saveron, Subash Jagadeesan & Kunaal Jha-1st place; **Video Game Design**—Team 1: Scott Pedley, Rex Imperial & Lance Lui-2nd place; **Leadership Strategies**—Team 1: Satya Holla, Jeswin Thomas & Brooklyn Berry-1st place; **Vex Robot Skills**—Team 724B: Kunaal Jha, Tomin Joseph, Neil Thomas, Ian Guajardo, Pablo Vidal, Jeswin Thomas, Satya Holla-12th place; Team 724C:

Lance Lui, Rex Imperial, Scott Pedley, Jack Qiao-22nd place

Summer Reading

Current STPA 7th grade students should check the website at <http://stpa.stisd.net/> for the 8th grade summer reading and assignments that need to be completed by the beginning of the school year 2016-2017.

Message from the Library

AR Millionaires—Congratulations to our 100 AR Millionaires. A Carnival themed celebration is planned for May 19th, where students will be treated to a variety of refreshments and games. Also, AR Millionaire posters, which are proudly displayed in the main hallway, will be sent home the last week of school.

SAT AR Millionaire Challenge—Congratulations to Mrs. Garcia and Mrs. Starr's SAT classes for winning the SAT AR Millionaire Challenge. Both classes will celebrate their accomplishment with a pizza party.

Overdue Book Notices—All books and equipment need to be returned before the last week of school. Fines must also be cleared before June 2nd. Please call 318-8525 for additional information.

Lost & Found Items—If your child has lost an item have him or her stop by the library's lost and found.

Spartan Yearbook Update

Have you bought your yearbook yet? Order your yearbook now and you will have a book full of memories to treasure always! Place your order for only \$45. If you have any questions please contact Mr. A. Gonzalez at 956-381-5522 or email him at alberto.gonzalez@stisd.net.

PSTO Update

STPA's PSTO parent group will be working diligently this month on various activities:

May 3—They will be providing a luncheon for our teachers in honor of TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK-May 2-6, 2016.

May 13—They will be participating in the SPARTAN DAY festivities and will have some booths for student enjoyment.

May 27—They will be decorating the STPA Wellness Center and providing appetizers & refreshments for the 8th grade Awards Ceremony & Promotion Celebration.

Meeting—The last PSTO meeting for this year will be held on Tuesday, May 17 in the library conference room at 5:30 pm. At this time we will be looking for officers for the 2016-2017 school year. Contact Jennifer Longoria at jennifer.longoria@stisd.net for more information. You may also contact Susan Daghestani, PSTO President, at 956-357-1016.