



The Spartan Messenger

STISD - STPA

PRINCIPAL: ANA CASTRO
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MARI SANCHEZ

Mission

South Texas Preparatory Academy endeavors to serve students through engaging and challenging curriculum that prepares them for future learning.

Vision

South Texas Preparatory Academy community promotes successful students by focusing on learning, working together, & being accountable for results.

Motto

We are honest, responsible, respectful. We are leaders. We are Spartans!

STPA A 2015 National Blue Ribbon School

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Important Information

Believe it or not, the end of the first 9-week grading period is quickly approaching. As we are in the last weeks of this 6-week grading period, please encourage your children to work hard and to do their very best. The last day of the 9-week grading period will be on Friday, October 13. Many of the students, especially those who are new, have found STPA to be a challenging experience; nevertheless, they have been working diligently and are doing quite well in the long run.

With hard work and perseverance, your children will be building a solid base not only for their high school years, but also for college. Hopefully, by the time they finish their STPA experience, they will have developed a great work ethic which is necessary for all successful endeavors. With your support, we can do this together.

PSTO

STPA held its first PSTO meeting for the 2017-2018 school year on Wednesday, August 30, 2017. Officers were elected and are as follows: President: Vanessa Hamel (student-Hailee); Vice President: Ester R. Volpe

(student-Madelyn); Treasurer: Monica Garza (student-Sabrina); Secretary: Heather Fallek (student-Jake) & Dawn Salazar (student-Aidan); Parliamentarian: Sabita Mahtani (student-Ishaan Ramchandani) & Jenny Miller (student-Kaytlyn); Historian: Gina Espinosa (student-Diego); 8th Grade Representatives: LEAD-- Ruben Herrera (student-Ruben), Raquel Garcia (student-Alondra), Frank Garcia (student-Sebastian) & Alicia Garcia (student-Michael); 7th Grade Representatives: LEAD-- Jenny Miller (student-Kaytlyn), Monica Gonzalez (student-Carolina), Melinda Espinoza (student-Jorge), Criselda Garcia (student-Cuauhtemoc Carrera), Blanca Moya (student-Hiram), Sandra Muñoz (student-Ximena) & Maribel Gallegos (student-America). We thank them very sincerely. PSTO has already started working on the upcoming events and are inviting everyone to get involved. The next monthly meeting will be held on October 17, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the library. For further information on PSTO, please contact Patricia Power at 381-5522 or patricia.power@stisd.net or

Vanessa Hamel, PSTO President, at vquerrahamel@yahoo.com.

Q1 Student Ambassadors

Congratulations to our new round of student ambassadors. These students were chosen to represent their specific team by being their voice and vote. Each team chooses two representatives which are recommended by the teachers. The ambassadors will be meeting with the principal to discuss issues and ideas to implement during their allotted time of leadership. The Q1 ambassadors are as follows: Team 71—Tyler J. Lanoue & Salome A. Gonzalez; Team 72—Emma Cantu & Vicente Mercado; Team 83—Daniela Albert & William Saucedo; Team 84—Ada Sadler & Michael Garcia

2017-2018 Yearbooks

Yearbooks are on sale for \$30.00 until October 20. After October 20 yearbooks will be \$35.00. Please visit www.jostensyearbooks.com to pre-order your copy. Search for our school by typing in South Texas Preparatory Academy. Ordering online is very easy and fast! You can also visit our school website at stpa.stisd.net or stop by room 108 or room 130. Checks must be made to STISD. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Alberto Gonzalez at alberto.gonzalez@stisd.net or Mrs. Laura Cavazos at laura.cavazos@stisd.net.

STPA'S FIRST FLEX DAY & PEP-RALLY

Enrichment Day

STPA's first Enrichment Day will be held on Friday, October 27, 2017. This is the second year STISD has made four enrichment days available to the campuses. Each campus has the flexibility to select what day each of the four enrichment days will be held and what activities will take place on those days. STPA has invit-

ed STISD faculty/students from our four high schools to visit STPA and speak to our 8th grade students about their programs on our first enrichment day. Parents are invited to visit STPA and listen to the high school presentations to help with their child's high school selection. STPA Volunteer parents will be speaking to the 7th grade students

about different careers. There will also be presentations by Richie Contartesi, Motivational Speaker, and Efrain Guerrero (Happy), Comedian, for both grade levels. Below is the schedule for the high school presentations for your records.
Med High-10:00-10:45 Cafeteria
Sci Tech-12:00-12:45 Gym
Med Academy-1:00-1:45 Gym

BETA-2:00-2:45 Gym

Academic Pep-Rally

Team 71 will be hosting the next Academic Pep-Rally scheduled for Friday, October 20, 2017 from 3:00-4:00. We invite all parents to come join us to celebrate the closing of the first 9-weeks. Visit our website for other upcoming events.

**Trip to Washington DC**

A group of eighth grade students and sponsors will be traveling to Washington D.C. from November 4-8. They will be enriching their studies of United States history by visiting Jamestown, Mount Vernon, Williamsburg, Capitol Hill, The Smithsonian Museums, and various monuments. They will be chaperoned by Ms. Ramirez, Mr. Leo, and Mrs. Castro.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is one of the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding middle school students. More than just an honor roll society, the NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1929.

To be eligible for membership consideration, a student must have a cumulative 1st semester grade average of a 89.5 or better. Additionally, potential members must demonstrate high standards of leadership, service, character, and citizen-

ship. Students will be invited to complete an application form to be considered for membership which must be turned in by the deadline. No extensions will be granted. This is the first indication of responsibility and accountability.

When considering candidates, character is looked at in terms of integrity, behavior, ethics, and cooperation with peers and faculty members. Any student who has had an in or out-of-school suspension or been assigned multiple detentions will be ineligible for membership. Once selected for membership, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

All of their qualifications will be

reviewed by our NJHS sponsors. They will make the final decision about who will be invited for induction into the NJHS. The NJHS sponsors also serve as the group who determines if a student should be dismissed because of a failure to meet any expectations in one of the five areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character, or Citizenship. The NJHS sponsors will make any decisions regarding acceptance, rejection, or dismissal.

Students will then receive an NJHS Induction ceremony invitation to be held on Tuesday, March 6th, at 6:00 p.m. in the school's gymnasium. It is MANDATORY for the student to be present to fulfill their induction process.

CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS & UIL

Clubs & Sponsors

The following is a list of the school clubs, & organizations with their respective sponsors. Visit our website for a detailed schedule of meeting days & listen to announcements.

Yearbook Club-A. Gonzalez & L. Cavazos

Student Council-D. Garcia & L. Bonura

Book Club-M. Sandoval

TSA Club-K. Starr & K. Kalata

STPA Mentors Club-J. Ramirez & A. Lira

Art Club-A. Cortez

P.E. Clubs-R. Muhammad, J. Rodriguez, G. Monteagudo, L. Bonura, A. Comple, & A. Medrano

NJHS-D. Garcia & R. Gill

Academic Spirit Club-Y. Magana & G. Monteagudo

Recycling Club-N. Maani

Garden Club-G. Campos

Music Club-Y. Jeter & R. Martinez

FCA-E. Figueroa

History Club-J. Ramirez & R. Leo

Video Game and Anime Club-C. Maldonado

Chess Club-A. Gonzalez & S. Gonzalez

VEX Robotics Club-K. Starr & A. Medrano

Community Service Club-D. Garcia & R. Gill

Weight Training Club-A. Comple & G. Monteagudo

W. Geo Club-A. Comple

Wellness Club-J. Rodriguez & R. Muhammad

Random Acts of Kindness-J. Rodriguez & R. Muhammad

Spelling Bee-A. Comple

UIL Events

UIL sponsors are planning on attending the events below during the first semester. Please keep in mind that this schedule is tentative and is subject to change. Each participant will receive an invitation letter at the time of the event.

October 21, 2017 Trevino M.S., La Joya

October 28, 2017 Barrientes M. S., Edinburg

November 4th, 2017 Yzaguirre M.S., San Juan

STPA - PSTO LOGO DESIGN CONTEST & CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER

Logo Design Contest

The STPA PSTO is looking for a talented STPA Student who can design and draw a special logo to help us celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of our school. This logo will be used to decorate many promotional items that will be used to show our pride in our school throughout the year. The winning entrant will receive \$25 in merchandise from the PSTO store and the pride of knowing that his or her design is going to be all around us, helping us to celebrate this special year. The contest begins today and will run until

Tuesday, October 10th at 4 PM. If you are interested in participating, stop by the Main Office and pick up a copy of the rules and guidelines. The PSTO is looking forward to seeing your amazing artwork!

Chipotle Fundraiser

STPA PSTO would also like to invite you to our fundraiser, which will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Chipotle Grill on 1620 West University Drive, Edinburg. Hope to see you there!

LOGO DESIGN CONTEST



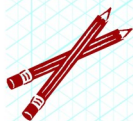
It's STPA's 10th anniversary and they need a commemorative logo

Are you up for the challenge?

Eligibility: All STPA Students

**Deadline: October 10th, 2017
at 4:00 PM**

**Prize: \$25.00 in merch from PSTO &
BRAGGING RIGHTS**



For guideline forms and to submit entries, please go by the STPA front office.

SCHOOL SPIRIT TASTES GREAT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support STPA Parent Student Teacher Organization. Come in to the Chipotle at **1620 West University Drive** in Edinburg on **Thursday, October 12th** between **5:00pm and 9:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to STPA Parent Student Teacher Organization.



If placing an order online during your fundraiser, please note you must choose the pay in-store option and inform our cashier of your participation before paying. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.