



The Spartan Messenger

STISD - STPA

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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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Happy New Year!

Welcome to a brand new year! We hope that your holiday time was relaxing and rewarding, and that you found time to concentrate on the important things: faith, family, and friends. As we begin the second semester and a new year, we would like to thank you for being part of the STPA community. We ask that you continue to encourage your children to do their best at everything they do. Our goal here is to inspire and enable the students to attain their highest potential through challenging and rewarding experiences.

Student Achievements

Perfect Attendance—A Great BIG CONGRATULATIONS to our Q2 9-Weeks Perfect Attendance students. Here are the grade level counts of student attendance recognitions:

7th Grade-140

8th grade-116

Remember, every class takes attendance, therefore if you're out one class period that is an absence already.



A & A/B Honor Roll—Here goes A BIG HIGH FIVE to those students who achieved an "A" in every class and A ROUND OF APPLAUSE for those students who also achieved an "A/B" on their Q2 9-Weeks.

ALL "A" HONOR ROLL-

116 students

7th grade-71

8th grade-45

"A/B" HONOR ROLL-

186 students

7th grade-90

8th grade-96

2018-2019 Enrollment

STPA's enrollment date will be Saturday, January, 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Please inform your family and friends or anyone interested in enrolling at STPA for 7th grade. There will be a limited number of 8th grade slots available for next year. Registration is strictly online at *stisd.net* and will end automatically when all slots are filled. Open pre-enrollment occurs on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please note that you will not be able to request a seat reservation before 9:00 a.m. on opening day; however you



can create your family profile now to cut down on the amount of information that has to be entered on Enrollment Day. All other STISD campuses will also be opening enrollment on Saturday, January 12 at 9:00 a.m.

Demographic Changes

As second semester begins in full swing we must ask parents to please report any address or phone number changes in writing to our office or you may make the changes on the Parent Portal under the Household Info tab. For security purposes, it is best we do not accept changes over the phone. It is very important that we have updated and currently active phone numbers for student emergency purposes. Our school tends to mail out Progress Reports, Report Cards and other important informational memos like this one. Thank you for your help.

ELA 8 Message

ELA 8 students will need to bring their own copy of the book, *Night*, by Elie Wiesel, for second semester. This information was posted on the course syllabus which students received at the beginning of the year.



STPA'S 1ST SEMESTER CONTRACT GUIDELINES

Now that the first semester is over, some students may have found themselves not in the passing range for a class or multiple classes, therefore STPA offers students the opportunity to help them bring up those failing grades to a passing point. The following is what is called a Student

Contract. Please read this carefully.

1. The student contracts are mandatory. Upon reviewing final grade sheets the administration must have a contract for all junior high school students, with a grade between 64.5 to 69.4, from their teachers for ALL their

classes (including electives). Teachers can provide contracts for students who fall below the grade range (at their discretion).

2. Should a student be successful in passing at semester, but failed the 2nd 9-week period, a teacher will issue a contract if the stu-

dent and/or parent requests for one, within a nine-week period.

3. If the student fails within contract range for the 2nd 9-weeks, but not the semester, a contract must be offered at teacher's discretion for 2nd 9-weeks or first semester.

UIL / CLUBS INFORMATION

**Academic Pep-Rally**

Team 72 will be hosting the next Academic Pep-Rally and it will be held on Friday, Jan. 18, 2019 from 3:00-4:00. We invite all parents to come join us to celebrate the closing of a great first semester, and the start of an exciting second semester.

Scripps National Spelling Bee

Mr. Alex Compe and Mrs. Vivian Galloso are sponsoring the Scripps National Spelling Bee this year. Study words are now available. Students who are interested in participating can still stop by room 106 for more information. Practices are held every Tuesday in Mr. Compe's room. The district competition will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at the STPA Romeo Villarreal Student Lounge starting at 6:00 pm. Students interested in competing should sign up at this time. One winner will advance to Regional competition which will be held on March 2, 2019 at STC in Weslaco. The champion of the Scripps RGV Regional Spelling Bee will win an all-expense

paid trip to compete in the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington DC in May.

Yearbooks—Parents and students, don't forget to order your 2018-19 yearbook! Visit www.jostensyearbooks.com to order yours today! Price is now \$35. If you have any questions please email Mr. A. Gonzalez or Mrs. L. Cavazos at alberto.gonzalez@stisd.net or laura.cavazos@stisd.net.

History Club—Enrollment for the History Travel Club will be opening soon. The History Travel Club is looking for 30 history-loving student candidates that will join us on a trip to visit historical sites in Washington, DC. in November. Candidates must meet certain criteria/requirements to be eligible. For more club infor-

mation, please contact Ms. Ramirez or Mr. Leo.

UIL Information—UIL students will be participating in the following events this coming semester:

Jan. 24- One Act Play Tech Rehearsal- Edinburg North HS

Jan. 26- One Act Play Competition-Edinburg North HS

Jan. 26- Irene Garcia M.S.-La Joya

Jan. 30- District Meet for Ready Writing & Spelling at STPA

Feb. 9- UIL District Meet at B.L. Garza MS-Edinburg

Chess Club—will be competing on Feb. 2nd at the STISD Chess Tournament in Science Academy; and at the area regionals championship on Feb. 8-10 in McAllen.

Student Council—will be selling after-school snacks to fundraise for 8th grade formal.

NJHS—There will be a meeting on Jan. 16, at 4:05 in the cafeteria.

LIBRARY & PSTO INFORMATION

Message from the Library—Congratulations to the 49 students who became Spartan Top Readers during the first semester. All students should continue to work on accumulating a word count of at least one million before the final deadline on April 2,

2019. Reading at least 30 minutes a day helps improve analytical thinking, vocabulary and writing skills.

PSTO Information—A special thank you to PSTO for sponsoring the staff Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 18th.

PSTO will be sponsoring a

recognition luncheon for the Spartan Olympics winners on Wednesday, Jan. 16th from 11:15 to 12:45. A representative from Rio Grande Children's Home will be presented with the donation check for the money collected from the 5K run/walk at that time.

At this time we are beginning the planning of activities for second semester. If you would like to be involved in the organization's plans, contact Ms. Patricia Power by phone at 956-381-5522, email at patricia.power@stisd.net.