

WILLIAM A. SHINE
GREAT NECK SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

341 Lakeville Road, Great Neck, New York 11020

*“Our Orange and Blue
starts with an Extraordinary You”*

Dr. Christopher Gitz, Principal
(516) 441-4800
cgitz@greatneck.k12.ny.us

August, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer and are ready to begin a new school year with renewed enthusiasm for engagement in our school and our community. Our school motto, “Our Orange and Blue starts with an Extraordinary You” reminds us all to remain focused on being our most extraordinary self in order to be successful academically and socially. I encourage you to keep our motto in mind and be the example for others to follow when you begin the school year. It is important for all of us to demonstrate kindness, compassion, and care to everyone in the South High community. Doing so will help South High to continue to be the great place that it always has been. The following information should ease the transition back to school when it opens on **Tuesday, September 5**. We will follow an “A” Day schedule. In addition, please urge your child to check their South High School email account regularly because we send a lot of information to students this way throughout the year. Students should use their school email account for anything school and/or college related. **Orientation & Walk Through for Grade 9 and New Students is on Wednesday, August 30 at 1:00 p.m. Please note this is a change from the printed calendar.**

SCHEDULES

Schedules will be available in the Campus Student Portal on the evening of **August 4**. We have done our best to provide your child with the courses they selected. Students may request a schedule change/correction phone meeting with a school counselor to address a scheduling error such as placement in an incorrect course or level not recommended based on school criteria, and other reasons as indicated in the link to the schedule change/correction form below. No other schedule changes will be permitted. If your child does not have a schedule, please contact our Guidance Office (441-4820). **New students will not see their schedule and will receive a call from our Guidance Office in two weeks to schedule an appointment with their school counselor.**

Appointments for schedule changes/corrections will be, by phone appointment only, on **Friday, August 25 through Tuesday, August 29**. To request a schedule change/correction phone appointment, students can complete the following form below using their **school email account**. Please read the form instructions thoroughly before submitting your schedule change/correction request. The deadline to submit a schedule change/correction request is **Friday, August 11**.

Request for schedule change/correction form: <https://forms.gle/mi6Wvhb2cqW88yaZ8>

Please note that appointments will only be made using this form. **Appointments will NOT be made over the phone.** Students will be limited to ONE appointment per student and only schedule changes/corrections will be addressed. Starting on or about **August 18**, an email will be sent out listing the phone appointments by Student Number as well as the name of the counselor. Your name will not appear on the appointment list.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

We are very proud of our athletic teams and we urge student participation in them as well as other activities. The tryout date for Fall Sports is **Monday, August 28 at 8:30 a.m. in the East Gym**. Please refer to the [Fall Sports Registration](#) form to sign up for and be cleared to participate in sports.

SENIOR PORTRAITS

Senior portraits will take place from **Tuesday, August 22 through Friday, August 25 in the auditorium**. All seniors will receive an appointment card from Island Photography prior to August 22. Make-up dates will be October 23 and October 24.

OPEN HOUSE

This year Open House will be held on **Thursday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m.** We are hoping that you will join us that evening and meet your child's teachers. Please try to arrive early and to carpool if possible, as parking is at a premium. Parents will follow an abbreviated version of their child's program. An important ENL meeting will take place prior to Open House, at 5:45 p.m. in room 210.

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

We encourage all parents to pay their PTO dues of **\$30** per family. The PTO is a vital part of our school community and contributes money to pay for many important programs that enhance our students' education and overall high school experience. You can pay your dues online with a credit card, debit card or PayPal account at <http://www.gnshs-pto.org/>. The website will give you more information about how you can get involved and what the PTO does for our school.

STUDENT ID CARDS

Students are provided with a laminated Student Identification Card with their picture affixed. In an effort to make our school as safe an environment as possible, we require our students to display their ID cards upon arrival to the building and to have them visible during the entire school day. Students will "tap in" upon arrival to the building. Having each student "tap in" enables our security staff to account for every student in the building and helps ensure that no students are here who do not belong.

As always, the safety of our students continues to be our priority. Please take a moment to review our [Morning Drop-Off /Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures](#) and our [Attendance Procedures](#) on the South High School website under the Quick Links tab - Letters from the Principal. Please be advised, period 1 begins at 7:59 a.m. every day. All students must be present in their period 1 class by 7:59 a.m. If not, they will be marked late. Please be reminded, if you do not inform the Attendance Office of your child's absence, lateness, or early dismissal, the classes they miss will be marked as an illegal absence and classified as cutting. Thank you for your attention to and your cooperation with our procedures.

I am very excited for the 2023-2024 school year to begin. We are committed to doing everything we can to continue to meet the needs of all of our students. I look forward to our collaboration in that effort. Please take a moment to look at our [South High Calendar](#) on the South High School website under the Calendars tab. It will give you an understanding of all the events going on at school. We urge you to participate in our events with your child.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher Gitz
Principal