

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 27, 2021

Dear South High Community,

We are excited to welcome all of our students back in-person to South High for the first day of school on September 1, 2021. This school year promises to be an exciting one as we progress towards a sense of normalcy for our students, faculty, staff, parents, and community. At South High we continue to prioritize the health and well-being of the South High community as we enter our second school year operating under special guidelines due to COVID-19.

Please be advised of the following guidelines in place:

- Face masks must be worn by all individuals inside school buildings, including classrooms and non-classroom settings.
- Individuals failing to comply with wearing a face mask will be considered insubordinate. Face masks are optional while outdoors.
- Daily temperature checks are no longer required for students and staff. Staff are no longer required to complete the COVID Attestation Form.
- Thorough cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing of classrooms, bathrooms, and frequently touched surfaces will occur during and after the school day and at night.
- Frequent hand-washing and respiratory hygiene will continue to be stressed among students and staff.
- Acceptable face masks include:
 - Disposable surgical masks.
 - Form-fitting cloth masks with two layers of densely woven material. Reusable face masks should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
 - A surgical N95 mask (also referred as a medical respirator) is recommended only for use by healthcare personnel.
- The CDC does not recommend using masks if they have a one-way valve or vent. These masks do not prevent spreading the virus to others.
- A face shield in lieu of a mask is NOT permitted. Wearing a face shield in addition to a mask is acceptable.
- Neck gators and bandanas are NOT permitted.
- Students will maintain six feet of distance during lunch.
- Students will eat in the cafeteria, outdoors, and in alternate locations.
- The school library will be available and students will be permitted to borrow materials/books.
- Lockers will not be available at this time. Locker use will be re-evaluated at the end of September/beginning of October.
- Extra-curricular programs including clubs, extra help, and competition teams will resume in accordance with health and safety protocols.
- Interscholastic athletics will continue to operate under guidelines from NYSPHSAA Section VIII and the Department of Health.

Please click on the following link for more information regarding contact tracing and quarantining:
[Reopening of Schools Update](#)

New Faculty and Staff

This year we welcome the following new faculty and staff to South High:

Cathy Bartley, Office Staff
Samantha Bindrim, Math
Chan Chen, World Language
Loriana Demirciyan, Science
Claire Dzwielwski, Study Center
Scott Eckers, Social Studies
Scott Feldman, Business/Technology
Laura Flores, Library/Staff Development
Catherine Leung, Science
Pamela Rodriguez, Math
Sarah Scala, Office Staff
Ilana Meredith Schikler, Performing Arts
Lindsay Schultz, Social Studies

Upcoming Events

- September 3: Club Fair
More information about the club fair will follow in the near future. The possibility exists that it may occur virtually.
- September 13 and 14: Photo Day for Grades 9-11
Students will be taking their photos during their English classes. A schedule listed by period and English teacher will be shared in the near future.
- September 14: Virtual Grade 12 College & Financial Aid Night at 6:00 p.m.
Our Guidance Department will share more information as we approach this event. Please note this is a change in date from the printed school calendar.
- September 30: Annual Open House
This will be a virtual event. As we approach this date more specific information related to this evening will be shared.

Please refer to our [South High Calendar](#) on the South High School website under the Calendars tab for more information about events going on at our school.

Student Information

As we prepare for the new school year, we are requesting your child's cell phone number so that we can contact them directly in the event of an emergency. This initiative is endorsed by the District Safety Committee and is a best practice for safety and security. Please click on the following link for instructions on how your child can update their contact information in the Campus Student Portal: [Campus Student Portal Instructions](#).

South High Table of Organization

Please take a moment to view our [South High Table of Organization](#). Should you have any questions or are seeking information about your student we are hopeful the table of organization will assist you. Please note the table of organization outlines duties for our building administrators and deans. If you have any

specific questions related to your child's teacher, class, and/or school work we encourage you to make initial contact with the classroom teacher and/or the department chairperson first. The table of organization will alleviate any confusion in regards to who to contact in order to obtain information and/or receive guidance for the continued success of our students.

We are hopeful that this school year will be a normal, exciting, and successful one. As a community we need to continue to follow all safety and health protocols:

WEAR OUR MASKS, WASH OUR HANDS, AND WATCH OUR DISTANCE.

Here's to having a great year - can't wait to see you on September 1!

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher Gitz
Principal