



# SOUTH AMBOY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



240 John Street, South Amboy, NJ | 732.525.2100 | www.sapublicschools.com

Volume 2 | Issue 6

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## ~QUICK LINKS~

- [District Website](#)
- [Genesis Parent Access](#)
- [ES Principal's Page](#)
- [MHS Principal's Page](#)
- [Athletic Schedules](#)
- [South Amboy PTO](#)

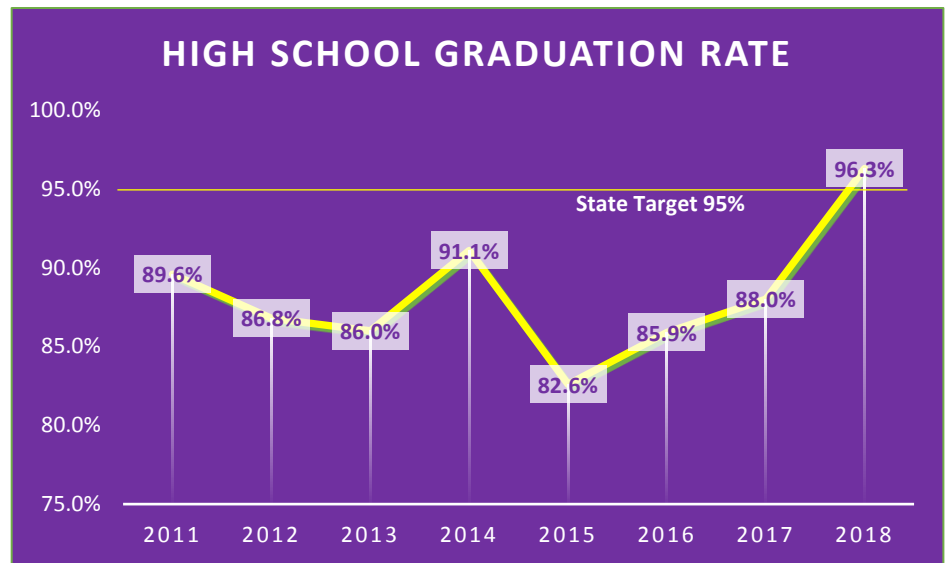


## Social Media:

District Twitter:  
@SAPublicSchools  
Superintendent Twitter:  
@SASuptJdiaz

Elementary Twitter: @SAES08879  
Athletics Twitter: @SAHSAthletics  
Instagram: @SAPublicSchools  
Facebook: SAPublicSchools

## Highest Graduation Rate in Nearly a Decade!

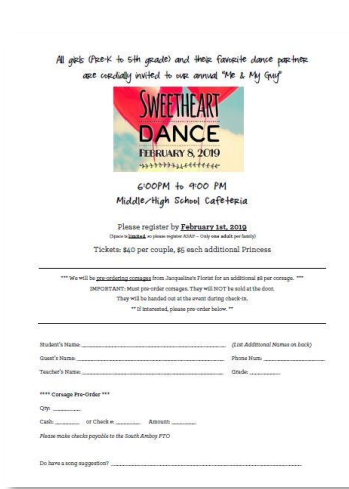


The Class of 2018 graduated 77 students representing 96.3% of the cohort graduating in 4 years. This is the highest graduation rate in nearly a decade at South Amboy High School. Eighty three percent (83%) of the graduating class is attending college, 11% went directly into the workforce, 1% joined the military, and 5% were undecided at the time of graduation.

Here's a list of the colleges our graduates are attending: Berkeley College, Bloomfield College, Brookdale Community College, Fairleigh Dickinson, Lehigh University, Middlesex County College, Monmouth University, Mount Saint Mary's University, Montclair State University, NJIT, Penn State, Pratt Institute, Princeton University, Rider University, Rowan University, Rutgers University, UCLA, Universal Technical Institute, University of Pennsylvania, West Virginia University and William Paterson University.

The graduation rate is an accountability indicator for all high schools and reported on the annual School Performance Report. The target rate is 95% for all New Jersey high schools. We are proud of our most recent achievement. While a few students can significantly affect our rate, we applaud the efforts of all stakeholders (admin, teachers, counselors, and parents) coming together to support and prepare our students for post-secondary life.

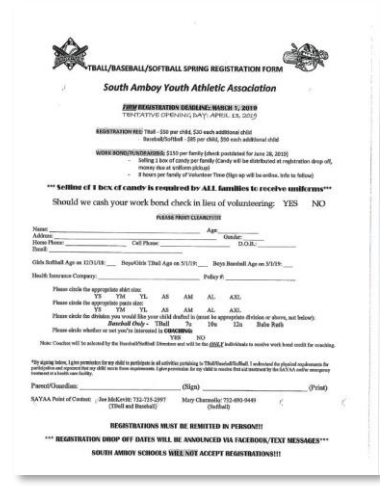
**Community Events:** (click on flyer to enlarge) *Disclaimer:* The following files are submitted to the South Amboy School District for publication and distribution as most of them benefit our community's children. HOWEVER, the South Amboy School District does not endorse any of the external activities related to the files. Prior to signing your child up for any of these activities, clubs, or events, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to determine the appropriateness of the event. We send this message as nothing more than a public service. Please select the link below to view further information on community activities. Links to our Partner websites can be found on the District website under About Us – [Our Partners](#)



**PTO (Me & My Guy Dance)**



**YMCA Lifeguard Certification Class**



**SAYAA T-Ball, Baseball, & Softball Registration**

The students of South Amboy will be getting new art supplies thanks to Board of Education member John Dragotta. At a NJ School Board Association event this past fall, Mr. Dragotta entered a raffle at the *CREATE* booth sponsored by MagnaCare and won a donation of \$500. On January 16, Tom Malczewski of MagnaCare presented the check, which will be split between the M/HS and Elementary Art Departments. The artists of South Amboy Schools are very grateful. Pictured to the right: Business Administrator Peter Frascella, Principal Dr. Patrick McCabe, Magnacare representative Tom Malczewski, Board Member John Dragotta, Elementary Art Teacher Georgann



Tice, Elementary Principal Sean Dunphy, and Middle High School Art Teacher Colleen Palmeri. Pictured below: Elementary students and members of the High School National Art Honor Society.



# MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By Dr. Patrick McCabe, Principal

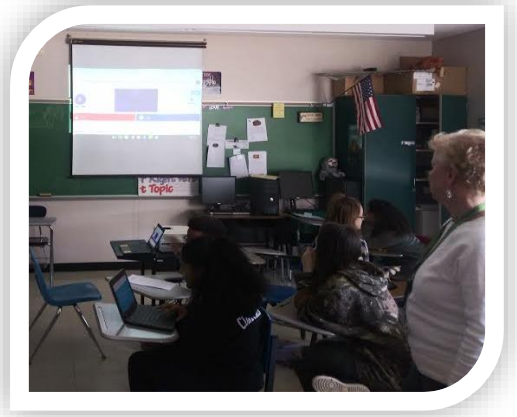
## Students of the Month for January

- Throughout the school year, the Middle/High School teaching staff nominates students. The nominations are based on character, school spirit, and academic integrity. For January, we are happy to announce our winners. Pictured from left to right: Principal - Dr. Patrick McCabe, and Middle School students: Grade 6 – C. Muniz, Grade 7- V. Myers , Grade 8 –M. Alisa , and High School students: T. Roessle and J. Morales.



## Olweus Anti Bullying Class Meetings were held on January 31<sup>st</sup>

- On Thursday, 1/31/19, all students participated in a bullying/cyber bullying education program. Students were shown videos illustrating the dangers of cyber bullying. Students also played a game that asked multiple choice questions related to bullying and cyber bullying. The purpose of the program is to illustrate the seriousness of bullying/cyber bullying, the consequences, and the effect these actions have on others.



## The Consumer Bowl was a Hit!

- Our high school team went up against two other schools, Monroe Township High School and Middlesex Science Academy. Our team, especially for our first ever competition, fared well. Our students took second in the competition. Next year we look to have the trophy be ours. We already have students volunteering!



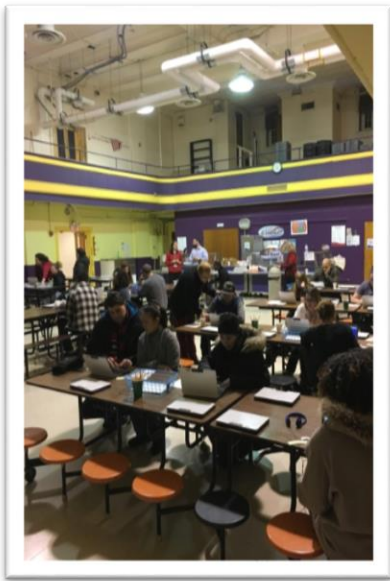
**Media Center Updates:** What's been happening this month in the Media Center? Here's a link to Mrs. Quinn's report for January. [Media Report](#)



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By Sean Dunphy, Principal

- Our Footprints for Life program in grade 2 began last week. This course reinforces character education.
- We had NJKEA Gold continue training with our Kindergarten teachers on assessment in the Kindergarten classrooms.
- Our teaching staff members received professional development from our Ready Math representative; We look forward to more opportunities with him in the coming months.
- SAES conducted a parent math night. With the assistance of six staff members, Carrie Kenny, Michelle Buchanan, Joy LaVigne, Kerry Schaefer, Lauryn Kipper, and Eileen DeSouza, we hosted 28 parents, and had the following presentation: [Parent Math Night Presentation](#). Parents were able to sample a diagnostic test, watch a few videos, and get some general information on our Ready Math Program. Our representative from Curriculum Associates was there to assist as well. This was also a coordinated effort with Ms. Kovacs at the Middle High School who had a few National Honor Society students provide childcare for parents attending the presentation.



- Some of our teacher leaders provided professional development to our new staff on assessing student reading levels using the Fountas and Pinnell leveling system.



## ATHLETICS:

By Frank Zalocki, Athletic Director

Boys Varsity Basketball		
Date	Wins	Loses
Record as of 01-30-19	8	10

- We have suffered a couple of tough losses over the last week. We dropped tough ones to Timothy Christian (62-54), Calvary Christian (45-44) and Academy of Urban Leadership (72-62). During that stretch, Josh Jimenez has played very well on both ends of the floor. He has had games of 5,13,10 points during that stretch. Kyle Gasiewski had games of 19, 12, 27 points during that time as well. We are looking to bounce back strong against a couple of tough opponents in Dunellen and Highland Park later this week.

Girls Varsity Basketball		
Date	Wins	Loses
Record as of 01-30-19	4	14

- Julie Olivieri had a triple double with 14 points, 15 rebounds and 10 blocks to help lead South Amboy with a win over Woodbridge Academy 55-48. Faith Nemeth scored 16 points along with 11 rebounds. Alexis Calisti chipped in with 15 points, 7 rebounds, 3 assists, and 3 steals. A great team effort by all players that helped contribute to the win.

JV Boys Basketball		
Date	Wins	Loses
Record as of 01-30-19	3	9

- We were able to pick up our third win of the season over the past week. Mike Ajilowura owned the offensive glass and finished the game with 13 rebounds and 15 pts. to help us secure a hard fought win against Calvary Christian (46-36). Casey Fenton continues to grow as an all-around player. Along with his constant defensive pressure, he was able to pick up 8 pts. in an all-around efficient effort in the win. With continued leadership from our floor general, Jayden Tortorello, we look to move forward and try to pick up two more wins this week.

Boys MS Basketball		
Date	Wins	Loses
Record as of 01-30-19	1	6

- While playing against Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Jake Rinkus was able to make an impact on the game. Once Jake established a presence in the post, the other team had to double-team him. Because of that, Jake was able to open up jumpers for his teammates.

Girls MS Basketball		
Date	Wins	Loses
Record as of 01-30-19	8	2

- We lost to undefeated Thomas Jefferson on Friday 1/25 46-38, but look to rebound against Herbert Hoover

**BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL SENIOR NIGHT (1/25/19)**

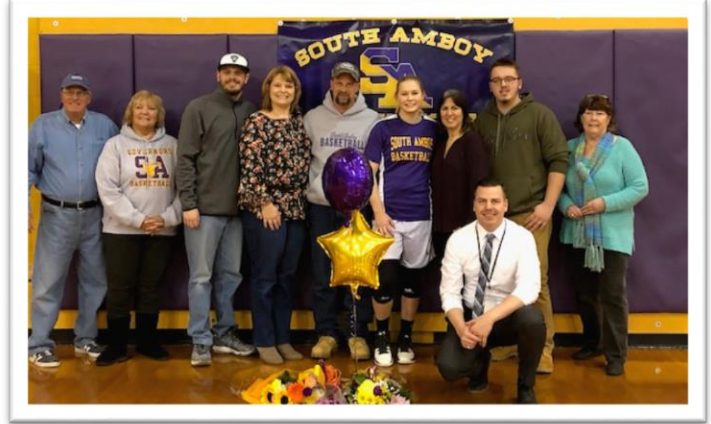


**Seniors:**

- J. McCleery
- K. Gasiewski
- C. Gonzalez
- S. McLaughlin
- S. Pena

Pictured with family members, Athletic Director Frank Zalocki, and Coach Mathew Waiter

## GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL SENIOR NIGHT (2/1/19)



Seniors K. Mihalecko, A. Calisti, R. Piazzolla, J. Olivieri pictured with family members, Athletic Director Frank Zalocki, and Coach Linda Lewis.

For athletics schedules, please visit:

<https://www.greatermiddlesexconference.org/public/genie/343/school/27/>

# PTO

The purpose of the South Amboy PTO is to strengthen the relationship between home and school, so that parents and teachers may work together for the success in the education of children at our schools. Our group helps the staff and students of our district by raising funds to provide technology and supplies needed, and has events to promote family unity.



If you're interested in helping with various activities such as a Fun Day committee, box top counters, and monthly birthday ice cream coverage. Please email a letter of interest to [sapto08879@gmail.com](mailto:sapto08879@gmail.com).

For upcoming Events, please visit our [website](#).

For more information on our PTO, please email us at [SAPTO08879@gmail.com](mailto:SAPTO08879@gmail.com)

## District Events/Activities

Date	Time	Description
2/8/19	----	PTO: Me and My Guy Dance (ES)
2/13/19	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	MHS Parent Teacher Conferences
2/14/19	1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	MHS Parent Teacher Conferences
2/25/19	6:00 p.m.	BOE Public Meeting
3/5/19		Short Session for Students Staff In-Service
3/8/19	----	PTO: Mother Son Dance (ES)
3/14/19	6:00pm-8:00pm	Middle School St. Patrick's Day Dance

MHS = Middle High School  
ES = Elementary School