



Middle School Student Services News

South County Secondary School

Spring 2011

Student Services Department

Kathy Reese

Director of Student Services
703-446-1643



Bernadette Angelo

Student Information Assistant
703-446-1640

Layla Gorman

Parent Liaison
703-446-1703

Ed Grady

Testing Coordinator

Cheryl Taranto

Student Services Assistant

School Counselors

Rachel Emmer

The Dream Team (7) and Team Java (8)
703-446-1705

Susan Martinez

Navigators (7) and The Routers (8)
703-446-1706

Nicole Shaw

Voyagers (7) and Fusion (8)
703-446-1704



Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.

Nido Qubein

A Note from the Director of Student Services

Kathy A. Reese

Congratulations to our over 300 middle school scholars who made the third quarter honor roll! We are so very proud of your achievement. As we move toward the end of the 2010-2011 school year and enter the Spring SOL testing season, it is imperative that we remind our students to remain focused on completing their academic responsibilities. Parents, please assist us by ensuring that students are in school on time and ready to give their very best effort in all their endeavors.

In the mailing for third quarter interims, the Student Services Department sent letters to parents of students who were in jeopardy of failing one or more core subjects. In this mailing, in addition to 4th quarter interims, we have included a Student's Intention Form for the next school year, a verification sheet listing student's course selections for the 2011-2012 school year, and the FCPS/SCSS Middle School Student Placement Policy (promotion policy), which includes information about the summer intervention program for middle school students. Please review this information as you review the fourth quarter interim, and contact your student's teacher(s) regarding concerns about student progress.

Students invited to participate in the middle school summer intervention program at SCSS will receive detailed information later in the quarter. We encourage students to continue to use the opportunities for intervention that are available during the school day. These include Flex, Lunch and Learn, and after school time with teachers.

Again, it is vital that students remain focused and consistently attend school to receive the direct instruction essential for success. The partnership between home and school will continue to be the catalyst for ensuring this success. Thank you to our families for helping us keep this partnership strong. "Our Strength is in Our Connection."



IMPORTANT DATES

3rd Quarter Honor Roll (certificates distributed through classrooms)	4/26
4th Quarter Interims mailed home	5/16
MS SOL Window Begins	5/16
Two Hour Early Dismissal	5/27
Memorial Day Holiday	5/30
8th Grade Graduation Dance 6:30 pm—Cafeteria	6/3
Last Late Bus Day	6/9
MS Awards Assembly 7:40 am –Auditorium	6/10
Last Day of School for:	
Students	6/21
Teachers	6/22
Counselors	6/28
4th Quarter Report Cards Mailed Home	6/28
“Jump Start” 8:00 am—12:00 pm (See SCSS website for details)	8/22-8/25



Late buses are available every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday (depart SCSS at 3:40 pm on Mon. and 4:20 pm on Wed. and Thurs.) to take students home from staff-supervised after-school activities.

MAY SOL TESTING

The administration of the Spring SOL tests will begin on May 17. All tests will be administered online.

Testing Schedule:

5/17—Reading 7, Civics 8	5/20—Math 7, Math 8 (Math 7 Honors Students), Science 8
5/18—Reading 8, US History 7	5/23 & 5/24 - Algebra II & Geometry
5/19—Math 8	5/25—Algebra 1

Resources for SOL Prep:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/index.shtml> (Released SOL tests)

<http://education.jlab.org/solquiz/index.html>

SOL Practice Tests for Math 7, Math 8, Science 8, and Algebra I & II

<http://www.iq.poquoson.org/>

Released SOL Tests for English, math and social studies

Strategies for Success in the 4th Quarter

STUDENTS

- Record assignments daily in agenda
- Have homework entries in agenda initialed by teachers
- Ask questions and participate responsibly in classes
- Complete homework nightly
- Study for quizzes and tests
- Turn in all work on time
- Fully utilize Flex Periods
- Stay after school at least one day per week for extra assistance
- Ask for help when needed

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Convey high expectations
- Create and implement incentives to ensure homework completion
- Provide a schedule and space for completing homework/studying
- Review homework and initial homework entries in agenda when all work is completed
- Help child organize notebooks, backpack and locker
- Sign and return progress reports

Students—Please use all the resources available to you here at South County to ensure you earn the highest grades possible for the 4th quarter. If you need additional help to do your best these next few weeks, ask your teachers and counselors for assistance; we are here to help you succeed.

Exam Schedule

Wednesday, June 15—1st & 2nd pd Exams	Students dismissed at 10:45
Thursday, June 16— 3rd & 4th pd Exams	Students dismissed at 10:45
Friday, June 17—5th & 6th pd Exams	Students dismissed at 10:45
Monday, June 20—7th pd Exam (After exam students attend periods 1, 2 & 3.)	Students dismissed at 10:45
Tuesday, June 21—Last day for students (Students attend periods 4, 5, 6 & 7.)	Dismissal at 10:00 am Buses depart at 10:10 am

