



Principal's October Newsletter

Rotary Student of the Month

Congratulations to Kati Davis who was chosen as the Rotary Student of the Month for September. Kati is an Honor student and currently a senior at Suffield High School. Kati has received various awards over the years such as the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, Awards in Social Studies, World Language and Life Education, as well as the University of Rochester's Young Leaders Award. She has been recognized for Academic Excellence, and has received several Scholar/Athlete Awards for achieving academic excellence while participating in Athletics. Kati has been a member of the Varsity Girls' Soccer Team for four years and is currently one of the Co-Captains. Kati has also been involved with Track and Field for several years, and has qualified for the NCCC Track meet in the 100 and 400 meter dash. Kati traveled to Sweden for a two-week trip in 2017 to compete in the Gothia Cup (the youth world cup).

Kati is a leader among her peers and has exhibited her leadership by being member of Class Council and Treasurer for the Class of 2020 in both her junior and senior year. She has helped plan activities such as the booth at Suffield on the Green, Class Skit for Spirit Night, the AP/SAT Celebration Day and planning for the Prom. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has helped to plan the Volleyball Marathon. She has participated in community events such as river and community cleanups, Readers for Leaders and Blood Drives. Kati is a member of the Interact Club and also participates in the Chick-Fil-A Leadership Academy where she helped to organize the Dustin Doyon Road Race. She has also volunteered for the Foundation for Exceptional Children of Suffield.

In her spare time, Kati is a US Soccer Referee and babysits when she can. Kati has also been a waitress at Suffield by the River and is currently an Intern at a doctor's office in Enfield.

Based on Kati's impressive resume, there is no doubt why she was chosen as the Rotary Student of the Month for September. Congratulations Kati!!



Kati Davis

Farmington Valley Superintendent's Student Award

Kati Davis has also been chosen to represent Suffield High School at the Farmington Valley Superintendents' Association Luncheon on November 8th. This award is based on Kati's community service and service to others, academic achievement and leadership service to the school community. Congratulations Kati!

Athletic News

The Raiders Football team has been working extremely hard in the preseason, showing strong leadership and vast potential. The Raiders performed well in both scrimmages having strong offensive and defensive performances. Matt Raine, Joe Puia, and Jaden Joaquin are the captains representing Suffield. Raiders' record stands at 1-1, losing to Rockville and defeating Gilbert, as they venture to Coventry for their third contest.

The Suffield Girls' swim team has displayed senior leadership through captains Lily Rzecinski, Avery Martin and Angela Jiang. They will keep working as October is a busy month for meets as they strive to accomplish their goals.

The Field Hockey Team is off to a great start. Despite losing 8 seniors, they are 3-0 in the conference and 3-1 overall. The team is continuing to improve and they are looking forward to the rest of their season.



The Kindness Crew

Suffield High School's Kindness Crew is starting its fourth year! We started with a few simple acts of kindness, but grew over the years. We have volunteered for Fidelco Guide Dogs, Hometown Support, WillPower for Change, Dakin Humane Society, creating baskets for senior shut-ins, Mary's Pace for grieving children, The Network for abused women and children, The Epilepsy Foundation, Toys for Tots, The Emergency Aid Foundation, creating a PSA for the "22 is Too Many" campaign and at the end of each year, recognizing every member of our staff.

This year, the Kindness Crew decided that working with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute along with the Jimmy Fund would be the best possible choice to raise and donate as much as we can for cancer research. Cancer has affected so many of our lives in one way or another.

"Dana-Farber provides expert, compassionate care to children and adults and is home to groundbreaking cancer discoveries. Since its founding in 1948, the Jimmy Fund has raised millions of dollars through thousands of community efforts to advance Dana-Farber's lifesaving mission." LET'S JOIN AND BE A PART OF THIS FANTASTIC CAUSE!

We will be holding a raffle during parent-teacher conferences (November 13-15) and the first week of December for the students.

The Kindness Crew started because of this one picture. Students had to write what they saw in this picture, and then their teacher told them the true story. Braelyn had Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and a photographer volunteered his time to superimpose her into her fantasy. Students began asking to do kind acts as a group! Hence – SHS Kindness Crew! Let's make this the BEST year ever!



If you wish to donate an item or gift card to be raffled – please send them in to room 214 or to the Main Office – Attention: Kindness Crew



This year we would like to sell t-shirts throughout our entire school system. Funds from this sale will be split among all the participating schools. LET'S SCATTER KINDNESS LIKE CONFETTI!!

We would also like everyone to wear their shirts on November 13, 2019 - World Kindness Day!

Shirts can be delivered directly to your home, for an extra fee or sent directly to the high school, free of charge. From there, we will separate them and bring them to the appropriate schools to disperse them! Below is the link if you would like to purchase a shirt.

Link - <https://customink.com/fundraising/suffield-public-schools-wildcat-kindness>



Media Center News

Exciting news! Our library media center has a new [webpage](https://shs.suffield.org/departments/library-media-center)! It is loaded with information! You can check out which books are flying off the shelves or some of the new titles coming soon. You can search our catalog, get info on our databases, tips on how to conduct research, or when to access SWAT. Just click on <https://shs.suffield.org/departments/library-media-center>.

Band to the Big E

"The SHS braved the elements and enjoyed a fun day and fine parade at the Big E on Thursday Sept. 26. It rained a bit, but we were able to adjust and perform for some large crowds at the fair. The students did a great job."



Voter Registration at SHS

Suffield High School held a Voter Registration Session on Tuesday, October 1st during all three lunch waves. We want students to let their voices be heard and to know that every vote counts. Students who turn 18 years old by November 5th may register to vote in the upcoming municipal election. Elections have been won by a difference of only one vote and each vote could make a difference.



Shoprite for Education

Shop at ShopRite to help our school earn free classroom equipment! Please link your PricePlus Club Card to our school code (Code 50196). Each time you shop, our school will earn points towards free classroom equipment, all donated by our local ShopRite.

Enroll your card at www.shopriteforeducation.com to our school code **50196**. Thank you!

PSAT's

The 2019 Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) will be administered during the school day on Wednesday, October 16th to all 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students. The test will begin promptly at 7:25am and is free of charge. The test is co-sponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation and is an important step in making college plans. All 12th grade students will be required to arrive at school for the senior group picture at 11:00am. A regular class schedule will begin at 11:05 with periods 4 (lunch), Period 1, and Period 2 classes meeting during the remainder of the day.

College Fair-October 24, 2019

The SHS Guidance Department will host a College Fair on Thursday, October 24th from 12:50 PM – 2:00 PM in the gymnasium. Approximately 140 college representatives, as well as representatives from many technical schools and the military, will be present to talk with students and their parents about their institution's programs and options for post-graduate study. This is a great opportunity for both students and parents to learn more about some of the many college programs, find out about admission requirements, and ask specific questions. All students will be provided time to attend the college fair and parents are encouraged to attend. We look forward to seeing you at the College Fair on Thursday, October 24th.

Murals Created by the Art Club

We have a new mural in our 400 hallway. It was a joint effort between our Art Teacher, Tim Kudrle and the Best Buddies Club, which resulted in more great art and a true sense of inclusivity in our school.



Veterans Day is fast approaching!

The Social Studies Department is looking for veterans to speak briefly to classes about their experiences within the military. Also, this year we would like to honor our veterans by having a small Veterans Day Brunch during Wildcat Time. If you know of any veterans that you would like to invite in, please let your Social Studies teacher know **ASAP**.

Robotics Team

The Suffield High/Windsor Locks High Robotics Team, known as ACES HIGH 176 made a trip to Detroit, MI at the end of the last school year to compete in the Worlds Robotics Competition. Only the top teams in the WORLD are invited to this four-day competition. Our high school team made it there thanks to the first and second place finishes at two regional competitions and a second place finish at the New England Championships. At a robotics competition, each team works as an alliance with two other teams. Points are awarded to the alliance as well as to the individual team based on performance. The ACES High team faced every match competitively and overall finished the qualifying matches in second place! In the championship round, our alliance faced some stiff competition. Even though we did not win the overall competition, we performed very well and proved that the SHS/WLHS was a team to be reckoned with. ACES HIGH 176 was also awarded the Industrial Design Award at the World Championships. Not a bad season for ACES HIGH 176 when you are competing with over 2000 teams in the world!!!



Picture Make-Up Day

Picture Make-Up Day will be on October 15th for any students in Grades 9-11 who have not yet had their picture taken or who require a retake. Grynn & Barrett will set up in the Auditorium.

Alumni News-by Dan Gatto

Nolan McCoy is a 2014 graduate of Suffield High School. He was captain of the basketball team in 2013 and 2014. To make a long story short, this kid is doing some outstandingly inspirational work. He graduated from Northeastern last year, and after that he did some community work in South Africa for eight months. He is now about to head to Rwanda for a year. This trip to Rwanda is a fellowship for an organization called Shooting Touch. It is very competitive job to get and he interviewed, applied and got the job. This is the link to his application video, which is amazing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1neA1Tuhdo>. Nolan will be there for one year at minimum, working to grow the community into a better place through teaching basketball and life skills. He will be the head of the organization in Rwanda for this time. The program has been going on for seven years and all seven of the previous fellows ended up working in connection with the NBA somehow, which is Nolan's ultimate goal. Here is a link to the Rwanda fellowship program, <http://www.shootingtouch.com/rwanda>. Nolan will be leaving next week and I will be keeping up with his experience through the blog that he will keep. I will also be sending him a list of questions to answer about his past, present and future experiences. I have attached a picture of current Nolan from when he and I got together yesterday (Wednesday). I attach this because those that remember Nolan might not recognize him now, with the long hair. Nolan is doing truly inspirational work! He is just a special kid; one of Suffield's "All Time Greats"!



Fall Drama Production-December 5, 6 & 7th

This fall, the Suffield High School drama program is taking on an exciting challenge: mounting an original musical production, *BFF*, which revolves around a network of high school friends and whose drama is driven by issues and struggles that people of all ages face today. It's about friendship, social pressures, truth and lies, settling scores, digital media, manipulation, and much more. This also includes falling in love — taking a leap of faith and trust in today's perilous times. *BFF* is a production that has been described as featuring "a beautifully melodic score, pointed and poignant lyrics, contemporary dialogue, action, intense drama and comedic moments, and more," and it will be highlighting dozens of our talented actors, singers, and dancers from Suffield High School.

The drama of *BFF* is driven by a complexly evolving bullying story that draws in several groups of friends and poses tough questions about how we treat others, face crises together, and can find the strength to face the anxieties and conflicts that are so common in our times. The rise of issues related to power, gender identity, coercion, and relationship violence make the central themes of *BFF* forcefully relevant to our cast and production team. The play features a core of strong female characters and a lead who takes dramatic action — akin to a DIY superhero — to right wrongs she sees taking place around her. The show is energized by contemporary songs that range from feet pumping dance numbers to touching ballads to dramatic musical numbers, including such titles as "Beacon," "Sup," "Bully Fighter Forever," "I'm Not Interested," "A Real Sunset," "Your New Best Friend," "What Do They Want?" and "You and Me and We."

There are many exciting cutting-edge approaches to the staging of the play that reflect the role of social media in our lives, from the use of projected images and texts to multiple settings across the stage linked through digital communication. Numerous staff members from various departments are working together collaboratively to produce this work under the leadership of director Carl Casinghino, technical director Joe Grimard, and music director Josh Karam (an alumnus of SHS and recent grad of Hartt's music theatre program). The production will have its premiere run on December 5, 6, and 7 of this year (Thursday through Saturday shows). Stay tuned for more info and highlights this fall from SHS Drama Club on district sites and social media!

Unity Day – Courtesy- by Nikki Lengyel

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. According to the 2017 Youth Assessment Survey that was completed by Suffield students grades 7-12, 5.3% of students stated that in the past year they bullied someone with the idea of hurting someone else's feelings.

Unfortunately, bullying happens every day whether it be in person or electronically via texts, social media, etc. Suffield High School is partnering with Suffield Youth Services to stand up to bullying. This year SHS and Suffield Youth Services will be celebrating Unity Day. Unity Day has been named by Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center and it will take place this year on October 23rd. This is their signature event; "a day to wear and share orange uniting for kindness, acceptance and inclusion." On October 23rd, teachers, staff and administration will be sporting orange Unity t-shirts in support of creating a school climate that encompasses more acceptance and inclusion. We invite all students to join us and wear orange on October 23rd as well! Help to make SHS bully free!

