

Vol. 3  
9.23.19

# The Eagle Eye

## Sebastian Middle School

Build your Mind, Explore your World, Create your Future

### Principal's Message

Dear Eagle Families,

I am excited to announce that our Greenhouse has arrived and is now mid-construction. I cannot wait to see our students engage in the plethora of hands-on learning opportunities this will present. As we move forward with our project based learning, students were busy last week selecting their Inquiry Hour project areas, and will meet with teachers every Wednesday to work on their projects. These opportunities are based in one of our three grade specific themes for the semester, and require a final product that will utilize the arts, math, science or technology. An Exhibition will be held on campus on Wednesday, November 20 from 8:00-11:00am, and the community is invited to view some of our final student products at that time.

Please be sure to keep checking our website for information regarding events and opportunities to get involved. You can also engage with your student's learning by reviewing assignments in Schoology. I also invite you to come out and support our Boys and Girls Volleyball teams this season as they proudly represent our school. Go Eagles!

Thank you as always for your support.

Sincerely,

Kirstie Gabaldon  
Principal

### Attention 8th Grade Parents!

Washington DC Trip Registration Forms and Deposits are due by Thursday, September 26. Register online at <https://trips.touropspro.com/>. Registration code: SMS2020DC.

Sebastian Middle School  
2955 Lewis Speedway  
St. Augustine, FL  
32084

Phone: 904.547.3840  
Fax: 904.547.3845  
[www.sms.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.sms.stjohns.k12.fl.us)



Kirstie Gabaldon, Principal  
Angela Hensley, Asst. Principal

Matt Hodges, Instructional Literacy Coach  
Kevin Hayes, Dean of Students

Leanne Fortune, Guidance Grade 8 / 7 A-L  
Darren Tagliarini, Guidance Grade 6 / 7 M-Z

### Important Dates

#### September 26

Volleyball vs. Patriot Oaks @ SMS, 5:30 Girls/6:30 Boys  
8th Grade DC Trip Registration and Deposits Due

#### October 1

Volleyball vs. Landrum @ SMS, 5:30 Girls/6:30 Boys  
YMCA Afterschool Program Begins, Tues/Wed/Thurs until 4:30pm

#### October 8

PTO Meeting, 7:45am @ SMS

### Having Issues Accessing Schoology?

If you or your students are having issues logging into Schoology from home, please follow these instructions. Chrome is the recommended browser for Schoology:

1. Clear all your browsing data before you enter any URL using Ctrl+Shift+Delete. Make sure you change it to clear data "From All Time."

2. Copy and paste the following URL into the address bar on chrome: <http://stjohnsschools.schoology.com>

Enter this as the email address: sXXXXXX@stjohns.k12.fl.us (X's being the student ID number) and click next.

3. A second login box will appear. Use the username and password from school (no stjohns.k12.fl.us necessary). You should successfully be logged in at this point.

4. If you receive an error, please take a screenshot of the error by pressing the PrtSc button on your keyboard and paste it into an email addressed to Robert.Raimann@stjohns.k12.fl.us.



## Service Learning at SMS: Supply Drive for the Bahamas through 10/4

Upon returning to school following Hurricane Dorian, our students were relieved that our community was spared but worried about those in the Bahamas who were hit the hardest. Having experienced flooding and devastation caused by previous hurricanes in recent years, our students know first-hand the needs that families can face following such a storm. Students in Ms. Torboli's Learning Strategies classes have spent the last couple of weeks researching needs in the Bahamas. Based on their research, they are launching a collection drive for the following most-needed supplies:

- Cleaning supplies
- Clothing (new socks and underwear in particular)
- Jugs of water
- Baby food
- Canned food

Please bring to your donations to your homeroom class through Friday, October 4. Thank you for your support!



## New Eagle Spotlight: Ralin Trosclair! Interventionist/Electives, WEB Teacher, Jr. Thespians Sponsor

I was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and aside from a 7-year period living back in Louisiana, I have lived in Duval County for over 26 years. I graduated from Flagler College and have a masters degree from the University of North Florida. I worked for 7 years in Louisiana before returning to Northeast FL. I've taught in Clay County and for the past 8 years at a charter school in Duval before coming to SMS this year. My family and I love to play different kinds of board games together. I also love all things Harry Potter and Disney. I am excited to be an Eagle because of all the wonderful things going on at SMS including Eagle Hour, TV Production, STEM projects, Orchestra, Art, and DRAMA!

## Thanks to our Generous Business Partners in Education!

The PTO extends a heartfelt thanks to the following businesses who have joined SMS in the past two weeks as Partners in Education:

### Principal's Partner (\$1,000+)

Green Light Group Tours

### Eagle Partner (\$500+)

Britt Haslett, Bridge City Real Estate Co.

### Blue Partner (\$250+)

Photos by Rob Futrell

### Red Partner (\$100+)

Ripple Effect EcoTours

If you own, work for, or frequent a local business and would like to see them added to this list, please click [here](#) to download a registration form and additional info!



## The SMS PTO Needs YOU!

The PTO invites your help this fall with two opportunities to volunteer at SMS:

Volleyball Concessions—Volunteers are needed during home games to sell concessions. Set up begins at 5:00pm and break-down concludes by 8:00pm. Sign up for one or both shifts per game by clicking [here](#).

Eagle Store—Volunteers are needed to help staff the Eagle Store, which the PTO runs as part of the school-wide Positive Behavior Incentive System (PBIS). Students spend points earned on school supplies and other fun items. The Store is open approximately one Friday per month. Click [here](#) to view the dates and to sign up!



## Fall Sports & Activities Calendar

- ◆ Sep 24—Volleyball vs. Pacetti Bay @ PBMS
- ◆ Sep 25—Football vs. Pacetti Bay, 5:00pm @ PBMS
- ◆ Sep 26—Volleyball vs. Patriot Oaks @ SMS
- ◆ Sep 27—Cross Country Meet, 5:00pm @ Episcopal School, 4455 Atlantic Blvd, Jacksonville
- ◆ Oct 1—Volleyball vs. Landrum @ SMS
- ◆ Oct 2—Football vs. Landrum, 5:00pm @ Cornerstone Park, 1046 Florida AIA, Ponte Vedra
- ◆ Oct 3—Student Council Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Room E-440.
- ◆ Oct 3—Volleyball vs. Fruit Cove @ FCMS
- ◆ Oct 8—PTO Meeting, 7:45am @ SMS
- ◆ Oct 8—Volleyball vs. Liberty Pines Academy @ LPA
- ◆ Oct 9—Football vs. Valley Ridge, 5:00pm @ Pomar Park
- ◆ Oct 9—Cross Country Meet, 5:00pm @ Gamble Rogers
- ◆ Oct 10—Volleyball vs. Murray @ SMS

- ◆ Oct 11—First Quarter Ends
- ◆ **Oct 14—Hurricane Make-Up Day/School in Session**
- ◆ Oct 15—SAC Meeting, 2:00pm
- ◆ Oct 15—Volleyball vs. Valley Ridge Academy @ VRA
- ◆ Oct 16—Football vs. Patriot Oaks, 5:00pm @ Pomar Park
- ◆ Oct 17—Volleyball vs. Mill Creek Academy @ SMS
- ◆ Oct 22—Volleyball vs. Palm Valley Academy @ PVA
- ◆ Oct 12—First Quarter Ends
- ◆ Oct 15—Teacher Planning Day/Student Holiday
- ◆ Oct 17—Football vs. Swiss Point @ Pomar Park
- ◆ Oct 29—First Quarter Report Cards posted in HAC
- ◆ Nov 7—Growth Mindset Parent Training, 6:00-7:30pm @ SMS
- ◆ Nov 20—Exhibition Event, 8:00-11:00am @ SMS
- ◆ Nov 21—PTO Dodgeball Tournament, 6:00pm @ SMS

*Note: All Volleyball Games begin at 5:30pm Girls; 6:30pm Boys*

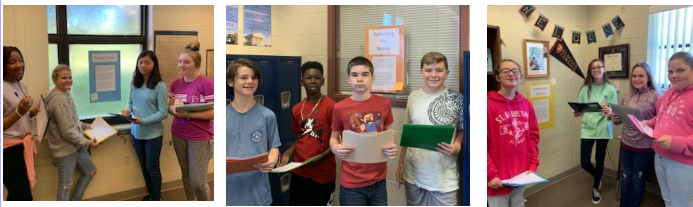


## St. Augustine Family YMCA Offers After-School Program at SMS Starting 10/1

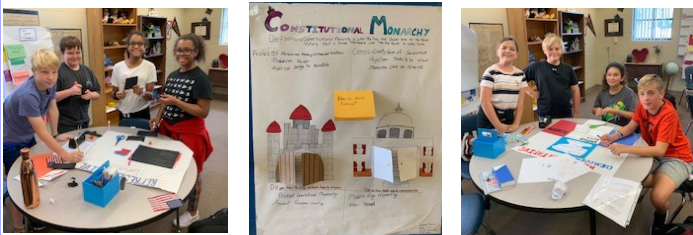
**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
**FOR HEALTHY LIVING**  
**FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

We are excited to announce a new after school program run by the YMCA at Sebastian! The first session begins October 1 and runs for six weeks ending November 7 at a cost of \$60.00 for the session. The program begins right after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays ending at 4:30pm. Students will have 30 minutes of study hall to complete homework or read and will then participate in a variety of intramural sports, including basketball, flag football, soccer, dodgeball, kickball, and ultimate frisbee. This program is open to all students of all athletic ability levels. Please click [here](#) to register online, or on the following to download forms: [YMCA Revision Form](#) and [Intramural Registration Form](#). Register online or return the completed forms and payments to the SMS Front Office by **Friday, Sept. 27**.

## Civics is More Fun with Friends



Ms. Lydigsen's and Ms. Vollenweider's 7th grade Civics classes participated in a Gallery Walk at the beginning of the year to learn the rights and responsibilities of a citizen.



Most recently, students worked together to create interactive posters showing different forms of government.

## Alternative Seating Needed

Hola Familias! Recognizing that not all students may learn best seated at a traditional classroom desk, Ms. DeCastro requests donations of beanbag chairs, ottomans, stools, oversized pillows and stability balls to use as alternative seating in her Spanish classroom. Please email

[Avilette.DeCastro@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Avilette.DeCastro@stjohns.k12.fl.us) with questions!



## After-School Clubs Begin!

Students are encouraged to get involved with after-school clubs and sports at SMS! Clubs begin meeting this week from 2:00-3:00pm on Tues/Thurs as noted below. Please contact club sponsors for more information. Permission slips available on our website for clubs that require them; click [here](#) for info. Students wishing to participate in SMS clubs but who don't have a ride home at 3:00pm may sign up for the YMCA afterschool program as well, which provides supervision until 4:30pm on Tues/Wed/Thurs.

**Art Club**—Thursdays with [Kelly.King@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Kelly.King@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Battle of the Books**—Thursdays with [Rowena.Barnard@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Rowena.Barnard@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Dance Team**—Begins in October with [Sarah.Burkhardt@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Sarah.Burkhardt@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Dungeons & Dragons**—Tues & Thurs (must commit to both) with [Emily.Ludwick@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Emily.Ludwick@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Kiwanis Builders Club**—Thursdays with [Marta.Pardo@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Marta.Pardo@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**National Jr. Honor Society**—Second Thursday of each month with [Debbie.Hagenbuch-Reese@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Debbie.Hagenbuch-Reese@stjohns.k12.fl.us) and [Jordyn.Waters@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Jordyn.Waters@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**National Jr. Thespians Society**—Tues & Thurs (must commit to both) with [Ralin.Trosclair@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Ralin.Trosclair@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Science Fair Club**—Thurs through Nov. 21 with [Rachel.Mathis@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Rachel.Mathis@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Student Council**—First Thursday of each month with [Teri.Lydigsen@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Teri.Lydigsen@stjohns.k12.fl.us) and [Kathryn.Vollenweider@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Kathryn.Vollenweider@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT)** - Last Tuesday of each month with [Leanne.Fortune@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Leanne.Fortune@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**VEX Robotics**—Tues & Thurs (must commit to both) with [Robert.Raimann@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Robert.Raimann@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**WSMS**—Contact [Darren.Tagliarini@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Darren.Tagliarini@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

Some clubs run for a full year, while others will accept new members at the start of each semester. Contact the teacher sponsor for more information!

## Book Fair A Big Success!

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Scholastic Bookfair a great success! We set a goal of selling \$3,000 worth of books and products and we exceeded that goal by \$500. We especially want to thank our wonderful parents and grandparents who volunteered their time to help staff the bookfair. All proceeds go towards the purchase of new books and supplies for the Media Center.