11th Grade

SAHS Guidance Newsletter

August 2026

SOUDERTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL
CEEB Code 394635

COUNSELORS - (all grades)

Mrs. Kircher (A-Cl)
akircher@soudertonsd.org

Ms. Pichler (Co-Gan)
jpichler@soudertonsd.org

Mrs. Trout (Gao-J)
ntrout@soudertonsd.org

Mrs. Micciche (K-Mc)
jmicciche@soudertonsd.org

Mrs. Hardgrove (Me-P)
khardgrove@soudertonsd.org

Mr. Brown (Q-Sta)
tjbrown@soudertonsd.org

Mr. Glatts (Ste-Z)
dglatts@soudertonsd.org

COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Mr. Overberger (GIEP A-Z)
toverberger@soudertonsd.org

sahs_guidance

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MOBILE CRISIS SUPPORT
1-855-634-HOPE
(1-855-634-4673)
CLICK HERE

WELCOME BACK CLASS OF 2028!

Junior year is sure to be exciting, memorable, and well, busy. It will be a year of discovery, learning many things about yourself, your strengths, weaknesses, and your future goals. As juniors, students are often stretched thin with increased class rigor, clubs, sports, work, friends, driving, mentorships, and for some, the start of the college admission process. All of this can be quite overwhelming.

To best support our students who want to explore continued education after high school, Mr. Overberger, our college counselor, will be available to guide students through the college search and admission process while being the guidance counselor for all students A-Z with a GIEP. Having a specialized college counselor will help students stay on top of the college admission process, making it more manageable and organized. To stay on track, a junior timeline appears later in this newsletter providing benchmarks for each month.

Juniors should have completed or planned their job shadow and be looking into mentorships. Mr. Darcy (mdarcy@soudertonsd.org), our Career Counselor, can help with job shadows and Mrs. Tarlo (atarlo@soudertonsd.org), our Mentorship Coordinator, can assist with mentorships.

As you prepare for the new school year and enjoy the last few moments of summer, there are a few important dates to keep in mind:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
9/1

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
For Parents!
9/2
6:30PM-7:30PM

BLACK LIGHT DANCE
9/11
7:00PM-9:00PM

Who is my counselor?

Students With Last Names	Counselor	Counselor Email
A-Cl	Alison Kircher	akircher@soudertonsd.org
Co-Gan	Jennifer Pichler	jpichler@soudertonsd.org
Gao-J	Nickole Trout	ntrout@soudertonsd.org
K-Mc	Jennifer Micciche	jmicchiche@soudertonsd.org
Me-P	Kate Hardgrove	khardgrove@soudertonsd.org
Q-Sta	Tim Brown	tjbrown@soudertonsd.org
Ste-Z	Dan Glatts	dglatts@soudertonsd.org
GIEP A-Z College Counselor	Tom Overberger	toverberger@soudertonsd.org
Administrative Assistant	Dawn Kester	dkester@soudertonsd.org
Administrative Assistant	Susan Mroz	smroz@soudertonsd.org

Mrs. Kircher

Mrs. Pichler

Mrs. Trout

Mrs. Micciche

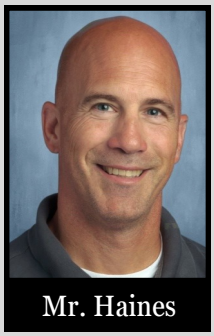
Mrs. Hardgrove

Mr. Brown

Mr. Glatts

Mr. Overberger

Mr. Miller


Mr. Haines

11/12 Student Services

The 11/12 Student Services office is located on the Halteman Road side of the building, **SECOND FLOOR**. This office houses our 11th grade principal, Mr. Miller, and our 12th grade principal, Mr. Haines. Among other things, this office leads Link Crew, manages school clubs, and handles student parking.

11th Grade Principal	Jeremy Miller	jmmiller@soudertonsd.org
12th Grade Principal	Matt Haines	mhaines@soudertonsd.org
Administrative Assistant	Kelli Nonemacher	knonemacher@soudertonsd.org

2026-2027 Bell Schedule

STANDARD DAY	MONDAY BLOCK 2.5
RED ZONE 7:25AM - 8:05AM	RED ZONE 7:25AM - 8:05AM
1st BLOCK 8:12AM - 9:36AM (Attendance taken at 8:12AM)	**1st BLOCK** 8:12AM - 9:28AM (Attendance taken at 8:12AM)
2nd BLOCK 9:43AM - 11:09AM	**2nd BLOCK** 9:35AM - 10:52AM
3rd BLOCK 11:16AM - 1:14PM	**BLOCK 2.5** 10:59AM - 11:19AM
*A LUNCH 11:16AM - 11:46AM	**3rd BLOCK** 11:26AM - 1:21PM
(Class 11:50AM - 1:14PM)	*A LUNCH 11:26AM - 11:56AM
*B LUNCH 12:00PM - 12:30PM	(Class 12:01PM - 1:21PM)
(Class 11:16AM - 11:57AM & 12:33PM - 1:14PM)	*B LUNCH 12:05PM - 12:35PM
*C LUNCH 12:44PM - 1:14PM	(Class 11:26AM - 12:02PM & 12:38PM - 1:21PM)
(Class 11:16AM - 12:40PM)	*C LUNCH 12:51PM - 1:21PM
4th BLOCK 1:21PM - 2:45PM	(Class 11:26AM - 12:46PM)
	4th BLOCK 1:28PM - 2:45PM

Lunch is based on your **third** block class.

You Have...	If your 3rd Block is:
A Lunch	Math, Science, PM NMTCC, ESL, Support Room, McGinley, Newlin, Szatkowski
B Lunch	English, Social Studies, Business, World Language, Dickerson, Maran, Ozeni, Stauffer
C Lunch	Wellness, Study Hall, Tech Ed, Art, FCS, Music, Aronow, Deitsch, Garrett, Lavely, Tirado

*PLEASE NOTE: This schedule is tentative and may change once the school year begins.

High School Breakfast	FREE
High School Lunch	$3.60

Families, regardless of income, are encouraged to complete and submit a short, confidential Free and Reduced Meal Application. This application needs to be completed each school year. Please visit the Free and Reduced Price Meals section of the Food Services web site to access the online or paper application for the 2026-2027 school year.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

It is never too late to get involved! SAHS has many activities available for students, including over 70 active clubs. We encourage students to explore their interests through school activities, community service, and even an after school job. Colleges are looking for students that get involved and who give back to their school and community. ***Quality*** involvement is better than ***quantity***. Research shows that students who are involved with their school earn better grades than students who are not. A list of SAHS activities may be found HERE.

PSAT

The PSAT, or Preliminary SAT is a standardized test that prepares students for the SAT and can qualify them for national merit scholarships. All juniors are automatically registered for the test.

This year, the PSAT will be held at SAHS on October 7th.

The results help students identify their academic strengths and weaknesses and help to determine readiness for Advanced Placement courses. Once a student has taken the PSAT, scores will be available electronically through College Board. This score can be linked to Khan Academy to get free personalized SAT practice. PSAT questions can be answered by Mrs. Hardgrove at khardgrove@soudertonsd.org.

PACAC

Tuesday, October 13th - North Penn High School

This year, SAHS is pleased to partner with the broader college counseling community and encourages students to attend the Montgomery County College Fair, organized by the Pennsylvaina Association for College Admission Counseling. Due to its size and scope, this event provides our students access to a larger and more diverse group of colleges/universities. This year's fair is being held at **North Penn High School** on **Tuesday, October 13th**. All students and families are welcome. The event is **FREE** but students are asked to sign up for a barcode at www.StriveFair.com. Show your barcode to colleges who will scan it and send you more information about their schools. The day after the fair, you will receive a report with information about each college that you allowed to scan your barcode. To view the colleges/universities that will be attending the fair, CLICK HERE.

TECHNOLOGY

Students will receive their laptops during the first few days of school in 5th block. For computer support, our Tech HUB is available to assist students during school hours and is located in the Student Center on the right hand side. Students can also fill out a Help Desk Ticket Form and a technician will get in touch with the student to resolve the issue.

Additional information can be found on the school website HERE.

TECH HUB CAN HELP YOU WITH:

*COMPUTER PICK-UP/RETURN
*HARDWARE ISSUES
*COMPUTER LOGIN
*GOOGLE (PATHWAY MANAGER, NAVIANCE, SCHOOLOGY)

FOR HELP WITH:

*HOME ACCESS - GO TO GUIDANCE OR STUDENT SERVICES

notes from the CAREER COUNSELORS

Please remember to check your pathwayMANAGER account. Double-check that your email and phone number are updated and correct. We use the pathwayManager system to send out important messages regarding opportunities and special programs. Always check your Message Board!!

- Complete a job shadow if you still have not done one. Job shadow applications are available outside of Mr. Darcy's office or can be accessed in pathwayMANAGER in the Mentorship tab. Upon completion of the job shadow, be sure to complete a reflection in pathwayMANAGER.

  ⇒Field trips will be advertised throughout the school year and some will count as a job shadow. See Mr. Darcy if it is not clear. Reminder: You are permitted an excused absence to do a job shadow during the school day.

- Focus on **completing a 20-hour mentorship**
- Upload a grade-level reflection for each course you take

  ⇒All juniors need a total of 8 reflections to meet state requirements to graduate.

- Complete a Mentorship and submit **all paperwork by October 15th of your Senior Year. Do not wait until your senior year to complete a mentorship! Do it now or over the summer. Please set up an appointment with Mrs. Tarlo if you need help atarlo@soudertonsd.org or stop in A112**
- How to complete a mentorship: (All directions are located under the career experience tab - Mentorship Info)

  ⇒Propose it through pathwayMANAGER
  ⇒Once approved, submit your mentorship reflection
  ⇒Turn completed/signed contract to Mrs. Tarlo in A112

- Attend Career Expo - October 14th!

pathwayMANAGER

- -CLICK HERE- - -

Students can schedule an appointment with Mr. Darcy by emailing mdarcy@soudertonsd.org OR Mrs. Tarlo by emailing atarlo@soudertonsd.org

Mr. Darcy
Career Counselor

Mrs. Tarlo
Mentorship/Transition Coordinator

COLLEGE CORNER

COLLEGE VISITS

College websites are great sources of information but don't forget about Naviance. There you will find a wealth of information to help you narrow down your search. You can even sign up to visit with college admission counselors coming to Souderton through Naviance! Keep in mind, the counselors you meet are the same ones reading your application and deciding on your admission. Don't miss these opportunities.

NAVIANCE by HOBSONS

CLICK HERE

PLANNING A VISIT?

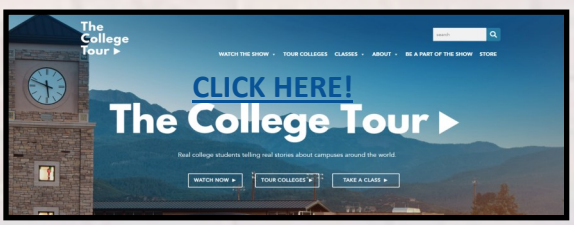
As per SASD Attendance Policy:

"Students in the 11th and 12th grades may be excused for three COLLEGE VISITATIONS provided that they present the Attendance Office with a note from their parent/guardian requesting permission for the visit. This request must be on file prior to the visit and must indicate the name of the post-secondary school they are visiting. If the above procedure is not followed, the absence will be unexcused unless the student provides verification from the school visited, including time and date of their presence."

Notes can be turned into the attendance office or emailed to attend-SAHS@soudertonsd.org.

NOT ABLE TO VISIT?

CHECK-OUT



PSAT / SAT / ACT

PSAT - The PSAT is given to all juniors in October. Results are available to students electronically through College Board. The PSAT helps familiarize students with the types of test questions they will face on the SAT and ACT. PSAT test results are also used to identify National Merit Scholars and award merit scholarships. Students can use their PSAT test results to help guide their test prep for the SAT and ACT. All 11th grade students are automatically registered for the PSAT by SAHS.

SAT - The SAT is a standardized test used by colleges to help make admission decisions. The content areas covered by the SAT are math and evidence based reading and writing. Most students take the SAT in the spring of their junior year and again in the fall of their senior year. There is no limit to the number of times you can take the test but it is recommended students take it no more than 3 times. Registration for the SAT is through College Board at https://www.collegeboard.org/. At the time of the exam, students will have the opportunity to send their scores, free of charge, to 4 schools. After this, there is a fee to forward scores. When colleges consider scores they will consider your single highest score **or** allow for superscoring, taking the highest result for each section of the test regardless of test date. Check the college website to see which method is used. The SAT is based on a 1600 point scale. The national average for 2025 graduates was 1029.

ACT - The ACT is another standardized test, much like the SAT, that colleges use to make admission decisions. There are a few differences between the two tests and students should take the test that best suits them. Your guidance counselor can help you make this decision. The content areas covered by the ACT, English, math, and reading are mandatory while science and writing are optional. ACT scoring is on a 1-36 scale. An above average score is 21 or higher. For elite schools, a score of 30+ is required. Students should register for the ACT at www.act.org. As with the SAT, students can request their ACT scores be sent to four schools or scholarship agencies at the time of the test for free. After that, there is a fee.

Khan Academy

Students may also find Khan Academy a valuable resource. Khan Academy is an effective, personalized, and **FREE** online program many of our students utilize.

TOP TIPS

⇒ Take Algebra II before taking the SAT

⇒ Students applying to rolling admissions schools may want to take the SAT/ACT twice during the spring of their junior year. With rolling admissions you will want to submit your application early senior year, before the October SAT. This will also provide a strong foundation if you choose to take the SAT again in your senior year in hopes of improving your score.

NAVIANCE

Most students had a brief introduction to Naviance in their 9th grade Career class. A web-based college program, Naviance offers a **thorough career and college search**. It offers countless career information and links to every college in the US and beyond. The goal of our high school guidance department is to utilize this comprehensive program to centralize the college search process and provide information or links to all college related questions.

Naviance will afford college bound students the opportunity to **organize and conduct a detailed college search**, view college maps, take virtual tours to certain schools, obtain scholarship opportunities, and see how they (the student) **compares to past SAHS graduates** and their college acceptance rates through data gathered from past graduates. Students will also be able to view a list of all college representatives that will individually be visiting SAHS and can register to meet with these individuals through the site. We ***STRONGLY*** encourage students to take advantage of these visits beginning junior year as they will be meeting with the admission counselor who will be making the admission decision on their application.

Through Naviance, students are also able to take interest inventories, explore and research careers and college majors. All of these tools will help the student make an educated decision.

The site will provide links for students to register for SAT/ACT testing and the NCAA eligibility center along with numerous other college based resources.

Further, **all high school transcript requests and teacher and/or counselor recommendations must be placed through Naviance.** Electronic submission of academic documents makes for a more organized, more effective, and more efficient process. Please note that there are a few schools that still require mailed documents. In this situation only, we will provide all documents to the student to be mailed from home. As a result of the electronic submission, students will be able to track their applications through the site, verifying that materials were requested and sent.

Throughout the year, guidance is available to help students navigate the program that can be accessed from any computer (there is even a phone app!).

Take advantage of the many different opportunities NAVIANCE has to offer to make the most informed college decision.

Naviance will centralize and simplify a process that can be overwhelming and stressful.

JUNIOR YEAR - *College Planning Time Line*

September/October

- Communicate with parents about college/career plans and potential costs
- Stay involved in extracurricular activities and pursue leadership roles
- Attend Montgomery County College Fair at NPHS - October 13th, 6:00PM-8:00PM
- Take the PSAT - National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test
- Navigate Naviance

November/December

- Improve/maintain grades
- Use your PSAT results to access the College Board's Quick start (December)
- Become aware SAT/ACT registration and testing dates in the spring
- Continue to utilize Naviance to explore careers and develop a college list

January/February/March

- Register for spring SAT/ACT test dates
- Continue to utilize Naviance to explore careers
- Expand college search making sure your list is balanced with Reach, Target, and Safety schools
- Communicate with your parents about your college search progress
- Course registration for next year - prepare a challenging senior year course schedule with advice from teachers/counselor (maintain or increase rigor)
- Visit colleges and open house programs

April/May

- Take SAT/ACT tests, if needed
- Continue to utilize Naviance to modify college list
- Request information from colleges on your list
- Attend evening Spring College Fair at SAHS (Date TBD)
- Communicate with admission officers
- Communicate with your parents about your career interests and college search progress
- AP exams for students taking these courses
- Draft summer plans, especially internship/ educational experiences

June

- Take SAT/ACT tests, if needed
- Narrow "smart" college list for summer visits
- Ask 2 teachers for college recommendation letters (only if you will definitely be applying to a college requesting a teacher rec)
- Review schedule to ensure rigorous senior year courses.

NO CHANGES AFTER THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

July/August

- Visit colleges
- Communicate with admission counselors
- Narrow college choices to 5-8 schools
- Athletes – register with NCAA
- Update resume (helps teachers in writing recommendation letters)
- Begin writing "rough" draft for application essays, if needed
- Register for September ACT or October SAT