



NEWBURGH ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# South Middle School

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# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020



Dear SMS Families

First and foremost, I would like to say thank you to our students, parents, and community members for all of their support during these challenging times. We are so fortunate to have a school community that rallies together to ensure the success of our scholars. However, as we move forward with virtual learning we cannot stress enough the importance of student engagement in both synchronous and asynchronous learning. Course content is progressing and it is imperative for students to keep up with their school work. Parents, please be sure to periodically check your child's progress through the parent portal and/or google classroom.

Meanwhile, we are making plans to welcome back our students mid January, more information will be provided by the district in the upcoming weeks.

Winter break is right around the corner and as we approach the end of 2020, it is with pride we look at all we have accomplished. Despite all the obstacles this year threw at us and the changes we adapted to as a community, we are still South Strong!

In closing, I want to express our gratitude for your continued support and wish you and your family good health and good spirits throughout the holiday season.

## INFORMATION:

### REMINDER:

**We are 100% Remote - Online classes begin at 7:00 AM**

**Technology assistance** is available through the district help desk: [Use this link to get help!](#)

### Add us on Social Media!

Facebook  
Instagram  
Twitter

### School Pictures

School pictures will be modified for this year. Students have been sent an email to submit a [headshot](#) for the virtual yearbook

### Reminder:

A lot of information is posted in our Parent Hub. [Save or bookmark this link so you can stay up to date on important information!](#)



# Click the image to order your SMS Gear!

## TEES



## SWEATSHIRTS AND PANTS



## ACCESSORIES



# South Middle School SCEP Goals



## Mission

Inspiring students to be tomorrow's leaders beyond Academy Field



## Vision

Through the Work of All, we will achieve inclusive excellence

## Core Values

- N – Nurturing
- E – Empowering
- C – Collaborative
- S – Student-Centered
- D – Diverse



**Goal 1 - Tenet 1:**  
Effective schools establish school wide systems and structures that promote continuous improvement and success for all students.

By June 2021, South Middle School will have prioritized tones, empathy, and positive communication resulting in a reduced chronic absenteeism rate of 18% or less, as monitored through South Middle School attendance committee.

**Goal 2 - Tenet 4:**  
Using Assessment and Feedback in Instruction

By June 2021, 75% of SMS teachers will regularly provide students clear and concise feedback to improve tier work as evidenced by walkthrough data.

**Goal 3 - Tenet 5A:**  
Establishing school-wide practices that support SEL

By June 2021, SMS will have implemented ten units of ReThink Ed and consistently use Brain Power Wellness resulting in a reduction in referral rates by ten percent.

**Goal 4 - Tenet 6A:**  
Systems for communication

By June 2021, SMS will improve communications as evidenced by 75% of parents agreeing that "they are satisfied with how well the school communicated with them" on the parent survey.

**Goal 5 - Survey Goal**  
respect for diversity will be well developed and evident

By June 2021, 53.5% of students at SMS will agree or strongly agree to the survey question.

