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OUR MISSION IS STUDENT SUCCESS...ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, AND HUMANISTIC

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45 Prince Street at University

Rochester, NY 14607

242-7682

September 1, 2022

Dear SOTA Community,

As we return to school, please remember that you are awesome and you are a valuable member of the SOTA community. School of the Arts is ready to welcome our students back to engage in meaningful learning experiences and continue to move toward reaching our goal of student success...Academic, Artistic, and Humanistic.

SOTA is eager to start the 2022-23 school year on Wednesday, September 7, 2022. We look forward to challenging courses, exciting performances and a variety of school events this year ...

**Don't forget to be awesome!**

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **First day of classes - Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

Bell times: 8:30-3:30 (doors open at 8:00 am for breakfast)

Please note that there is no student supervision after 3:30 pm. All students need to leave the building by 3:30 pm unless they are staying for an approved after school activity with a faculty member.

- **Senior Class Parent Meeting – September 22<sup>nd</sup> 5 PM - 6 PM**

- **Curriculum Night – Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 6 PM - 8 PM**

Please join us after Curriculum Night for a Rochester Fringe Festival special offering of FREE tickets for SOTA Families! For more information, please visit our website at

[fringe.sotarochester.org](http://fringe.sotarochester.org).

- **September / October At-A-Glance**

10/3 College Night 5:30 PM

10/10 Columbus Day Holiday No School

10/12 PSAT/SAT, Grades 9-12, Periods 1-5

10/13 Parent Teacher Conferences 5:00-7:00 PM

10/13 LatinX Celebration 7 PM

10/18 Fall Choir Concert 7 PM

10/19 Fall Band Concert 7 PM

10/20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 *Almost, Maine* performances

10/25 Fall Orchestra Concert 7 PM

10/26 Fall Jazz Band Concert 7 PM

The FULL school calendar is available on our [website](#).

- **Marking Period Dates**

Quarter 1 9/7 – 11/10

Quarter 2 11/11 – 1/27

Quarter 3 1/28 – 4/14

Quarter 4 4/15 – 6/23

## THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF 2022-2023

- **Schedules** - Student schedules were mailed home the **week of August 29<sup>th</sup>** and uploaded to PowerSchool. A copy will be given Period 1 - be sure you know where your 1<sup>st</sup> period class is.
- **Attendance** - Parents and guardians have the obligation to inform the school if their child will be absent by phone prior to the absence, or as soon as they are aware of the intended absence. Written notification is required upon the student's return to school. Contact information for specific grade levels is available at [Attendance Offices](#). The switchboard is open 8 AM – 3:30 PM.
- **Personal electronic devices** - To put the focus on academic achievement, minimize school-time distractions, and encourage positive communication, cell phones, smart watches, headphones, etc. are prohibited throughout the SOTA school day. At the beginning of the school year, every student will be given a personal **Yondr Pouch**. It is each student's responsibility to bring their pouch with them to school every day. If a student forgets or loses their pouch, they will surrender their phone for the day. Phones will be returned in the foyer at dismissal.
- **Breakfast** - Students who want breakfast will report to the cafeteria and have until 8:25 AM.
- **Scanning** - RCSD policy requires that students are subject to random metal detection scanning.
- **Athletics** - Students interested in playing modified, JV or Varsity sports should visit our website at [Athletics](#).
- **Outside food ordering** - SOTA does not allow food delivery during the school day. Breakfast and lunch are provided daily at no cost to students. Please plan your meals accordingly.
- **Student information sheets** - please send in or email the corrections.
- **PowerSchool log in** - you should have received an email with your new password. The directions for PowerSchool can be found at: [PowerSchool](#)
- **Chromebooks** - please bring your charged chrome book to school every day.
- **Transportation and Student IDs** - students should have received a temporary pass in the mail. Temporary passes are good until they receive a permanent picture ID from SOTA.  
*Reminder: Masks are required on all RTS busses until further notice. Please be sure your student is prepared with a mask before getting on the bus.*
- **Health Services Information** - Please be advised that current health examinations are required on all 7, 9 & 11 graders. For more information you can reach out to the health office at (585)242-7682 x1460. Full health information is available at [Health Office](#).
- **Covid-19** - Masks are optional for students and staff. If your student tests positive for Covid-19 during the school year, please inform the health office at (585)242+7682 x1460 and follow the current guidance on isolation. We have Covid-19 home test kits available. Please have your student ask at the Main Office.
- **Release of Student Information (Opt-Out)** - If you are concerned about protecting the privacy of your student, please read this letter carefully. **You must complete a new form for 2022-2023**. Note: This also includes the yearbook unless you let the Yearbook editor know directly.
- **SOTARochester.org** - The most up to date and current information you need to stay informed.

Our school will be stronger with the support of its community. I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to support our students' learning and experiences. I look forward to meeting you and working with you this academic year.

Thank you,



Kelly Nicastro, Principal