

South Woods Middle School



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

2023-2024 School Year Family Guidebook

Dear South Woods Families,

Welcome to South Woods Middle School! We are thrilled to have you and your child join our vibrant community. As partners in education, we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and stimulating environment where your child can learn, grow, and flourish as they become leaders and change-makers poised to shape our world.

Our dedicated faculty and staff are here to support your child's academic and personal development, fostering a love for learning and helping them navigate the challenges of middle school. We encourage active communication between home and school, as your involvement plays a crucial role in your child's success. Please utilize this handbook, as well as our website, to keep up with the happenings at South Woods.

We can't wait to see all of our students on September 5th. Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. Here's to a year of growth, discovery, and shared accomplishments!

Warm regards,

Michelle L. Burget, Principal, South Woods Middle School

Meet Your Administrative Team:

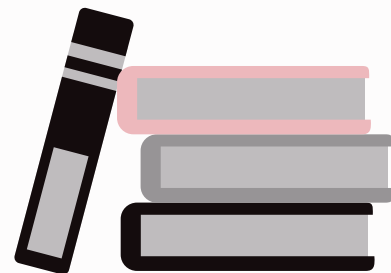
Principal - Michelle L. Burget, 364-5621

Assistant Principal - Elizabeth Burke, 364-5621

Assistant Principal - Theresa Berke, 364-5628

Assistant Principal - Jessica Tam, 364-5628

The mission of the Syosset Central School District is to prepare students to thrive in both the future we imagine and one which may evolve in ways yet to be envisioned.



Coming and Going @ SW



As we are an all-transportation district, we encourage all students to take the bus daily. Please remember to use caution and drive slowly as you drive through all areas of the lot and the surrounding neighborhood. Our faculty, custodial staff and security will be assisting students upon arrival and dismissal.

Arrival - All cars dropping off in the morning should drop off either at the **side of the building** next to the track and field or at the **front drop off point** near the crosswalk. Students attending clubs and extra help in the morning may arrive at 7:00 a.m. and will be directed to the cafeteria until 7:15 a.m. All other students should arrive no earlier than 7:45 a.m.

Dismissal - All buses will dismiss from the front and side of the building. Please see the detailed explanation on our school website.

Early Dismissal - Any student leaving early must have a note signed by a parent or guardian with the stated reason. This note should be given to our attendance office. If a situation arises while your child is in school and you must pick them up, please call ahead to the attendance office. We will arrange for your child to meet you at the security desk. All early dismissals must be completed by 2:25 PM. If your child needs to be picked up due to illness, they will be signed out by the nurse's office. Students cannot be dismissed for sickness other than through the nurse's office.

Please have identification ready for all early pickups.

More information may be found here: [Arrival/Dismissal Procedures](#).

2023-24 Bell Schedule



[Red/White Day Schedule- Click Here!](#)

Warning Bell	8:01 AM
Period 1	8:04 AM – 8:44 AM
Period 2	8:48 AM – 9:28 AM
Period 3	9:32 AM – 10:12 AM
Advisory - Announcements & Pledge	10:16 AM – 10:26 AM
Period 4	10:30 AM – 11:10 AM
Period 5 - Grade 6 Lunch	11:14 AM – 11:54 AM
Period 6 - Grade 7 Lunch	11:58 AM – 12:38 PM
Period 7 - Grade 8 Lunch	12:42 PM – 1:22 PM
Period 8	1:26 PM – 2:06 PM
Period 9	2:10 PM - 2:50 PM

LUNCH



Students may bring lunch or purchase lunch in the school cafeteria. We have a mixture of hot lunch and "grab and go" options. Please look at the district website, under [Food Services](#), to create and deposit money into your child's account.

Lunch Schedule

Period 5 - Grade 6 - 11:14 AM

Period 6 - Grade 7 - 11:58 PM

Period 7 - Grade 8 - 12:42 PM



No outside delivery of food or drink is permitted (Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc.). Parents may drop off an individual lunch in an emergency. There is no group food deliveries for birthdays, etc...

Students are encouraged to go outside during recess. Students may also participate in lunch options such as the library or a workshop, if offered, during lunch.

THINGS TO KNOW



- **Advisory** - Advisory is a place to foster relationships, facilitate communication and build a positive school culture. Advisory is multi-grade and takes place daily after period 3. Extended advisory days take place 1-2 times per month. A different bell schedule is followed on those days.
- **Attendance** - To report a student's absence, please call the Attendance Office at (516)364-5632 or email: swattendance@syossetschools.org. Students who are late to school must obtain a late pass at the security desk. Chronic lateness will result in administrative intervention and consequences.
- **School Counseling and Wellness Centers** - Our Mental Health Team is here to support students navigate all elements of middle school life. The best place to start is with our Guidance Office. Our psychologist and social worker are available for more acute situations.
- **No Place For Hate** - We are designated a **No Place for Hate** school by the Anti-Defamation League. We embrace diversity and inclusivity for all of our students and work to live up to this designation on a daily basis.
- **Code of Character, Conduct and Support** - The Code and other community expectations will be reviewed with students on the first day of school. The full code can be reviewed on our website.
- **DASA (Dignity Act)** - our DASA Coordinators are Ms. Stephanie Russell and Ms. Jeanne Chung. Please review the district's [DASA Information](#) and reporting procedures.

MORE THINGS TO KNOW



- **Cell Phones** - Cell phones are not to be used during the school day, outside of responsible use within school guidelines in the cafeteria as permitted by lunch supervisors. Phones are expected to be turned off and preferably, locked away in lockers. Our "off and away during the day" protocol will be strictly enforced, and students bringing phones to class will be expected to turn them off and store them according to teacher directions.
- **Clubs** - A list of clubs with the meeting date and time will be created and posted throughout the building and on our website. Students will be able to attend a club fair to learn about our different clubs.
- **Chromebooks** - Students are expected to bring their Chromebooks to school daily. All students must follow the District's *Code of Character, Conduct and Support* as well as the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). Please make sure you have completed an electronic copy of the [User Agreement](#) online. Any problems can be reported to our Library Media Center, (516) 364-5629.
- **Lockers** - All students will be issued a locker during the first few days of the school year. The most important items for students to bring on a daily basis are a charged Chromebook, a pen, and the necessary binder(s).
- **Photo Objection** - If you do **NOT** want your child's photo used in any publications, you may review the [Photo Objection Form](#) and submit the form electronically,



STAYING CONNECTED

Communication is the key to our partnership.
Here are the many methods we use to keep in touch:

- Google Classroom
- Phone
- E-mail
- School Webpage
- District Website
- SW Morning Show
- Principal's Emails
- PTSA meetings & PTSA Weekly Blast:
southwoodsptsa@gmail.com
- Proprio Translation Services

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Athletic Office	364-5749
Attendance Office	364-5632
District Switchboard	364-5600
Health Office	364-5627
Main Office	364-5621
School Counseling Center	364-5638
Transportation	364-5840