

SPARK Academy

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 5, 2023

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RUNNING START SIGNUPS

Second-Year families: be sure to check your email for instructions from Mr. Larochelle on registering your dual enrollment Running Start classes!

The deadline is October 15!

The email went out on Wednesday; if you cannot find it, please contact Mrs. Larochelle and she can resend it to you. If you have Running Start questions, please contact Mr. Larochelle ASAP. He has gone over this information with the students.



WINNERS

Congratulations to this week's calendar raffle prize winners!

Oct. 1 – Howell Martinez (ticket sold by Theo) \$20

Oct. 2 – Nick Granata (sold by John C.) \$20

Oct. 3 – Gena Good (sold by Tristan) \$20

Oct. 4 – Shay Wilder (sold by Tristan) \$20

Oct. 5- Tim and Debbie Huffman (sold by Jonah) \$50



COMMUNITY SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

Second-Year students Kyle Maillet and Adam Fultz have already put in over 20 hours of service for the year, installing the cabling for our new intercom system. This is a great example of the different opportunities that are available for students to get their hours in.

Remember: community service hours are now a REQUIREMENT for obtaining your high school diploma from Spark Academy.

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

SAT and PSAT information:

FOURTH-YEARS:

We are administering the SAT on Thursday, October 26th. All students are encouraged to attend; it provides us with longitudinal data. Please email Mrs. Minery if you will not be there. The test is approximately 4 hours. We will start as



close to 8am as possible, so plan on getting to the school by 7:45. Anyone who arrives after the timed section starts will not be permitted in the classroom. There is no make-up date.

THIRD-YEARS:

Third-year students are required to take the PSAT/NMSQT on Thursday, October 26th. As juniors they are eligible for qualifying for the [National Merit Scholarship](#). Students who have a college class are encouraged to work with their college instructor about making up work. Since this test is digital, **all students are expected to bring in their computer and charging cord on Wednesday, October 25th and will leave them at the school that evening. If a student does not bring in their computer and charging cord, there will be a call home for this material.** The test is approximately 3.5 hours. We will start as close to 8am as possible, so plan on getting to the school no later than 7:45. Anyone who arrives after the timed section starts will not be permitted in the classroom. There is no make-up date.



SECOND-YEARS:

Second-year students are required to take the PSAT/NMSQT on Thursday, October 26th. **Since this test is digital, all students are expected to bring in their computer and charging cord on Wednesday, October 25th and will leave them at the school that evening. If a student does not bring in their computer and charging cord, there will be a call home for this material.** The test is approximately 3.5 hours. We will start as close to 8am as possible, so plan on getting to the school no later than 7:45. Anyone who arrives after the timed section starts will not be permitted in the classroom. There is no make-up date.

FIRST-YEARS:

First-year students are required to take the PSAT 8/9 on Thursday, October 26th. **Since this test is digital, all students are expected to bring in their computer and charging cord on Wednesday, October 25th and will leave them at the school that evening. If a student does not bring in their computer and charging cord, there will be a call home for this material.** The test is approximately 3.25 hours. We will start as close to 8am as possible, so plan on getting to the school no later than 7:45. Anyone who arrives after the timed section starts will not be permitted in the classroom. There is no make-up date.



their computer and this material. The test is approximately 3.25 hours. We will start as close to 8am as possible, so plan on getting to the school no later than 7:45. Anyone who arrives after the timed section starts will not be permitted in the classroom. There is no make-up date.

UPCOMING OPEN HOUSES:

Curry College is having an open house on Sunday, October 15th and October 29th. Use this [link](#) for the opportunity to take a tour and meet with faculty and current students.

UMass Lowell is having an undergraduate open house on Sunday, October 22nd. You will have the opportunity to tour the campus and residence halls, meet current students and speak with faculty. Use this [link](#) to register.





Note: while Spark Academy's focus is not traditional college preparatory coursework, we make four-year college information available for students who choose not take advantage of the AMT certification/two-by-two pathway.

SPARK OPEN HOUSE TONIGHT!

We look forward to seeing many of you this evening for our Open House! It runs from 5:30-7:00 PM and we will have light refreshments available.

Please check in at the front desk and have your ID ready so that you can be scanned into the system.

HEALTH REMINDER

It's the season: please make sure everyone is taking the necessary steps to protect our school community. Stay home if you're sick, cover your sneezes and coughs, wash your hands frequently WITH SOAP, and wear a mask if you feel so inclined. Thank you.

LOST & FOUND

All items still in the Lost & Found bin on Halloween will be donated to Goodwill! Some of these items have been there since August!

THINGS NEEDED

We could use two or three electric pencil sharpeners, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer, and Kleenex if you would like to help us out with supplies. Thank you!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ☑ 10/18 – Board meeting
- ☑ 10/26 – Testing: PSATs & SATs
- ☑ 11/8 – End of Q1 marking period
- ☑ 11/9 – No Spark classes (staff workshop)



TUTTLE THOUGHTS

As we get closer to the holidays and the weather starts to turn cold, we begin to have changes in our mindsets. We may tend to get lazy in our thoughts and in our actions. This is where our third Spark value comes into play: accountability.

Accountability for academics, behavior, and attitude: how is this approached? What we are practicing? These are key components to being successful. We have started to use organizers in all our classes with check-ins on a weekly basis. Daily walks get us outside and breathing fresh air on a regular basis, which helps the body and the mind. Club time is to practice proactive socialization and interactions with others. All of these are ways to practice accountability.

If you want to see or hear more about our Spark Values and ways that we work with students to develop and practice these skills, please stop in and see us. Open House is tonight from 5:30 - 7:00.

Thank you for all of your support and for helping us provide the best possible education for our students.

John Tuttle
Director