

February 7,  
2025

# SEHS Friday Forecast

PARENT NEWSLETTER

South Elgin High School ~ 760 East Main Street, South Elgin, IL 60177 ~ 847.289.3760 ~ School District U-46



[CLICK HERE FOR OUR SEHS  
CALENDAR](#)



NO SCHOOL

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY

#### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

February 12 – Early Release  
February 17 – No School- President's Day  
February 20 – Blood Drive  
February 28 – Kane County Institute Day/  
No Classes  
February 27, 28 – SEHS Musical  
March 1 – SEHS Musical



National School Counseling Week  
February 3-7

Dear Storm Nation,

We have had a great start to the semester! Our students' behavior has been wonderful, we are achieving at high levels academically (see our Illinois State Scholars), and we are continuing to provide a safe and secure environment for our students to learn and grow. Our Freshman on track percentage is at 96%, which leads all U-46 high schools. We are competing at high levels in athletics and activities (see our Athletics page). It's a great day to be a part of our Storm Nation.

January and February can be rough months. We are already seeing a drop in our attendance. This year we have consistently seen our attendance rates at approximately 4% higher than last year. In January we have seen our attendance regress to approximately 85%. There are many factors that can contribute to these drops, many of which are outside of our control. But, if your student is healthy, please make sure they are here every day. If they are struggling, please contact their counselor or teacher. We are here to help.

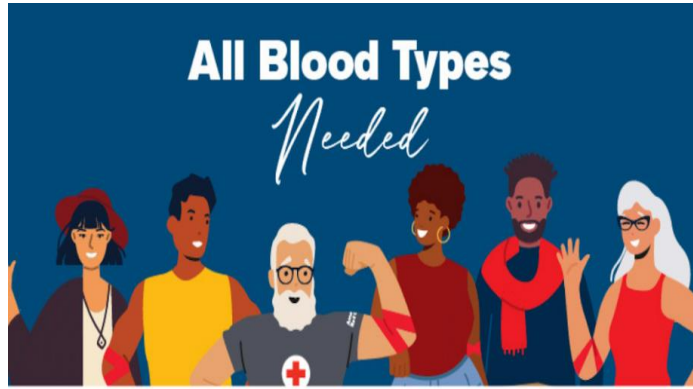
As we continue into this semester, I also want to remind everyone of our STORM traits. Safe, Thoughtful, Organized, Respectful, Mindset for growth. Our students will continue to get mini lessons throughout the month of February on what those traits mean to us at SEHS. Feel free to have conversations with your students around those ideals to help support our school community in providing an environment that is designed to improve our students' sense of belonging.

We have an early release day on Wednesday 2/12/25. Traffic has been, and will continue to be a concern. For context, we are dismissing approximately 600 more students via pickup than we do on a typical day. This causes traffic to back up more than usual. We will continue to work with our district safety team and SEPD to try and find the best way to dismiss students safely and efficiently. Please be patient and kind to both the people directing traffic and each other. Busing is still a viable option for students that typically ride the bus. Busses depart at 3:05 pm.

Attention Class of 2025: Your commencement ceremony will be held at the Now Arena in Hoffman Estates at 8:00 pm on Saturday, May 24. Please plan accordingly. While this semester has so many opportunities and fun activities for our outgoing seniors along with the rest of our student body, please remember that those opportunities are privileges. In order to participate fully, we expect our students to make good decisions.

Roll Storm,

Jonathon Miquelon  
Principal of South Elgin High School



# All Blood Types *Needed*

## South Elgin High School Blood Drive

### Aux. Gym

760 E Main St  
South Elgin, IL 60177

**Thursday, February 20, 2025**  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

*Sign Up*



**American  
Red Cross**

Open to current SEHS staff and students that meet the eligibility requirements

*More Info*



### Hope begins with you.

Almost everyone during their life will know someone who needs a blood transfusion. SEHS students and staff can sign up and join us at SEHS's blood drive on **February 20th** from 9am-2pm in the Auxiliary Gym.

***Why should you give blood? Because you can make a difference!***

Volunteer blood donors help save lives. Sign up ahead to reserve your time slot and help SEHS and our local communities fulfill the tremendous current blood shortage. Open to students 16 years (with parental consent) and older that meet the eligibility requirements. If you have questions, please reach out to the Red Cross Club sponsor: [michellerogersbesch@u-46.org](mailto:michellerogersbesch@u-46.org).

Eligibility information and links to the parental consent form for 16-year olds can be found here:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/info-for-student-donors.html>

**Thank you!**



The **South Elgin Mock Trial Team** needs your help. We are looking for volunteers who work in a legal profession to act as jury evaluators for the Kane County Mock Trial Tournament that will be held on Saturday March 1st from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Please contact Mr. Thornton at [michaelthornton@u-46.org](mailto:michaelthornton@u-46.org) if you would be interested.



## SEHS GRADUATION

**SATURDAY, MAY 24**  
**8:00 PM**

**NOW ARENA**  
**5333 PRAIRIE STONE PARKWAY**  
**HOFFMAN ESTATES**



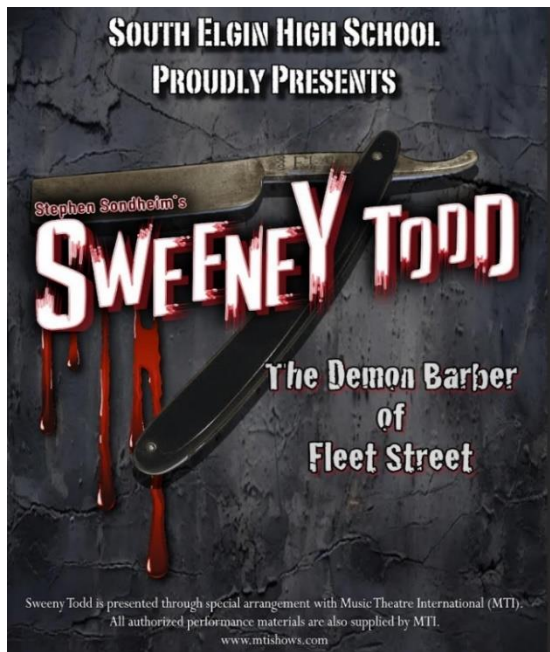
### MANDATORY GRADUATION REQUIREMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL

In order to receive a diploma from an Illinois public high school, a student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), or if applicable, the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid. This is a result of the enactment of a new law, Public Act 101-0180. The purpose of the new law is to increase awareness about the resources available to help students with post-secondary education or training. [Click here](#) for FAFSA information.

If a parent or guardian prefers not to complete the application, there is an opt-out waiver available. [Click here](#) for the opt-out waiver.

More information regarding graduation will be shared in our Senior Newsletter distributed in March.

**Don't miss our  
SEHS Musical,  
SWEENEY TODD**



**Friday, February 27 – 7 pm**

**Friday, February 28 – 7 pm**

**Saturday, March 1 – 2 pm & 7 pm**

**Valentines Spirit Week**

- 2/10** Show your love for comfort!  
Wear lounge wear OR pajamas
- 2/11** Dynamic Duos!  
Match with friends OR be a Duo
- 2/12** Pink Out!  
"Wednesday's we wear pink"
- 2/13** Show Your Status  
**RED** Taken **PINK** "It's Complicated" **WHITE** Single
- 2/14** Red & White Day  
Wear red OR white outfit

**From the Treasurer's Office**

Second semester Driver's Education and Lifeguarding course fees have been added to your student's account. Payment is made online through the Infinite Campus portal. Any questions please contact the Treasurer at 847-289-3760, ext 3470.

*Thank you!*



Check out our [Booster Newsletter](#)



School District U-46 will be destroying all temporary, regular and special education records of students that withdrew or graduated from School District U-46 during the 19/20 school year including June, 2020. If you are interested in obtaining these records, please fill out [this form](#) and submit it to School District U-46, District Records Office, 1019 E. Chicago Street, Elgin IL 60120 before July 2, 2025.

## From the Office of Climate and Culture

As we prepare for extracurricular activities such as Prom and Senior Boat Trip, we want to ensure that our expectations of achieving high academic marks and regular school attendance are viewed as a priority. As such, students will be expected to adhere to the following expectations in order to participate in these privileged activities:

- All students **must be passing five academic courses** at the time of sales and through the prom and boat trip dates.
- Students not passing five academic courses may be placed on a contract with the expectation that no failing grades are present on the day of the activity. If a course failure exists on the day, the student will not be allowed to attend and will receive a refund.
- All students must maintain a 90% attendance rate for 2nd semester.
- Cannot have 8 full days of **unexcused** absences or 64 single period absences.
  - Attendance office cannot go back to multiple months to excuse absences.
  - Attendance office can only go back to the last 72 hours to excuse absences.
- During the 4th quarter, a student may not receive an out-of-school suspension consequence.
- A student may not be on the loss of privilege list.



Attention Parents, Guardians and Current 11th Grade Students in the Class of 2026:

All incoming seniors for the 2025-26 school year are required to provide proof of having received their second dose of the Meningococcal vaccine **prior to the first day of school in August 2025** to be allowed to attend.

The first dose is normally received on or after the student's 11th birthday. The second dose is received at age 16 or older. If you receive annual physicals, there is a fair chance you may have already received this vaccine.

If you do not have a copy of your most recent vaccine records, or if you are not sure if you already received the 2nd dose of the Meningococcal vaccine, please contact your primary care doctor. Please submit proof of having had this vaccine by the first day of school in August. If you have the records, or have gotten the vaccine this year, please send in the proof of vaccine as soon as possible to the SEHS school nurses' office.

If you have any questions, please contact the South Elgin High School health office at 847-289-3760 ext. 3642 or PamelaSThomas@U-46.org.

Thank you for helping students remain healthy and ready to learn!

# Athletics

STORM family, we are thrilled to share several outstanding athletic accomplishments from January, showcasing the hard work, dedication, and talent of our students. Here's a recap of some of our amazing achievements:

- Michael Rossini advanced to Boys Bowling Sectionals, capping off a fantastic run in his South Elgin bowling career! We are proud of you!
- Our Boys Swim Team is gearing up for the UEC Conference Tournament tomorrow after a fantastic Senior Night celebration, where they earned a convincing win over West Aurora.
- Girls Bowling remains undefeated in conference play and took home another Conference Championship! They begin Regionals today at Funway Bowl.
- Girls Basketball celebrated Senior Night with a 52-40 win over Glenbard North, maintaining a strong 17-10 record and staying in the top 4 of conference play.
- Boys Basketball is currently 5-5 in conference play and 8-18 overall, with a thrilling 3-point buzzer beater from Caden Scholl against Streamwood on January 30th.
- Our Boys and Girls Wrestling teams continue their strong performances into the postseason, with notable shout outs:
  - Allison Garbacz and Azucena Rodriguez made SEHS school history by qualifying for Sectionals in girls wrestling. Allison is the first-ever girls regional champion in school history and remains undefeated at 25-0. Way to go!!
  - Nicholas Dilallo remains undefeated in boys wrestling at 30-0, with other strong seasons from Aamir Nieves Allen (30-13) and Deremit Zamora Alomar (30-8). Good luck to all our boys wrestlers at Regionals tomorrow at Lake Park.
- Our Girls Dance Team hosted the largest dance invite in the state in January. They capped that off by qualifying for State for the 13th year in a row—an amazing accomplishment!
- A big congratulations to both our Varsity and JV Cheer Teams for winning Conference Championships. The Varsity Cheer Team is headed to State this weekend with eyes on the podium!

We are incredibly proud of all our athletes for their dedication and hard work, and we look forward to cheering them on in the upcoming competitions. Please note that spring sports are right around the corner with most sports starting March 3rd (Boys Volleyball tryouts March 10). All athletes must be registered on [snap](#) and have an updated physical on file.



## Student Services

Tony Venetico	Associate Principal	X3663
Karen Lawson	Admin. Asst.	X3803
Veronica Realzola	Registrar	X3690

## School Counselors

Grades 9-11	Grade 12	Counselor	Ext.
A-Cald	A-Cald	Farrah Silverberg	x3364
Came-E	Cale-E	Sarah Perez	x3399
F-He	F-He	Jessica Cullinane	x3325
Hf-Man	Hi-Le	Christopher Boden	x3336
Mao-Or	Lf-Ne	Ryan Adamski	X3460
Os-Ro	Nf-Rob	Jaclynn Powell	x3610
Rp-Te	Roc-S	Andrew Holmes	x3477
Tf-Z	T-Z	Jessica Ventrella	x3247

## Social Workers

A-E	Mike Grondin	x3703
F-Le	Genevieve Hebeke	x3056
Lf - Rob	Gianna Villanueva	X3489
Roc-Z	Megan Quinn	x3385



Save the Date! **The Fox Valley Regional College Fair** will be held at Geneva High School on Thursday, April 17th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. There will be approximately 200 colleges/universities from across the country in attendance. This is the largest spring college fair in the area. We strongly encourage all Juniors to attend, but students in every grade are welcome to attend!

[Click here to register!](#)

## Counselor's Corner

**All Students:** We are a few weeks into the second semester. We cannot stress enough the importance of making sure you are taking full advantage of your class time, coming to school, being prepared and completing your work on time. Need help in a class? Peer tutoring is available the first half of all lunch periods in the collaboration space in the library Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. You can get a pass from your teacher. If you are absent from school make sure you are checking your teachers' Canvas pages to stay up to date on your work.

**Seniors:** Planning to attend Elgin Community College in fall of 2025? Do not wait any longer to apply! The ECC application is free, quick and easy! For information on applying as a new college student please visit [elgin.edu](http://elgin.edu). After filling out an application you will be prompted with next steps to ensure that you are registered and have early access to orientation dates once you have completed your placement tests. Don't wait!

Applications done? Time to apply for [scholarships](#)! Every little bit helps and the scholarships received by the high school are updated on the school website. Applications can often be involved and require essays and letters of recommendation. Do not procrastinate...apply today!

**FAFSA is a graduation requirement.** Colleges will also use this document to determine what financial aid they can provide. The earlier you file the better position you will be in to get the aid you are eligible for. More info on FAFSA and the Financial aid process can be found using the following link: [2025-2026 FAFSA](#). The **FAFSA is a graduation requirement**. All seniors have to complete either the 2025-2026 FAFSA or the 2025-2026 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (in [English](#) or [Spanish](#)). Any student/family that does not plan on completing the FAFSA will need to "opt-out" by completing the [FAFSA Nonparticipation Form](#).

Quick reminder, if you need a mid-year transcript sent to any of your schools, please make a request in Schoolinks and let your counselor know. If you applied using Common App, mid-year transcripts will automatically be sent if needed.

**Juniors:** You will be taking the ACT this year! It is just around the corner. On April 15th, all Juniors will be taking the ACT. All Illinois high school students must take the ACT as part of state graduation requirements. Though this ACT is a required state test for juniors, the resulting scores are official ACT scores that can be reported to colleges during the application process, if you choose. Check out some of these free resources.

- [Practice ACT](#)
- [What are the differences between the SAT and ACT](#)

Students, did you register to take an AP exam? Fees will soon be available to be paid via Infinite Campus under the "Fee" tab. As a reminder, full balances are due before testing begins. The first AP exam for any student is being paid for by the district, although if you are taking multiple tests you have been billed for any exams beyond the first. If you changed your mind and no longer want to take an exam, please email Mr. Venetico at [anthonyvenetico@u-46.org](mailto:anthonyvenetico@u-46.org), but please note that any exams canceled at this point will receive a \$40 cancellation fee from College Board added to your account. If you cancel the first "free" exam being paid for by the district, families will still be responsible for that cancellation fee.

# Great Things Happening at South Elgin High School!



## Congratulations to our Speech and Drama Conference Champions!

Mazen El-Azhari - Conference Champion in Original Comedy

Lauryn Walson - Conference Champion in Prose Reading

# Congratulations

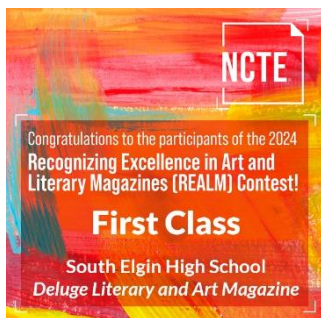
## SEHS

# Illinois State Scholars

## 2025

The U-46 honorees were among approximately 16,500 students from across the state who earned the designation, which was first introduced in 1958. The scholars are selected based on a formula that includes a combination of ACT/SAT test scores, class rank (if the school ranks) or the unweighted grade-point average (if the school does not rank), and class size.

Annabeth Baughcum, Carter Beucler, Gianna Brown, Carlos Bucio, Anthony Cavallo, Anna Christopherson, Ryan Corn, Samuel Dankel, Justin Defensor, Donald Doan, Eric Drozdziak, Ava Franch, Gavin Fredricks, Julia Fugiel, Ryan Giczkowski, Amber Gnutek, Ryan Goetz, Emmett Hanson, Logan Iott, Ellie Jahnke, Maya Jordan, Nathan Jung, Cole Jurcy, Mackenzie Klinger, Gabriela Krusiec, Reilly Malesh, Mikella Mesina, Ethan Messer, Callahan Miller, Laila Miulli, Ruby Montgomery, Rahul Mufti, Sean Mydlach, Diego Ortiz Villagomez, Nishar Parekh, Ayush Patel, Dia Patel, Jessa Pentecost, Jason Phillips, Elise Pratt, Drew Raval, Kamila Sangabriel, Amy Skrabacz, Charles Stace, Logan Stoltz, Alexander Tolentino, Julianna Ugarte, and Kalia Verdino.



**Deluge**, South Elgin's student-run Art and Literary Magazine won the highest honor in the NCTE's REALM Awards. This year, schools in 46 states and five countries nominated 422 student magazines. Magazines from middle school, high school, and higher education were welcomed for the 2024 contest. 125 magazines were awarded the contest's highest distinction, REALM First Class.



# MATH TEAM

The SEHS math team, **BrainStorm**, is heading into the end of its competition season. Each team member has won a ribbon so far this season! They will compete in the Upstate 8 Conference meet on February 13 and the North Suburban Math League Conference meet on March 6. Math topics have included number bases and systems for freshmen, Venn diagrams and circles for sophomores, logarithms and polynomials for juniors, and vectors and conics for seniors. **BrainStorm** team members practice in C220 on Thursdays each week.

**Come check us out if you're thinking of joining us next year! We'll have snacks!**

SOUTH ELGIN HIGH SCHOOL

## Essentials Exchange Free Clothing Fridays

Event dates:  
1/24  
2/28  
3/21  
4/25  
5/16



3:30  
to  
6:30  
PM

Please park in the back of the school by the mobile units (near tennis courts)

760 East Main Street; South Elgin, IL 60177  
Questions: please email [genevievehebeke@u-46.org](mailto:genevievehebeke@u-46.org)

## Essentials Exchange Free Fridays!

South Elgin High School will now have the Essentials Exchange open to our school community on the fourth Friday of the month from 3:30pm to 6:30 pm. We have all types of clothing, MANY winter coats and cold weather accessories, scarves, hats, gloves, formal clothing including prom dresses, and toiletries. Availability of items can fluctuate, so make sure to come and visit us as soon as you can! All items are free. The Essentials Exchange is located in our mobiles, so please park in the back-parking lot near the tennis courts next to the mobiles.

The Lightning Varsity and JV teams were in the My Hockey Tournament Mid-Winter Classic over MLK weekend. The JV team (including SEHS players Aaron Leppellere and Evan Bockelmann) took 1st place for the JV division and the varsity team (including SEHS players Nate Shanley and Joey Valus) took 2nd place for the Varsity division. They played teams from all over including Ohio, Carolina, Michigan and Windsor, Canada so it was a very exciting weekend for both teams!



Combined Teams For Bartlett, Dundee Crown, Lake Park & South Elgin

## SPRING REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

JOIN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

- JV & Varsity levels
- Affordable program
- Flexibility for other activities
- Play with students from school
- \$650 Player/\$350 Goalie
- 8 Practices/8 Games
- Rinks in Rolling Meadows
- April 1 - End of May

Register Until 3/15

Follow @LightningHighSchoolHockeyClub

LightningHighSchoolHockeyClub.com