

# Spalding High School Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 10

May 2019

## Parent Engagement Corner

Parents,

The million dollar question during the summer months is what are my students going to do for the entire school vacation? Fortunately, there are fun activities that will keep your students learning throughout the break. Your student will have so much fun they will not even realize they are doing learning activities.

Please read over the tips in this month's newsletter to help give you some ideas on ways you can keep your student learning at home during the summer.

As always, please feel free to contact me any time if you need support or information on how to improve your child's academic performance in school. You can reach me at (770) 229-3775 or at [Sandra.merritt@gscs.org](mailto:Sandra.merritt@gscs.org).

## Did You Miss...?

In April, we held Math Night parent workshop.

We discussed math resources through Khan Academy, GaDOE, math games that can be used to study and Rigorous Curriculum Design (RCD) curriculum.

If you missed the workshop but would like the information presented, you may watch a video clip at <http://www.spaldingjags.org/Parents/index.html> or please contact Sandra Merritt at (770) 229-3775 or at [Sandra.merritt@gscs.org](mailto:Sandra.merritt@gscs.org).

Estimados padres:

Este es un documento importante de la escuela de su hijo. Si ustedes necesitan que traduzcamos esta información, por favor, llamen a Lisa Bates al (770) 229-3710 ext. 10327 at [lisa.bates@gscs.org](mailto:lisa.bates@gscs.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR-IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY

5/24	Last Day of School
5/24	Elementary Report cards issued
5/30	Middle and High School Report Cards Issued

## Spring Parent Survey

We need and value your input!!!

If you have not taken our spring parent survey, please take it here:

English:

<https://tinyurl.com/EnglishSpringParentSurvey2019>

Spanish:

<https://tinyurl.com/SpanishSpringParentSurvey2019>

The window will close May 10.

## Make Time to Read

Studies show that students who read regularly over the summer and during school vacations actually gain reading skills rather than losing them. Here are some ideas to keep your students reading when school is out:

- **Encourage reading just for fun**
  - Does your student have a favorite author? Summer vacation is a great time for them to read all of that author's books.
- **Organize a neighborhood book swap**
  - Ask neighbors if they have a book that they would like to temporarily swap. Everyone can leave with a new book to read.
- **Start a chart of the "craziest places I have read this summer"**
  - This can be a chart of where your student has physically read or a chart of the craziest places your student has read about in a book.
- **Schedule family read aloud time**
  - This can be at any time with any type of reading material. For example, you can read a newspaper article aloud and ask your student about the current event or you can ask your student to share a favorite passage from a book they are reading.

## Use Car Time for Learning Opportunities

Whether you are on the road visiting relatives, driving to a vacation spot or in line at the drive through, there are fun games to play to turn your time in the car into a learning experience. Try some of these tips to get you started.

- **Serial Story**
  - One person starts telling a story. As they get to an exciting or suspenseful part they stop talking and let the next person take over. This can help your student work on thinking logically about a story from the beginning to conclusion.
- **Scavenger Hunt**
  - Give your student a pencil and paper. Have them make up a scavenger hunt of 20 items that can be found next time you stop the car. This will give them a fun and simple writing activity when on the go.

## Prevent the Summer Slide

**Engage with high quality fiction and nonfiction:** It is important for students to read both non-fiction and fiction to help develop thoughtful engagement and proficiency in reading. Help your student engage in both types of genres by selecting books that will spark their interest. If your student is interested in space, select a nonfiction and fiction title on that topic. Have your student compare and contrast what points of interest might have been different between the two genres.

**Encourage voluminous independent reading:** Student literacy skills increase when they read independently. Foundational aspects of language such as spelling, punctuation and grammar can be learned and developed when your student reads a book.

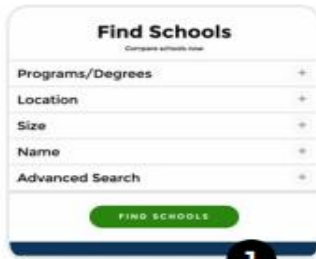
Encourage your student to read independently by offering reading incentives. For example, pick a book that will be coming to the movies soon or has already been made into a movie. Tell your student that upon completion of the book you will have a "movie night". Use the opportunity to have your student talk about what they have read by comparing and contrasting the book to the movie.

## USING THE COLLEGE SCORECARD

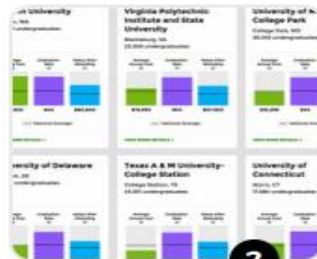
[www.collegescorecard.ed.gov](http://www.collegescorecard.ed.gov)



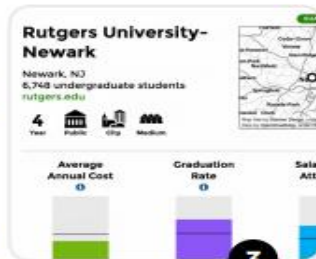
Discover & Compare Schools to Make the Right Choice



Search based on what matters to you.



Compare results and filter them by costs, salaries, and grad rates.



Dive into a school profile.



Return to results or search again. Compare more schools.

## GAfutures

Explore. Plan. Succeed.

This website can help parents make smart decisions about college.

<https://tinyurl.com/ParentGuideEOC>

## Earn College Credits in High School

### Dual Enrollment:

Find out if your student is eligible and how to participate!

<https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-grants/hope-career-grant/>

## A Parent's Guide to the Individual Student Report for Elementary and Middle School End-of-Grade Assessments



<https://tinyurl.com/ParentGuideEOG>

## A Parent's Guide to the Individual Student Report for High School End-of-Course Assessments



<https://tinyurl.com/ParentGuideEOG>

## What is School Transition?

School Transition is a process that prepares all partners – students, families, schools and communities – to develop knowledge, skills, and relationships that help students move from one educational setting to another.

### Kindergarten Transition video (English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7xQy6AcMsoU>

### Middle School Matters (English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWpSwWNrKbQ&feature=youtu.be>

### Middle School Matters (Spanish)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CaawuztnvM&feature=youtu.be>

### High School Happening (English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyepU40NogQ&feature=youtu.be>