

## Seneca Middle School Quarter II Newsletter 2021



Welcome to 2021! We look forward to the start of this year with renewed hope. Thank you to the parents and students who continue to work hard each and every day to get the most out of their education during these ever-changing times. Thank you for your continued support of our teachers and Seneca Middle School.

This year, we hope you take the time to focus on your mental health as well. Take some time each day to do something good for yourself or someone else. We will continue with our commitment to working with you and your children. Some students will have a different course for the second semester. Please ask your child to check eschool to determine if there is a change in their schedule.

Mrs. Conte has been meeting with all 8th grade students regarding course requests for next year. There is a letter on the main page of the Sachem website and Seneca Google Classroom that contains detailed information. Please contact Mrs. Conte or Mrs. Salvia with any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Proctor has started the scheduling process for the current 6<sup>th</sup> graders to be placed in their 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes. There is short video explaining this process in Mrs. Proctor's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Guidance Google Classroom. The students are required to complete a short Google Form and submit their responses. Students can contact Mrs. Proctor if they have any questions.

We look forward to continue working with you and your children in meeting their academic, social, and emotional goals at Seneca.

Seneca Website:

[http://www.sachem.edu/schools/seneca\\_middle\\_school](http://www.sachem.edu/schools/seneca_middle_school)

Twitter: @SachemSenecaMS

Instagram: seneca\_ms



### ADMINISTRATION

**GEMMA M. SALVIA**  
PRINCIPAL

DENISE DOLAN  
GEORGIA AFXENDIOU, Ph.D  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

### GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT STAFF

- KARA PROCTOR  
Grade 6 Counselor
- JAMES DUFFY  
Grade 7 Counselor
- ADA CONTE  
Grade 8 Counselor
- STEPHANIE GARCIA  
Substance Abuse Counselor
- EVA SANSONE  
Social Worker
- CYNTHIA TLOCZKOWSKI  
School Psychologist

## Course Selection for 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Believe it or not we are presently at the halfway point for this academic year. In preparation for next year, your child's teachers are presently working with their Guidance Counselor in making course recommendations for their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Recommendations are made in the core subject areas of Math, Science, ELA, Social Studies and World Languages. These recommendations are made based upon grade point average, study habits, and work ethic.

Of course, students will also be taking Physical Education, Writing Workshop and Art and Music. Those students who are presently in Band, Orchestra and Chorus may choose to continue in those courses. Music selection is

accomplished by signing onto Mr. Duffy's Google Classroom (code: rghasew) to make your music selection. If a student chooses not to continue in Band, Orchestra or Chorus, they will be placed in General Music. **All students should sign into Mr. Duffy's Classroom to make their music selection.**

Course recommendations and selection will be available to view in the Parent Portal in March. For those students who have an IEP, course selection is based upon your child's IEP. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Mr. Duffy at (631) 471-1850.

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*"The future depends on what you do today." Mahatma Gandhi*

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### STUDY TIPS

- **Have a regular workspace at home** – should be well lit, clean, and have proper supplies.
- **Background noise** (music) – may help when working.
- **Use schedules to prioritize work** – using your agenda to enter assignments and keep track of due dates will help.

### LIVESTREAMING BEGINS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

As our District has completed important technology upgrades, all classes will be livestreaming by February 1<sup>st</sup>. This means that on the days the students are at home, they will be expected to log into their Google Classroom and follow the class with the students who are present for the day. Every student must follow their schedule for the entire day using the AC/BD designation for that day. Students must attend **ALL** their classes, **including electives**, as if they were in school. Students who are part of the remote academy, ROSA, must log into their live streamed electives on Mondays and Fridays with their Seneca teachers. We encourage ROSA students to also participate in their elective live stream courses Tuesday - Thursday. Attendance will be taken for each class. Students will be marked late if they do not log in at the start of class, and they will be marked absent if they do not stay for the entire lesson. Any concerns about attendance must be addressed with your child's teacher. Any problems with accessing the necessary technologies – camera, microphone – should be addressed with your child's guidance counselor or Administration. Our Board of Education has created Policy 4528 (<https://go.boarddocs.com/ny/sachem/Board.nsf/Public#>) about acceptable and unacceptable practices during remote learning.

# RECOGNIZING OUR STUDENTS

Seneca takes great pride in recognizing students any way we can. Each month, we celebrate our Students of the Month, nominated by classroom teachers. We are so proud of them. Each week, we also recognize Students Who Make a Difference, and to date, we have acknowledged over 315 students. We also celebrate students' academic success at the end of each quarter through our Renaissance Program, and special recognition is given to students who achieve Academic Excellence with an overall average of 95% or better.



## Students of the Month November

Grade 8 – Jake Kyranakis

Grade 6 – Jasmin Baum

Grade 7 – Keira Gafarian

## IMPORTANT DATES

**January 29**  
End of Quarter II

**February 1**  
Quarter III begins

**February 1 - 12**  
Spirit Week

**February 8**  
Winter 2 sports  
begins

**February 15 - 19**  
School Closed  
Mid-Winter recess

**March 29 - April 2**  
School Closed  
Spring recess

**April 13**  
Quarter III ends



## Students of the Month December

Grade 7 - Madison Mahady

Grade 6 - Jake Surrusco

Grade 8 - Ariadna Reina

## Students of the Month January

Grade 6 - Kaelyn Califano

Grade 7 - Sofia Larrea

Grade 8 - Sarah Baker

















# School Spirit Week

2/1/2021 – 2/12/2021

Monday 2/1	Tuesday 2/2	Wednesday 2/3	Thursday 2/4	Friday 2/5
It's Pajama Day! 	It's Pajama Day! 	Aloha! It's Hawaiian Day! 	Aloha! It's Hawaiian Day! 	Let's Get Ready! Jersey Day! 
Monday 2/8	Tuesday 2/9	Wednesday 2/10	Thursday 2/11	Friday 2/12
Let's Get Ready! Jersey Day! 	Show Support and Wear Pink! 	Show Support and Wear Pink! 	P.S. I Love You Day! 	P.S. I Love You Day! 

**PTA President**  
Lisa Haggerty

**Vice President/  
Fundraising**  
Nicole D'Introno

**Secretary/Reflections/  
Hospitality**  
Charlotte Green

**Treasurer**  
Kelly Walstrum

**Council Delegate  
Box Tops**  
Nicole Cudjoe-Golding

**Arts-in-Education**  
Gail Craner

**Spirit Wear  
School Store**  
Hillary Sesack

**Membership**  
Laura Weldon

**Book Fair**  
Jennifer Simone



The PTA is looking forward to a wonderful year with the students and families of Seneca. We encourage you to join the Seneca Middle School PTA. Anyone can become a member. When you join the PTA, you immediately become a member of the State and National PTA Organizations as well as your local unit. Help us have a stronger voice for all of our children! There is no obligation to volunteer as a member. The cost of membership is \$8.00 per person. If you would like to become a PTA member, please click on the Memberhub link. Your membership cards will be emailed to you. Your Seneca PTA Membership may be purchased all year long!! Seneca PTA Membership is \$8.00 per person.

<https://seneca.memberhub.store/?fbclid=IwAR0BzcT5Ndid5E2EHwZZsyheHyFBvHvHxHJdlRaTwj2vUfMF8MBRQ9Sz4QA>