



APRIL 2021

STEM NEWSLETTER

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- GENERAL BULLETIN -

START OF NEW QUARTER

Autumn Rose Strawbridge

With the start of a new quarter, summer is fast approaching. Quarter 3 report cards will become available through Parent Portal on April 23rd. Shortly after, Quarter 4 interims will be sent out on May 7th. Make sure to stay updated on grades and assignments throughout the remainder of the school year to finish strong.



STEM GAME DAY

Arusa Malik

On May 14th at 10 AM, the STEM Family Committee Social Events Team will be hosting a STEM-wide game day! This opportunity will be open to all STEM students who are interested in getting to know each other while having fun. Information will be released soon, if you have any questions please email parsasedghi@outlook.com.

AP EXAMS

Lilly Fisher

For students signed up to take the AP exams, they are fast approaching! AACPS has shared the exam schedule with students, which can be found here: **AP-Family/Student Letter**. Students should be registered for either the paper and pencil or the digital exam.

To prepare for the AP exams, College Board has released the app for AP digital exams. The app provides practice questions regardless of if the student is taking the exam via paper/pencil or digitally. This is already available on school-issued Chromebooks. Before a student logs into their Chromebook, at the bottom left of the screen is a waffle for apps. The student just needs to click on the waffle and choose College Board. From there, the student logs in to their College Board, MyAP account. For students with their own laptop or desktop, the students can go to: **cb.org/ap2021examapp** and follow the download directions. You must log in no later than 3 days prior to your online AP exam.

AP Daily videos are a fantastic way to review and prepare for the exams. You can access AP Daily videos through AP Classroom. AP Daily: Live Review sessions are daily lessons to help you prepare for the exams. They are found on the Advanced Placement YouTube channel.

VACCINATION INFORMATION 16+

Lilly Fisher

All Marylanders 16 and older can pre-register for vaccination at one of Maryland's mass vaccination sites. Pre-registration ensures you will be notified when you are able to make an appointment. Pre-register for a vaccine at a mass vaccination site here: <https://onestop.md.gov/preregistration>.

Vaccinations are also available through hospitals, local health departments and pharmacies.

Vaccinations are now walk in! Find a vaccine near you at:

[https://maryland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instance/nearby/index.html?](https://maryland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instance/nearby/index.html?appid=0dbfb100676346ed9758be319ab3f40c&find=)

[appid=0dbfb100676346ed9758be319ab3f40c&find=](https://maryland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instance/nearby/index.html?appid=0dbfb100676346ed9758be319ab3f40c&find=)



NEW JOB SHADOW OPPORTUNITIES

Natalie McDonald

Job Shadowing is a requirement for all STEM students and as the third quarter comes to an end more job shadow opportunities will become available. Some of the latest job shadow opportunities are Student Action with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, The CyberMaryland Conference, and the Million Girls Moonshot Young Women in STEM leadership panels. All required job shadows should be completed before the end of the quarter, so be sure to check the website and fill out the Google Form to receive credit for any job shadow you attend.



- 9TH GRADE BULLETIN -

ECYBERMISSIONS

Eman Zia

The eCybermissions project is underway! In their GCC-PBL classes, students have just wrapped up their first project checkpoint and presented/are currently presenting their work with their classmates. The project will continue throughout this last marking period, so let's finish strong and put our best work forward!



SCIENCE FAIR UPDATE

Eman Zia

The work for the Science Fair has already started! As of right now, students have already completed their literature review - a 5-10 page document that contains significant information on their topic, and connects the sources with each other. Students have also taken their broad topics and narrowed them down into a specific question or problem that they will focus on for the fair.



- 10TH GRADE BULLETIN -

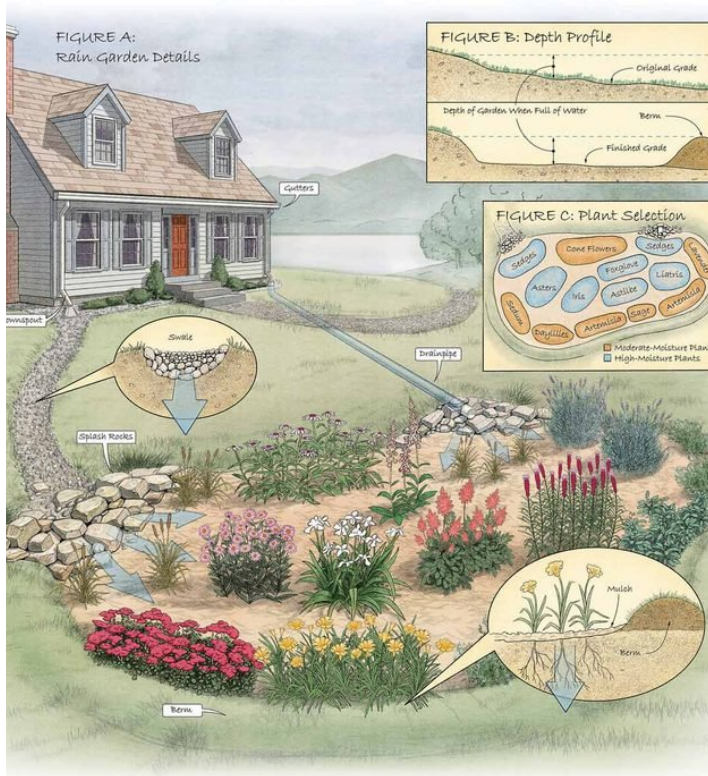
ADCAP RESULTS

Jaylene Miranda

Last quarter, the sophomores took part in the AdVenture Capital challenge, also known as AdCap. AdCap partners with global leaders in innovation to uplift young leaders and show them how to think like social entrepreneurs. Students chose from two different challenges. Your Move, Zoom! focuses on increasing physical activity in the virtual world. The second challenge, Build a Better Breakfast, asked students to help others make a healthy breakfast, as March is National Nutrition Month. These challenges were taken on by students in either a group or individually. The groups receiving the \$1,000 grant are:

- **Step Outside** by Caroline McGlone (Leader), Jacob Reeder, and James Siegert
- **Make Your Morning** by Jaylene Miranda (Leader) and William Lovelace
- **Building Better Habits** by Jameson Haynes
- **River Rain Garden** by Autumn Rose Strawbridge (Leader) and Aleena Malik
- **Students Serve** by Caroline Finn (Leader), Sarah Loomis, and William Walker

Don't forget to congratulate our winners and wish them good luck while they bring their ideas to life.



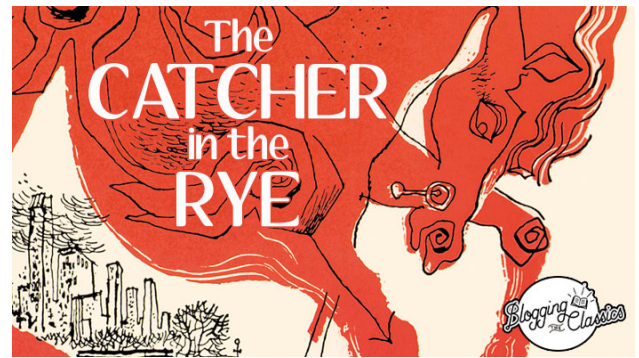
GREEN TECH RAIN GARDEN Autumn Rose Strawbridge

In an effort to reduce runoff & erosion into the Chesapeake Bay, promote student wellness, and bring students together through collaboration, a rain garden is being built at the front of South River. Previously, this area was eroded and unwelcoming, in desperate need of remediation. After pitching, planning, and funding this project, the space is currently in the process of being tilled and prepped. This student-led project will also become a service opportunity for students later this year.

THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

Autumn Rose Strawbridge

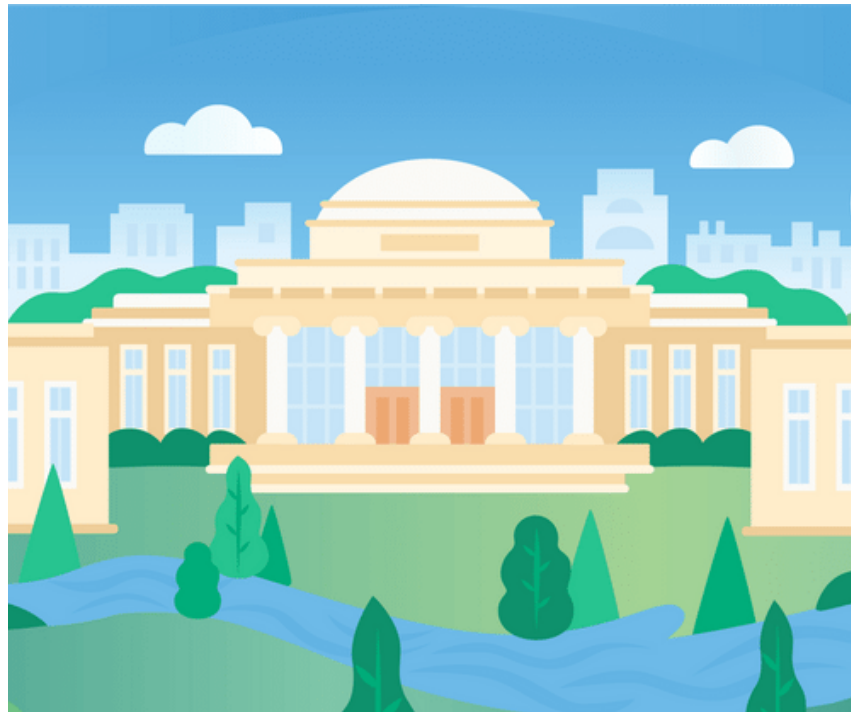
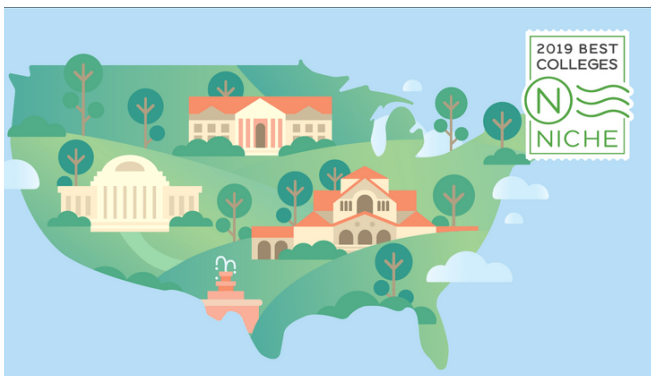
This quarter, 10th grade students will be reading the novel "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D Salinger in their English classes. Catcher in the Rye explores conformity, individuality, and the transition to adulthood by providing a new perspective on our society and what it means to be a teenager. Students will work together both collaboratively and individually to explore these topics in relation to their daily lives and experiences.



COLLEGE DEEP DIVE

Lilly Fisher

Continuing their college preparation unit in Project Based Learning (PBL), STEM students selected a college to learn more about and performed in-depth research on it. Using resources such as College Board and Naviance, students searched for information regarding various aspects of the university, including size, majors, and location. They then evaluated their own candidacy for that school, taking into account what the university values as very important, important, and considered. Students also determined what they could do to improve their candidacy for that school. This unit allows students to get a head start on college by providing essential information and resources to allow them to get ahead.



- 11TH GRADE BULLETIN -

GREEN WALL REMEDIATION

Megha Thomas

As a part of the 4th Quarter sustainability project for Environment in Society students, juniors will be working on remediating the school's green wall. The green wall was made a few years ago by Green Tech pathway students near the auditorium entrance, but unfortunately because of the pandemic, the wall has not been properly maintained. The plants are dying, pockets are coming off the wall, and the soil is not healthy. This year's junior class aims to add new soil to the pockets and include a variety of new plants. Students have been meeting asynchronously at the school to clean and plant. The project is entirely student-led with Arusa Malik serving as manager and Chloe Polk as assistant manager.



COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

Megha Thomas

STEM juniors Adeline Albanese, Lauren Grove, and Keimani Smith are working on a Community Challenge with Take-Pause, an organization that aims to reduce teen anxiety and stress through virtual reality. Students can log on to the Take-Pause website and walk through a five minute breathing meditation. Unfortunately, many teens are unaware about Take-Pause and its benefits, so this group is currently working to find a solution for the organization. More information about this project and others will be shared on Community Challenge night on June 3rd.

STEM ADVISORY BOARD

Megha Thomas

The STEM Advisory Board is a team of around 8 seniors who work to organize mentor-mentee events, make decisions for senior events, and much more. This position is a great way for rising seniors to show leadership and leave their STEM legacy with the program. April 14th was the deadline for current juniors to submit their Google Form applications for the STEM Advisory Board. Following submission of the Google Form, students will go through an interview and shadowing process to further decide who will make up the Board. The Advisory Board members for the class of 2022 are set to be announced in about a month.

GREEN TECH PUBLICATIONS

Arusa Malik

Through the second and third marking period, juniors in the Green Technology pathway were working diligently on their clone analysis projects through DSAP WSSP. The Waksman Student Scholars Program (WSSP) provides opportunities for high school students and their teachers to conduct an authentic research project in molecular biology and bioinformatics and to publish their findings. This is a year-long program that begins each year with summer institutes for teachers and one or two of their students. It continues back at each high school during the academic year, when more students can become involved in the research project. In the course of these studies, students, teachers, and research scientists work together on a genuine research problem. By actually doing science, students gain an understanding of how science operates and are encouraged to continue their education and careers in a science discipline. Many Environment in Society students had their research and data published to the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) early this month. Their clone analyses will be used in comparative studies moving forward. We would like to recognize the following students on their publications (they are listed in alphabetical order along with their clone's identity number):

Adeline Albanese - 20JM308.20

Elizabeth Barker - 20JM28.20

Genica Samantha Bustos - 20JM93.20

Lillianne Davis - 20JM27.20

Allison Downs-Perez - 20JM31.20

Lauren Grove - 20JM29.20

Emma Lopes - 20JM81.20

Arusa Malik - 2031581.20

Megha Thomas - 20315181.20

To view these student's full report and analysis, please copy and paste their clone number into the NCBI database here: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nucleotide>

ORIGIN

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1 ccggcagtca aataaagcaa agagcatggc cgtagatgt agtttcagtt catcttctga
61 tggtagtggc agcacagccg agaattacag tgagaatgat gaagactaca tcatgtccag
121 cgtagttagg gctggtgagg tgagaagcgg ttcggatggt tttatgatca agatgagaga
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481 tggaacgag tccga
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- 12TH GRADE BULLETIN -

STEM SENIOR COLLEGE SHOUTOUTS

Megha Thomas

Congratulations to our STEM seniors for committing to colleges!

Check out where some of our seniors are going in the fall:

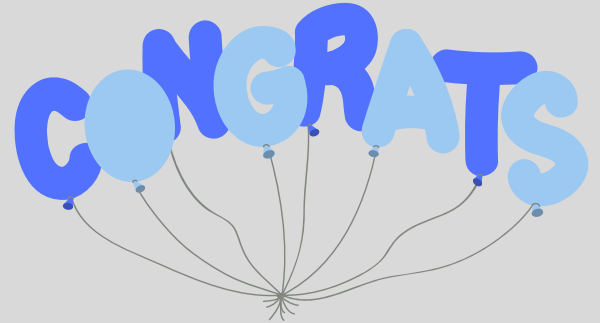
Jacob Gallaher - Plymouth State University

Lily Baker - Vanderbilt University

Tyler Kempton - University of Maryland

Ellie Fahey - University of Notre Dame

Morgan Douglass - Virginia Tech

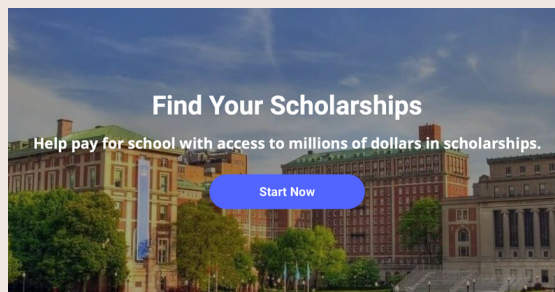


SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

Arusa Malik

Some scholarships for college are merit-based. You can earn them by meeting or exceeding certain standards set by the scholarship-giver. Merit scholarships might be awarded based on academic achievement or based on a combination of academics and a special talent, trait, or interest. Other scholarships are based on financial need. Many scholarships are geared toward particular groups of people; for instance, there are scholarships for women or graduate students. And some are available because of where you or your parents work, or because you come from a certain background (for instance, there are scholarships for military families). A scholarship might cover the entire cost of your tuition, or it might be a one-time award of a few hundred dollars. Either way, it's worth applying for because it'll help reduce the cost of your education. Here are some helpful websites:

[Fastweb.com](https://www.fastweb.com)
[Moolahspot.com](https://www.moolahspot.com)
[SallieMae.com](https://www.salliemae.com)
[Cappex.com](https://www.cappex.com)
[Petersons.com](https://www.petersons.com)





APRIL STEM TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



MR. KAHLER

WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND?

My road to education was not a traditional path. I was bound for law school when I was recruited to work at a Telecommunications company after going to Cal State. After 10 years in the tech industry designing websites, optimizing SEO and being a technical writer for industrial companies; it was time for a change. My start was with Baltimore City Public Schools, then to AACPS to MSDE, and finally back home to AACPS.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

I am motivated by new and interesting challenges. The best part of being a teacher is having three shows a day to perform and it is mostly improv. You do not know what the audience knows about today's script, but you need everyone to pay attention to the plot and leave remembering the story.

WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT STEM AT SOUTH RIVER?

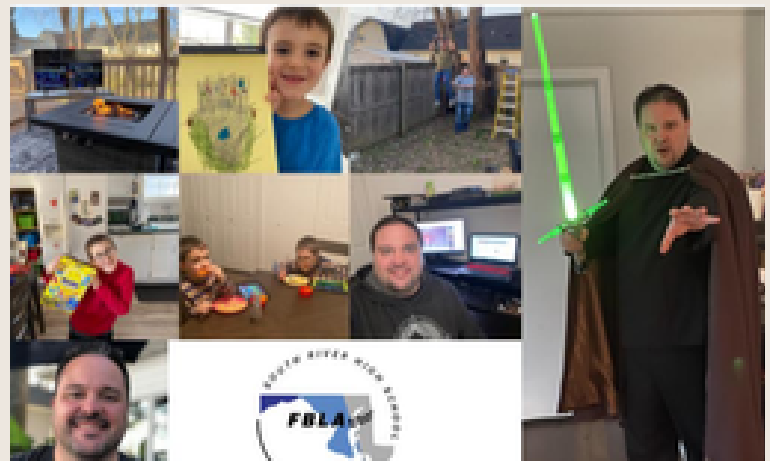
It is the most challenging curriculum you can possibly take anywhere in the State of Maryland. I love knowing we are the absolute best. If you can make it here, you can make it anywhere. Also, they let me have an FBLA Chapter here, and I am super passionate about students becoming leaders and learning how to use their voice in a professional scenario.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE IN-SCHOOL MEMORY?

I won an art contest in high school, Northeast Senior High in Pasadena. That was a big moment for me on a personal level. The painting is still hanging in my living room today.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST LISTENED TO COMMUTING TO SCHOOL SONG THIS YEAR?

I've been playing the Killers a lot recently, I downloaded a whole bunch of their albums and have been listening while working most days



SPECIAL NOTICES

EID AL FITR

Lilly Fisher



Eid al Fitr is a religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide, marking the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan. This religious event is the only day in the month of Shawwal during which Muslims are not permitted to fast. Eid al-Fitr has a particular salat (Islamic prayer) that consists of two rakats (units) generally performed in an open field or large hall. Eid al-Fitr was originated by the Islamic prophet Muhammad. According to certain traditions, these festivals were initiated in Medina after the migration of Muhammad from Mecca. When the Prophet arrived in Medina, he found people celebrating two specific days, and he remarked that Almighty has fixed two days of festivity which are better than these: Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. This year, Eid al-Fitr will begin in the evening of Wednesday, May 12 and end in the evening of Thursday, May 13.

FBLA UPDATE

Tina Shi

The State Leadership Conference (SLC) arrived this past month! FBLA members attended the SLC Awards Show on Saturday, April 17 at 11:00 a.m. Congratulations to the 22 students who advanced to the National Leadership Conference and a great job to all of the South River High School FBLA members on being named the Region Three Champions at the Maryland SLC. This was a big accomplishment and we would like to thank all of the members for their hard work!

AACPS TUTORING

Natalie McDonald

Although many groups or organizations at SRHS offer tutoring programs, AACPS offers free virtual tutoring for almost every subject, which is accessible through the Classlink portal. By opening the portal and clicking on the light bulb icon, you can see the timeframes and days of the week to get help from several teachers across the county who are waiting to help you. Make sure you consider using the AACPS Tutoring program the next time you are having trouble with an assignment.

STEM AFTER HOURS

Neel Garg

We're at the last quarter of the year, let's end it on a good note. Instead of settling for low grades, come to STEM after hours and bring those grades up to As. You'll find teachers and upperclassmen alike who can help you understand the difference between an anion and a cation, how to find the electron configuration of francium, and how to find the arc angle of a circle. To transform those Cs into As, come to STEM after hours. Meetings are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 4-5pm. The Google Classroom code is xtvjsbj.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Free hot lunch pick up:

<https://www.aacps.org/mealpickup>

Find a school counselor:

<https://www.aacps.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=862>

COVID-19 Information:

<https://www.aacps.org/coronavirus>

Incident report form:

<https://secure.aacps.org/webapps/SEFP/OSOS>

Anne Arundel County Crisis Response System
Warmline 1-410-768-5522

The Maryland Youth Hotline 1-800-422-0009

Student Safety Hotline 1-877-676-9854

COMMUNITY WARMLINE

Crisis Response System

410-768-5522

**24 HOURS A DAY,
7 DAYS A WEEK**

For Anne Arundel County Residents
in-crisis. Get assistance and
resources within the community.

**Reminder to all: You are
not alone in your
hardships! Please reach
out if you need it.**

CRISIS TEXT LINE |

**Text HELLO to 741741
Free, 24/7, Confidential**



A suicide prevention network of
161 crisis centers that provides a
24/7, toll-free hotline available to
anyone in suicidal crisis or
emotional distress.