



# Springfield Highlights



2013 - 2014

MIKE GROSSEN, PRINCIPAL

FALL 2013

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

#### Junior/Senior Financial Aid Intro

- Thur., Nov. 21-6:30 p.m. - Commons

#### Thanksgiving Break

- Thurs., Nov. 28 - Fri., Nov. 29

#### Holiday Spirit Wear Sale in Annex

- Sat., Dec. 7 from 9:00 a.m. - noon

#### Final Exams and 2:17 p.m. Dismissal

- Dec. 17, 18 & 19 (Schedule on p. 2)

#### Winter Break

- Fri., Dec. 20 - Fri., Jan. 3

#### First Day of Second Semester

- Mon., Jan. 6 (No zero hour)

#### Preview Night for Incoming Students

- Wed., Jan. 15 starting at 6:00 p.m.

#### No School: MLK Day

- Mon., Jan. 20

#### No School: School Improvement Day

- Tues., Jan. 21

#### No School: Parent/Teacher Conferences

- Tues., Feb. 11 - Noon - 7:15 p.m.

#### No School: Lincoln's Birthday

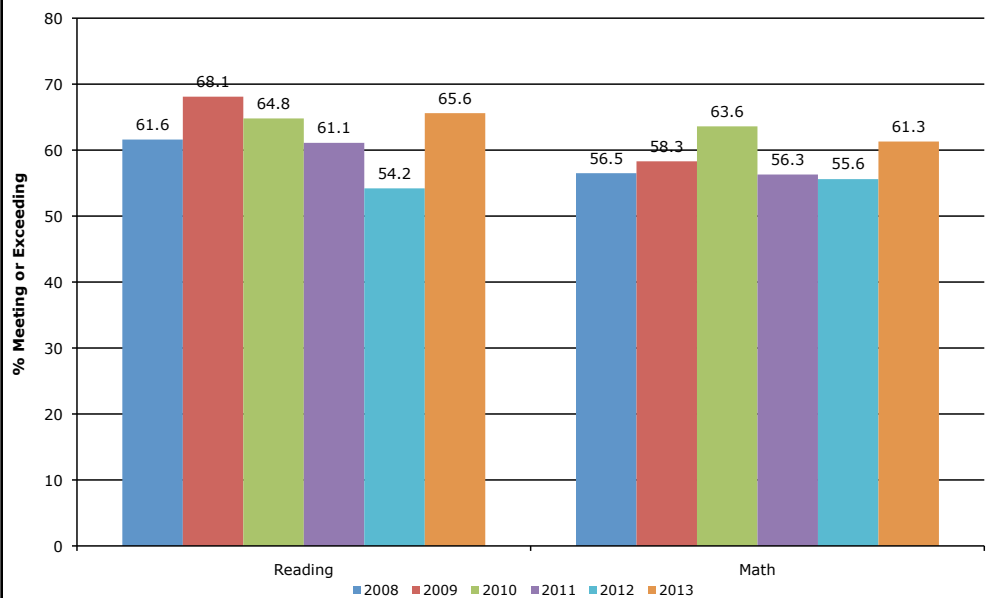
- Wed., Feb. 12



### **ATTENDANCE REMINDER**

The grade level APs/Deans are responsible for tracking your students daily attendance. You have 48 hours to clear an absence by calling the Attendance Office. If there is not a phone call, then your student may be subject to progressive consequences.

2008-2013 Trend Data - ALL



### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:**

As you can see, in the above graph, we have celebrated our gains on the assessment that the state uses to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). However, we still did not make AYP. That assessment is the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). This test is administered to all 11th grade students in April of every year. The PSAE is a 2-day test with Day 1 being the ACT test and Day 2 being the ACT Work Keys, both tests are combined to get a score. Our scores for Reading and Math are in the graph above.

However, we realize and understand that our scores are not where we want them to be even with these gains. We want you to know that we are fully aware of this situation and are working on this issue tirelessly. We look at these scores as well as other assessments like classroom quizzes, chapter or unit tests, final exams, quarterly math assessments, SRI, PSAT, EXPLORE, and PLAN, to see how we can better prepare our students to be successful learners. All of these are either school, district, or state exams and give us valuable information about our students and guide us to make adjustments if needed.

This year, like every year, we are working relentlessly to improve our scores and help our students make academic progress.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

<http://www.sps186.org/schools/springfield/>

Main Office:	525-3100	Fax:	525-3122
Guidance Office:	525-3106	Fax:	525-3129
Attendance Office:	525-3111	Room 106:	525-3109

**SENIOR EXAM  
EXEMPTIONS**

\* Check our website for Semester 1 Senior Exam Exemption forms & criteria.

<http://www.sps186.org/schools/springfield/>

**SHS WEBSITE**

<http://www.sps186.org/schools/springfield/>

The SHS website has important college planning information, college and military recruiter visit dates, financial aid information, a scholarship database and notices of special programs. Please go to the website, click on Guidance and be informed.

**FINALS SCHEDULE**

Day 1 - Tues., Dec. 17		*Day 2 - Wed., Dec. 18		*Day 3 - Thurs., Dec. 19	
Exam Period 2	8:24- 10:00	Exam Period 3	8:24- 10:00	Exam Period 1	8:24- 10:00
Exam Period 6	10:05- 11:35	Exam Period 5	10:05- 11:35	Exam Period 4	10:05- 11:35
Lunch A	11:35- 12:05	Lunch A	11:35- 12:05	Lunch A	11:35- 12:05
Class 4A	12:10- 12:45	Class 4A	12:10- 12:45	Class 4A	12:10- 12:45
Class 4B	11:40- 12:15	Class 4B	11:40- 12:15	Class 4B	11:40- 12:15
Lunch B	12:15- 12:45	Lunch B	12:15- 12:45	Lunch B	12:15- 12:45
Exam Period 7	12:50 2:20	Make-Up Exams	12:50 2:20	Make-Up Exams	12:50 2:20

\*Students may leave or be picked up **after their last exam** on Day 2 (12/18) and Day 3 (12/19) of the finals.

**FROM THE PTO: Jim Bremhorst**

Thank you to all the families that have joined the PTO this year. For those of you that have not yet joined, it's not too late to join either. We've had a number of Teacher Grant Requests already fulfilled and we need your help to continue to provide the support our teachers and student needs. Our membership form can be pulled off the SHS website, picked up in the main office, or email me at [jimbremhorst@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbremhorst@yahoo.com) and I will send you the form.

The PTO will be exploring ways that we can improve our support of the teachers at our next meeting on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 in the library. This meeting will be a little different and more interactive than usual - and we need strong attendance to make it a success!

At this meeting, we'll break out into small groups to get parent and teacher input on key questions about family engagement at SHS. What should the PTO focus on in the future? How can we as parent best support our kids' teachers? What can we do to welcome all families into the PTO and the school community? We want to hear from as many parent and teacher voices as we can. There will be at least one teacher from each core department so we can all work together to improve parent engagement.

We are excited for this meeting and hope you will mark your calendars and join us!"



**March 8, 2014** Springfield Hilton

### FROM THE BOOSTER CLUB

**Come join the fun at the Boosters' Red and Black Gala!**

Auction items include:

- Reserved Prime Parking Spot
- Guaranteed Parking Spot on SHS Campus for a junior
- Sangamo Club Dessert for 12
- Round of golf for 4 and lunch at Illini Country Club
- Private plane ride and brunch
- Delicious BBQ Ribs Party
- Progressive Dinner!
- AND MANY MORE!

Watch for Save the Date cards soon!  
Questions?

Want to Donate?

Want to Volunteer?

Call Mary Beth Stephens at 546-2603

### POST SECONDARY COACH

Springfield High has the services of Donna Povse, retired Guidance Dean, to assist students and families with post high school plans. She especially hopes to work with those who may not have thought about the option of continued education past high school.

Mrs. Povse can help explore career options, vocational, technical or military options. Assisting with applications, financial aid information and scholarships/grants will be part of her service. Bus trips to college campuses will also be scheduled.

Office hours are flexible, Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30-3:30 and Wednesday from 11:30-3:30. If early morning or later afternoon appointments are needed arrangements can be made. She may be reached at 525-3106 through the Guidance office.

Special evening presentations to parent and students are also planned. Watch the newsletter or the website for more information.

### COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS

Seniors who plan to apply to a four-year university should do so early. Applications are available online.

FAFSA, LINE BY LINE PRESENTATION FOR SENIORS & THEIR PARENTS: Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014 in the Commons at 6:30 p.m.

### JUNIORS AND SENIORS

College bound juniors and seniors need to take either the ACT or SAT I college entrance exams. All juniors will take the ACT on the first day of the PSAE in April. Preparing for the college entrance exams may be done in a variety of ways.

- Work hard and receive above average grades in a rigorous course load.
- Check with your Guidance Dean or Asst. Principal for other test prep avenues like [act.org](http://act.org), [bettertestscores.net](http://bettertestscores.net), [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com), Lincoln Land Community College, Nelson Resource Center, Sylvan Learning Centers, and the Springfield Urban League.

### NCAA Division I or II

Students interested in participating in Division I or II must be registered with the NCAA ([www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)). Student/athletes will need 16 core credits to be eligible. Please see Mr. Barnes to verify that students are on track for eligibility. **Sophomores and higher grade levels should register if they are even considering to compete in college.**

### What's Next Illinois

A "one-stop-shop" is the internet web site, <http://www.whatsnextillinois.org> designed to provide you with lots of information on college planning, paying for school, and career planning. You will have access to a centralized source of information, as well as information concerning the Illinois Student Assistance Commission's programs, processes, and resources.