SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOLR

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2016-2017

THIS BOOK MUST BE BROUGHT TO EACH CLASS EVERY DAY.

We have received a copy of the South Orangetown Middle School Handbook, which includes the Student Code of Conduct. We have carefully read through it. We are familiar with the rules, regulations, and guidelines governing school conduct, behavior, and class work.

AS A STUDENT:

I will abide by the South Orangetown Middle School Code of Conduct.

I will act in a responsible, courteous, and dignified manner at all times.

I will respect my classmates, my teachers, and school property.

AS A PARENT:

I will do all that I can to support my child's efforts in school and help him/her to succeed.

I will see to it that my child comes to school ready and prepared to work.

I will check the notebook, as needed, for completed class assignments and homework.

I will make every effort to ensure that my child's books and school supplies are adequately maintained.

Furthermore, I will make every attempt to contact the school if I have any questions or concerns about my child's school work, conduct and/or progress.

STUDENT'S NAME

Gr.

Homeroom Teacher

Team

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND

RETURNED TO YOUR 1ST PERIOD TEACHER.

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STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

As a student of **South Orangetown Middle School**, I agree that everybody should enjoy our school equally, and feel safe, secure and accepted regardless of color, race, gender, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion, nationality, weight, ethnic group, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation or sex.

I understand that harassment can be pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone. Harassment causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as "kids being kids," "just teasing" or any other rationalization. The victim is never responsible for being a target.

By signing this pledge, I agree to:

- 1. Value student differences and treat others with respect.
- 2. Not become involved in harassment or discrimination incidents or be a bully.
- 3. Be aware of the school's policies and support system with regard to harassment.
- 4. Report honestly and immediately all incidents of harassment to a faculty member.
- 5. Be alert in places around the school where there is less adult supervision such as bathrooms, corridors, and stairwells.
- 6. Support students who have been or are subjected to harassment.
- 7. Talk to teachers and parents about concerns and issues regarding harassment.
- 8. Work with other students and faculty, to help the school deal with harassment effectively.
- 9. Encourage teachers to discuss harassment issues in the classroom.
- 10. Provide a good role model for younger students and support them if harassment occurs.
- 11. Participate fully and contribute to assemblies dealing with harassment

I acknowledge that whether I am being a bully or see someone being bullied, if I don't report or stop the bullying, I am just as guilty.

Signed by: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

PARENT SUPPORT OF STUDENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS

As a parent of a student attending **South Orangetown Middle School** I believe that everybody should enjoy our school equally, and feel safe, secure and accepted regardless of color, race, gender, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion, nationality, weight, ethnic group, religious practice, disability, sex or sexual orientation.

I acknowledge that harassment can be pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone. Harassment causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as "kids being kids, "just teasing" or any other rationalization. The victim is never responsible for being a target.

By signing this pledge, I agree to:

- 1. Discuss and review the school harassment policies.
- 2. Work in partnership with the school to encourage positive behavior, valuing differences and promoting sensitivity to others.
- 3. Discuss regularly with my child their feelings about school work, friendships and relationships.
- 4. Inform my child's teachers or school counselor of any changes in his/her behavior or of any circumstances at home that may change a child's behavior at school.
- 5. Alert faculty if any harassment has occurred.

Signed by: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

Please sign both sides and return to your 1st period teacher.

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK

(COVER DESIGN BY: SENA NAMKUNG)

SOUTH ORANGETOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Robert Pritchard Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction – Dr. Brian Culot

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Guy DeVincenzo – President Dan Lamadrid - Vice-President Leon Jacobs - Trustee Kenneth Malpeli- Trustee Rosemary Pitruzzella - Trustee

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Karen Tesik, Principal	680-1101
Chad Corey, Assistant Principal	680-1102
Dan Sullivan, Student Support	680-1147
Guidance Office	680-1106
Patricia Iannucci, Guidance Counselor	680-1111
Philip Farrugia, Guidance Counselor	680-1107
Siobhan Maiorano, Guidance Counselor	680-1109
Margaret Keane RN, School Nurse	680-1130
Steve Sawitsky, Psychologist	680-1023
Attendance/Main Office	680-1143

Website: http://www.socsd.org

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Claire Heatley, President	845-659-1638
Sharyn Rubino, Vice President	845-224-5886
Lisa Connolly, Treasurer	914-318-5001
Kristyn Tobin, Secretary	914-439-2334

Name

Homeroom ______

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

SOUTH ORANGETOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MISSION STATEMENT

In a rapidly changing world, the South Orangetown school community affirms its positive vision of the future by providing a safe and caring environment where the excitement of teaching and learning is shared by all, and where we encourage and nurture the uniqueness of each child.

Through diverse and challenging programs, we promote high academic standards, creative and critical thinking, self-respect and respect for others, and acceptance of our responsibilities in a global society.

We are committed to fostering a love of learning in our students.

"TOGETHER WE CAN..."

Dear Students,

There are those who say that the middle school is the last best chance to ensure that students are prepared for future academic success. While it may be the last <u>best</u> chance, it is not the last chance. Throughout life there will be opportunities to reinvent one's self, take on new challenges, or make a great personal transformation. However, such changes come more easily when there is a strong foundation.

While I believe that such a foundation is established first by family and community, it is strengthened by the learning that takes place primarily in schools. For those of you who take advantage of every learning experience, you will have the basic elements for future success.

Some of you may ask the question, "Why do I have to learn this?" It is a good question and should always be asked. But the answer may not always be available in the present. Life has a way of surprising each of us with experiences and challenges for which some of us are less prepared. Those who embrace the importance of learning and always learning, no matter how old or how smart one becomes, will be better prepared than those who think they know it all. Nobody does. Nobody can.

So, make your middle school years the time in your life when you will seek as many learning opportunities as possible, accept what you perceive as "irrelevant" learning for its potential, and seek experiences that may help you discover the hidden talents that lie within you. If you do that, you will have the foundation that will make you prepared for the unknown challenges and adventures that lie ahead. Good luck!

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Pritchard, Superintendent of Schools

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL IS COMMITTED TO MEETING THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF THE EARLY ADOLESCENT CHILD. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSISTING STUDENTS IN THEIR TRANSITION FROM CHILDHOOD TO ADULTHOOD. WE PROMOTE BOTH ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND THE PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF EACH CHILD, WHILE AFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF HOME, SCHOOL, AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS.

WELCOME

ALWAYS BE RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE AND PREPARED!

Dear Student,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at the South Orangetown Middle School. We have prepared this handbook so that you will have all the information you will need.

PLEASE REVIEW THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR PARENTS. IT CONTAINS MANY OF THE GUIDELINES THAT YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW, ESPECIALLY OUR STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT.

The daily planner section will be very helpful. You should plan on using this agenda daily to record your homework assignments. Organization is essential!

During this year, you will experience great growth. You will be supported and encouraged by extraordinary teachers and staff. We know you are up to the challenge and will be prepared to meet, if not exceed, the New York State Education Department learning standards in all areas.

Please plan on taking advantage of the numerous activities that are available at our school. Try out new sports, clubs or activities. Be an active participant in the middle school experience.

Creating a community of responsible, respectful citizens will be everyone's priority. We expect great things from you and working together all things will be possible.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tesik, Principal

Dr. Corey, Assistant Principal

Dear SOMS Students,

The SOMS PTA would like to take this opportunity to welcome back our returning students and extend a big WELCOME to all of our new students. We hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing summer. It's with great enthusiasm that we invite you to get ready for an exciting and successful 2016/2017 school year!

Our PTA is made up of parents, guardians, teachers, and administrators who work together to connect home and school, and make your years at SOMS memorable and productive. In addition to dances, parties, assemblies, school store, and school photos, the SOMS PTA Executive Committee has been busy exploring additional programs, events and opportunities aimed at enhancing the educational environment for our middle school community. You can learn more by following SOMS PTA on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Also, parents and students can choose to receive email notification by registering on the district website: www.socsd.org.

Please don't hesitate to make suggestions, ask questions and/or voice your concerns by dropping a note in the PTA mailbox located in the main office, or sending us an email at <u>somspta@gmail.com</u>. We're here to assist your parents, your teachers, and most importantly, YOU!

All of us at SOMS PTA are looking forward to an exciting 2016/2017 school-year at South Orangetown Middle School. We wish you a successful, happy, and healthy year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Heatley, SOMS PTA President Mrs. Rubino, SOMS PTA Vice-President

ABSENCE

Attendance is checked every period and marked electronically by the class teacher. Regularity of attendance and punctuality is required of all students. If you are absent from class(es), calls will be made home by the automated attendance system. Absence, tardiness, or departure from school before the end of the school day will be excused for the following reasons only:

- 1. Illness
- 2. Serious illness or death in the family
- 3. Serious, contagious epidemic disease in the household where you reside
- 4. Doctor appointments which cannot be arranged for any other time
- 5. Required presence in court
- 6. Other activities with prior approval of the Principal

Absence for the reasons set forth above will be excused by the Principal upon receipt of a written, signed explanation from your parent/guardian, which must be submitted to the Main Office on your first day back to school. You will be required to make up missed school work during periods of absence. In the event of an unexcused absence and/or failure to make up work missed, a grade(s) of zero maybe assigned. Any unexcused absence will be treated as truancy (illegal absence from school).

*8th grade students enrolled in classes bearing high school credit are subject to the minimum attendance policy of T.Z.H.S.

ABSENTEE ASSIGNMENTS

If an extended absence (2 or more days due to illness) is anticipated, please call the Guidance Office at 680-1106 to request assignments. In case of a brief period of absenteeism, you should call a classmate.

ACCIDENTS

PLEASE BE CAREFUL!!!

If you should have an accident in the school building, on school grounds, on a school bus, or at an event sponsored by school, inform the person in charge immediately and go to the nurse's office for first aid.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Dismissal from school each day is at 3:00 p.m. <u>This is</u> <u>the only time after school when you may use your</u> <u>locker.</u> When going to any after-school activity, you must already be prepared with everything you will need with which to go home. You may not use your locker following the time an after-school activity has ended. Immediately after 3:00 p.m. (from lockers), if you are not boarding a school bus, your destinations may include reporting directly to an after-school activity like a sport, a club, extra help (office hours), or detention. You are not permitted to remain in the building if you are not supervised. If your parent/guardian picks you up from school at 3:00 p.m. he/she must do so at the rear of the building in order to avoid congestion and conflicts with school buses in the front of the building.

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Our modified sports program offers you enjoyable activities that provide opportunities for 7th and 8th graders to compete against 7th and 8th graders from other schools. When you are participating in after-school activities or athletic events, you will be under the direct supervision of a teacher or coach and must follow all regulations outlined in the Athletic Handbook. You are not permitted in the building unless your supervisor is present.

AWARDS

There are several special awards that students can receive:

*Student of the Month

- Helpful to students and teachers.
- Provides leadership during school hours or during extracurricular activities.
- Excels in classroom activities.
- Demonstrates desirable behavior in class, halls and cafeteria.

*You Make a Difference

• Students chosen for their exceptional citizenship and service to our school.

BACKPACKS

You are encouraged to use a backpack when bringing your books to and from school. **However, only small zip bags (often called Nike bags) may be carried throughout the day.** A backpack on wheels will not fit into your locker, so its use should be avoided. However under certain circumstances, special accommodations can be made

BOOK FINES

You are responsible for returning all books. If you do not return a book, you will have to pay for its replacement. Any student owing book fines will not be able to participate in extracurricular activities or sports until all fines have been paid.

BICYCLES/ROLLER BLADES/SKATEBOARDS

You may ride your bike onto school property directly to and from the bicycle rack only. You may not ride your bicycle anywhere else on school property. Our bicycle rack is located in front of the building. You must park and lock your bike there. You are expected to provide your own lock to keep your bicycle secure. The school is not responsible for any damage to or theft of your bicycle.

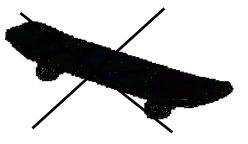
<u>Please note that neither roller blades nor skateboards are</u> permitted on school property or on school busses at any time.

BULLYING AND HAZING

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and productive learning environment within its schools. Bullying and/or hazing of a student by another student is strictly prohibited on school property, in school buildings, on school buses, and at school sponsored events and/or activities whether occurring on or off campus. A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself.

- a. Physical (including, but not limited to, hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, taking personal belongings);
- b. Verbal (including, but not limited to taunting, malicious teasing, name calling, making threats); and
- c. Psychological (including, but not limited to, spreading rumors; cyberbullying; manipulating social relationships; or engaging in social exclusion, extortion, or intimidation).

Bullying is punishable as per our Student Code of conduct. Please see the South Orangetown Middle School Bullying Prevention Policy.



BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Breakfast is available for purchase from 7:40am to 8:10am in the cafeteria. Students must eat inside the cafeteria.



BUS SAFETY

Riding on a school bus is a privilege.

The complete safety of everyone is imperative! Our Board of Education policy on bus safety outlines that while you are riding on a bus or are at a bus stop, you must be quiet and orderly and demonstrate consideration for people and property. You must be seated anytime the bus is in motion. You must be courteous to and follow the directions of the bus driver. When allowed to open windows, do not extend head, hand, arms or any objects out the window. Passes to ride a different bus will not be given on Fridays or the day before a holiday.

If you do not obey the rules you will be subject to the consequences prescribed below:

1st Infraction

You will be warned and your parent/guardian will be notified.

2nd Infraction

You will be barred from using the bus for 1 week.

3rd Infraction

You will be barred from using the bus for 1 month.

If you leave an item on the bus, please call the transportation department at 680-1662 in order to recover it.

CAFETERIA PROCEDURES

Arrive promptly and join the rear of the lunch line or go straight to your table if you bring your lunch. You are not permitted to enter the service areas by the cashiers. You are responsible for cleanup of your entire table and the immediate surrounding area. On days that the school store is open, you can make purchases as soon as there are no more students on the lunch lines. In order to be dismissed for outdoor recess, you must await the direction of a teacher. Outdoor recess will begin 15 minutes after the start of your lunch period. Once outside, you must remain outside. You may not take food, drinks, or snacks out of the cafeteria. If you remain inside, you must wait to be dismissed by a teacher. You may not leave the cafeteria for the purpose of going to your locker. You are expected to bring everything that you will need during lunch period with you when you come to lunch. We reserve the right to assign students to specific tables. All students should know their PIN# before entering the lunch line.

OUTDOOR RECESS

These cold weather guidelines were developed by the SOMS Building Level Team (BLT).

- 20 degrees F or below No Outdoor Recess
- 21-45 degrees F Student should wear a sweatshirt or coat.
- Above 45 degrees F Students use common sense.



You are responsible for your own learning.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU ALWAYS DO YOUR OWN WORK. NO MATTER WHAT THE TASK...homework, project, report, quiz, test, etc., you are expected to meet the requirements of each class yourself!

The consequences for cheating include loss of all credit, disciplinary action, and parent notification.

SO DON'T CHEAT, EVER!!!!

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

You must arrive at each class on time; enter the room and take your seat quietly; have all materials such as notebooks, textbooks, pencils and pens ready; respect the rights and property of others; pay attention to the lesson; avoid distracting others by whispering, talking, passing notes, etc.; remain in your seat unless permission has been given to move; wait for your teacher to dismiss you at the end of the period.

CLUBS

A wide range of clubs meet after school. You are urged to join clubs that match your interest. If you find more than one club, activity, or sport you would like to join and you notice they are offered on the same day, <u>you should join them anyway!</u> Advisors and coaches will help you to budget your time between activities even though they happen to meet officially on the same day. After-school activities give you the opportunity to do things that you enjoy doing, to make new friends and to spend free time in a valuable way. The list of club offerings will be distributed to you in September or is available in the Guidance Office.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Every teacher distributes course expectation sheets that clearly outline what students must do to be successful in each course. These sheets are distributed early in the course and parents are requested to sign them, and students must return the signed sheets to their teachers.

COMPUTERS

You will have access to computers in your classrooms, the library, and in our computer labs. You will receive a pass code that you must not share with anyone. You are expected to follow all the rules and conditions of computer use which are outlined in our district's Acceptable Use Policy and Procedures.

SOUTH ORANGETOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE

- **BE SAFE** Passwords are secure. Don't share your password or use anyone else's password. It's like stealing a key and is an invasion of privacy. Never reveal personal information including your or another's personal address and telephone number. Never transmit credit card information.
- **BE YOURSELF** Never use anyone else's name or account. Do not post anonymous messages.
- **BE HONEST** Observe copyright law. Be certain to cite sources properly. Do not transfer any commercial software onto school computers.
- **BE POLITE** Do not insult anyone or use offensive language, not even in private messages to friends. Do not send or access pornographic materials or files containing racial, ethnic or minority slurs.
- **BE FAIR** Use the Internet for school work only. Do not use it for commercial purposes or political lobbying.
- **BE CONSIDERATE** Do not waste time on-line.
- **BE CAREFUL** Do not download or transmit any file with a computer virus. Do not violate federal, state, or local laws.
- **BE ALERT** Report any security problems, violations, or abuses to your teacher.
- **BE RESPONSIBLE** Access to the Internet and the school computer network is a privilege, not a right.

CONDITIONS AND USAGE

- Electronic material that I transmit or store is not private. The district reserves the right to monitor, edit or remove any material I store on the system.
- The SOCSD does not guarantee the Network will provide all the information I may need or that the Network will be error free or uninterrupted.
- Web sites must receive the prior approval of the Principal.
- I must not damage computer equipment, software or networks.
- Any violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense.
- Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be suspended or revoked and disciplinary action will be taken.

DETENTION

If you violate rules or regulations in the Student Code of Conduct, you may be assigned to detention during the school day or after school. If you are assigned to detention after school, be certain to bring school work to do or a book to read and follow the rules in the detention room. You may go home on the late bus at 4:00pm.

DELAYED OPENING OF SCHOOL

In the event of a necessity to delay the opening of school for snow or other emergencies, the news will be broadcasted over radio stations WHUD (100.7 FM), WCBS (101.1 FM), WFAS (103.9 FM), WOR (710 AM), and NEWS12. In addition, an outgoing message from the district's emergency broadcast system will be made to your phone and email address. Delays and closings will also be posted on our website at http://www.socsd.org. The district can issue a delayed opening of 1hr., 2hrs. or 3hrs.

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

You are expected to dress in clean, neat clothes in a manner that will not distract the teaching and learning experience in any way. You are expected to adhere to health and safety standards in personal hygiene. A student's dress, grooming, and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, makeup, and nails, shall not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability; nor promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.

- Shorts, skirts and/or dresses should be as long as most of the hand and fingers when arms are down at sides.
- No skate sneakers.
- Shirts must have 2 straps or sleeves which reveal neither underwear nor an excessive amount of bareness at the neckline or under the arms.
- Midriff must not be exposed.
- Pants should be worn at the waistline so that no underwear is visible.
- **Reminders:** Outdoor clothing, such as coats, jackets, and hats/hoods may not be worn inside school. Tank or bare midriff tops, short skirts or short shorts, and any clothing advertising drugs (including alcohol), cigarettes, vulgarities, or violence of any land will not be acceptable.



ELECTRONIC DEVICES

We strongly discourage students from bringing to school hand-held products that can be used as games, and other such equipment. They can disturb classes, distract attention, and are often damaged, lost, or taken. Though students are prohibited from carrying or using these products during the school day, they may use them before 8:15 am or after 3:00pm. However, students maintain the complete responsibility for these items. <u>The school cannot he held</u> <u>responsible for any such items that are damaged, lost, or</u> <u>missing.</u> Use of these devices during school hours may result in their being confiscated. Texting, sexting or any inappropriate use of an electronic device will result in consequences pursuant to the code of conduct.

EMERGENCY CLOSING

If school must be canceled because of bad weather (or any other reason), the news will be broadcast over radio stations and television stations:

WHUD (100.7 FM), WCBS (101.1 FM), WFAS (103.9 FM), WOR (710 AM), AND NEWS12.

Please do not call school for this information. If it is necessary to dismiss you from school for any reason, information will be broadcast over the same radio and television stations. Your parents are urged not to pick you up from school during an emergency closing. Your parents must make provisions to ensure that you can be received into a safe environment when there is an emergency closing.

To receive e-mail notification regarding closings you may register at our website **www.socsd.org**.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

No student at this school will be denied access to or benefit from any education program or activity on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, social or economic status, handicap, or disability.

EVACUATION DRILLS

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

Our school is substance free! Students are prohibited from possessing, consuming, or distributing controlled substances in any form while in school, on school grounds, on school buses, on school trips, or on the way to and from school. This includes cigarettes and other tobacco products. Violations will result in the consequences prescribed in the Student Code of Conduct. Evacuation drills are conducted at regular intervals as required by the law. The moment a fire alarm sounds, you must become silent immediately and follow the directions of your teacher. Leave your belongings at your desk and exit the room/building according to the evacuation exit plan posted. **Do so quickly and silently.** Your teacher will turn off classroom lights and close the door (but leave it unlocked). You will be directed to a safe distance from the building. Upon return, you must enter the building/classroom quickly and silently until seated in your assigned classroom.

EXTRA HELP

Extra help will be available to you. Each one of your teachers will provide you with a schedule of his/her office hours. You are urged to make appointments for extra help as soon as you have any difficulty in a particular subject area. You may be requested to attend extra help sessions by one or more of your teachers.

IF YOU ARE FALLING BEHIND IN HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS, YOU MAY BE ASSIGNED TO STAY FOR HOMEWORK MAKE-UP SESSIONS AFTER SCHOOL.

FIELD TRIPS

Participation in field trips is a privilege. We reserve the right to exclude you from participation in school field trips (or other special activities) because your behavior may not be consistent with the Student Code of Conduct. If you are not participating in a field trip, you are required to attend school for the full day. All field trips are considered extensions of school. Therefore, all rules and regulations governing you while you are in school remain in effect during the time of field trips.

FUNDRAISING

Students may not participate in fundraising (at school) of any kind unless it has been authorized by the Principal.

Door-to-door solicitation is not permitted!

GUIDANCE

Your guidance counselor is trained to appreciate that you are a unique and important person! The objective of your counselor is to help you to succeed in school and to reach your fullest potential. Most of all, your counselor is a trusted adult with whom to talk. To see your guidance counselor, just walk into the Guidance Office and say, "I'd like to see my counselor, please." If your guidance counselor is not available you will be given an appointment time to come back.

GUM CHEWING

Gum chewing is not permitted in our school!

HALLWAYS & PASSES

When walking in the hallways, you must keep to the right. Hall passes will not be issued for the first 5 minutes of each period. You may not be in a hallway during class periods unless you have a signed pass or are being accompanied by a staff member. Only one student name is permitted on each hall pass.

HARASSMENT

It is the policy of our Board of Education to maintain a learning environment that is free from harassment through conduct or communication, including sexual harassment. No student or staff member will be subjected to harassment by other students or staff members.

HEALTH SERVICES

If you do not feel well during the school day, ask permission from your teacher to have a hall pass to the Nurse's Office. It is only in an emergency that you will be permitted in the Nurse's Office without a pass. If you need to be sent home, the nurse will call your parent/guardian and you will be picked up and excused from school for the rest of the day. Your parent/guardian must pick you up in the Main Office and sign you out.

HOMEWORK

SOMS believes that parent involvement in student homework is essential to making both the concept and the reality of homework an integral part of the educational program. Homework provides an excellent opportunity for developing appropriate study habits, provides for individual differences and abilities, and encourages initiative on the part of the student. It reinforces and extends the classroom experience. It gives students the opportunity to actively engage in the process of acquiring knowledge.

Parents should assist their children with homework by:

- Providing a study area, free from distraction with good lighting
- Remembering that all students learn in their own unique ways; some students can acquire knowledge while, for example, listening to music
- Maintaining a regular time for the student to complete homework
- Asking questions about the content of student homework
- Giving requested assistance, but making sure that the student does his/her own work
- Avoiding the creation of undue pressure
- Praising a job well done
- Helping to create a homework habit, a process for organized and effective completion of work
- Checking to see that the student uses this "planner"

At the discretion of the teacher, students may be assigned to a minimum of twenty minutes of homework per class for each night. Obviously, students need to allocate additional time to review for quizzes and tests and complete long-range assignments, which are given regularly. Sufficient time is allowed so that students may meet deadlines in a timely manner without creating undue stress. The effective completion of homework is an important factor in ensuring academic success for our students. Homework assignments are included in each student's quarterly evaluation.

Working together the home and school should see that homework is effectively completed. Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher if there are questions or concerns regarding homework.

HOMEWORK MAKEUP

Students are required to make up all homework when they are absent. They should call a buddy for the assignment. If a child is out for 3 or more days, homework will be provided by the teachers and sent to guidance. If a student knows in advance that he/she will be missing school, the work will not be provided in advance. Rather, the student will make up the work upon returning to school.

INTERIM REPORTS

Interim Reports will be posted online approximately every five weeks into each ten-week marking period. All subjects are listed on each Interim Report. For each subject your teacher will make a comment(s) suggesting how well or how poorly you may be doing.

LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

If you need to leave school early you must bring a note of explanation signed by your parent/guardian to the Main Office on the morning of your request before Homeroom Period. Your parent/guardian must pick you up in the Mam Office and sign you out.



You are considered late to school if you have not arrived at your Homeroom Period by 8:15 a.m. After 8:15 a.m. you must report to the Main Office instead of your classroom. You must present a written explanation for your lateness signed by your parent/guardian. Without a written explanation, and for chronic lateness, school detention will be assigned.

LATE BUS

The late bus leaves from the front of the school at approximately 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays so that you have the option for a ride home following any after-school activity, except sports activities.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

The Library Media Center contains over 15,000 books including reference and non-fiction for research plus paperbacks and hardcover fiction for book reports and pleasure reading. Many current magazines for recreational reading are on display while back issues are kept for research purposes. The center has 6 computers as well.

The library is open throughout the school day for classes and individuals. A maximum of two students may come with a pass from their Quiet Study teacher to check out or return books. Students who wish to continue working on a project or does research should obtain a pass from the academic teacher whose work they need to complete.

Students may check out two books at a time for a two week period and may renew them once. Students are required to pay for books lost or damaged. Students with books more than a month overdue may not come to the library at Quiet Study unless they are returning the book or paying for it.

Students are expected to respect the rights of others, and work quietly. If they do not behave, they will be sent back to their Quiet Study room. Students who violate these rules on more than one occasion will lose the privilege of using the library at Quiet Study for one week.

LOCKERS

Only <u>school issued locks</u> may be used. You are assigned your own locker, where you keep such items as textbooks, notebooks, coats, and hats. It is your responsibility to keep your locker locked and in good order. **Do not share your lock combination with anyone!** The school is not responsible for loss or theft of any items in your locker, however, we will help you keep your belongings safe. You must be certain that none of the contents of your locker stick out into the frame of the door. Book edges, clothing, backpack straps, etc., could get stuck between the frame and the door and cause your locker to jam. Remember to close your locker door gently. You should not keep valuables in your locker.

Reminder: If the Principal or Assistant Principal suspects that you have something inside your locker that should not be there, he/she may open your locker at any time and look!

LOST AND FOUND

If you find something and don't know who it belongs to, please turn it in to the main office. Articles of clothing, lunch boxes or bags, string bags, sneakers or shoes will be brought to the lost and found bin located in the front lobby of the auditorium (across from the cafeteria). Electronic devices, books, eyeglasses or jewelry will be held in the main office. Be sure to check the lost and found bin periodically to claim anything you may have lost. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

MEDICATION

Any prescription drug or over-the-counter medication must be administered by the school nurse only. Medication must be delivered to her with proper information and/or documentation. For exceptions or for additional information contact the school nurse at 680-1130.

MORNING ENTRANCE INTO THE BUILDING You should not arrive at school before 7:45 a.m.

The morning parent drop off to school is in the front of the building through the main entrance doors. School busses will arrive at the back of the building. From 7:45 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. 6th graders must report directly to the gym, 7th to the auditorium, and 8th graders to the cafeteria. You may not use your locker at this time. At 8:10 a.m. a supervising teacher will dismiss you to your locker and Homeroom period, which begins promptly at 8:15 a.m.

MUSIC PROGRAM

Many students take music lessons and participate in band, orchestra and chorus. Students are expected to be responsible for remembering scheduled classes and lessons. Failure to report to class may result in a cutting class referral.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

The National Junior Honor Society promotes the celebration of academic excellence. Students in grades 7 and 8, who demonstrate a consistently high level of academic performance, including an average of at least 92, are invited to participate. In order to gain membership, you must also demonstrate qualities of leadership, service, good character, and citizenship. Opportunities are provided through the Society to assist the members in further developing these qualities. As leaders, members must exert a wholesome influence on the school community. As servers, they are committed to the idea of volunteering their time and talents in order to help create a better tomorrow. By demonstrating such qualities as reliability, honesty, and sincerity, members hope to prove by example, that they value excellent character. Finally, through willingness to participate responsibly in the affairs of the school and community, our National Junior Honor Society members develop citizenship

PARTIES

Our PTA sponsors several parties during the school year. They are held in the gym and a DJ is provided. Pizza and snacks are in the cafeteria, where various game tables are also available. You may purchase a ticket two days before the party as long as you provide us with a parent/guardian signed permission slip. Sorry, no tickets are sold at the door! All the same behavior and dress rules that apply to the regular school day apply to *parties*. The Student Code of Conduct remains in effect.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued electronically shortly after the close of each quarter, which end in November, January, and April.

Only the final report card will be mailed home. Please visit <u>http://www.socsd.org/portal.htm</u> for report card and progress report availability on the Powerschool portal.

RESTROOMS

When using restrooms, it is necessary for you to do the following:

- Sign In
- Be quiet and orderly
- Stay for as short a time as possible
- Put towels into the receptacles
- Observe general rules of health, cleanliness, and proper behavior

You may use restrooms before and after school, and in between classes without a pass. However, during class time you must have a properly completed pass.

READING LISTS

Grade level reading lists are available on our website.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

You are responsible for the care and condition of books and other school property assigned to you. You are required to carry this handbook every day. You must cover all textbooks and write your name and the name of your Homeroom teacher on it. Of course, you must return what is issued to you. A fine(s) will be collected from you if you have lost or damaged a book or other school property.

SEARCHES/INTERROGATION

See Board Policy #7330

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

As per the policy of the Board of Education, the South Orangetown Central School District provides learning and working environment for all students, employees and visitors, free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other inappropriate verbal and physical conduct when made by any staff to a student, when made by any student to another student, or when made by a student to a staff member. Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to verbal harassment or abuse, pressure for sexual activity, unwelcome and repeated remarks with sexual implications, unwelcome touching, suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by, implied, or explicit threats concerning one's grades, job, etc.

Violators will be subject to the consequences set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

SMOKING

You may not smoke or possess cigarettes, E-Cigs or tobacco products in school, on school property, on a school bus, or at any school sponsored event or activity.

Violators will be subject to the consequences set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

We are fortunate to have capable substitute teachers available to us when our regular teachers are ill or cannot be in school for any reason. Substitute teachers are our guests. Their impressions of our school will be carried into our community. Because of the pride you have in our school, we know that you will be as courteous, helpful, cooperative, and respectful to our substitute teachers as you are to your regular teachers.

TEAMS

Our school is organized into teams. A team contains approximately 140 students, all of whom are assigned the same (or nearly the same) team of teachers who are responsible for teaching English Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science. Students are placed into teams at random, without respect to academic ability. Each team of students and most team teachers have the same schedule pattern. Team teachers meet regularly to plan for team students, to determine individual student needs, to discuss mutual concerns with guidance counselors, and to coordinate interdisciplinary projects.

SNOWBALL THROWING

There will be <u>NO</u> snowball throwing!!!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The Student Government is comprised of representatives from each grade level. Members discuss issues of concern and plan activities for each grade level.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Each grade level team selects one student each month to be recognized as Student of the Month. If you are selected you will receive a special certificate and your achievement will be listed in our daily announcements. The eligibility criteria are as follows:

- Helpful to students and teachers
- Provide leadership during school hours or during extracurricular activities
- Excel in classroom activities
- Demonstrate excellent behavior everywhere in the school

TEXT BOOKS

Each student is given textbooks (from each class) with a number inside. Students are responsible for the upkeep of these books for the entire year. When requested by the teacher to return them, (usually in June) students who do not return their books will have to replace them, or pay a book fine. Students should not lend out their textbooks to other students.

TRIPS

On occasion we take groups of students, or an entire grade, on school trips. It is our hope and expectation that all students will be able to participate. However, if a student does not consistently demonstrate respectful and responsible behavior in school and on the school buses, he or she may be excluded from attending these activities.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

VISITORS

All visitors are required to show photo ID. All classroom visitors must be pre-approved by the Principal.

For the safety of our students, the driveway in the front of the school is **closed to private vehicular traffic** between the hours of 2:45 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. During this time students must be picked up in the parking lot at the rear of the building.





WATER BOTTLES

Use of water bottles is generally prohibited. Students have access to water fountains between all classes and during classes with teacher permission. On excessively warm days (90's), the privilege of carrying water bottles may be extended by the principal, as long as it is not abused.

TRUANCY/ILLEGAL ABSENCE

FROM SCHOOL

You are considered to be truant if you are:

- Absent from school without permission from your parent/guardian
- Leave school without permission
- Absent from class without a pass (cutting class)
- Continually late to class without an acceptable excuse

Violators will be subject to discipline according to the Student Code of Conduct.

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

If you bring a weapon to school, you will be subject to the consequences set forth in the Student Code of Conduct. If the weapon is a gun you are subject to arrest and automatic suspension.

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2016-2017 BELL SCHEDULES

Regular Period Schedule

Warning Bell:8:12am

Homeroom	8:15-8:20	(5 min)
Period 1	8:20-9:01	(41 min)
Period 2	9:04-9:45	(41 min)
Period 3	9:48-10:29	(41 min)
Period 4	10:32-11:13	(41 min)
Period 5 & Café 7	11:16-11:57	(41 min)
Period 6 & Café 6	12:00-12:41	(41 min)
Period 7 & Café 8	12:44-1:25	(41 min)
Period 8	1:28-2:09	(41 min)
PM Announcements	2:09-2:11	(2 min)
Period 9	2:14-2:55	(41 min)

One-Hour Delay Schedule

Warning Bell 9:12am

Homeroom	9:15-9:23	(8 min)
Period 1	9:23-9:57	(34 min)
Period 2	10:00-10:34	(34 min)
Period 3	10:37-11:11	(34 min)
Period 4	11:14-11:48	(34 min)
Period 5 & Café 7	11:51-12:25	(34 min)
Period 6 & Café 6	12:28-1:02	(34 min)
Period 7 & Café 8	1:05-1:39	(34 min)
Period 8	1:42-2:16	(34 min)
PM Announcements	2:16-2:18	(2 min)
Period 9	2:21-2:55	(34 min)

Two Hour Delay Schedule

Warning Bell: 10:12am

Homeroom	10:15-10:23	(9 min)
Period 1	10:23-10:49	(26 min)
Period 2	10:52-11:18	(26 min)
Period 3	11:21-11:47	(26 min)
Period 4	11:50-12:16	(26 min)
Period 5 & Café 7	12:19-12:49	(30 min)
Period 6 & Café 6	12:52-1:22	(30 min)
Period 7 & Café 8	1:25-1:55	(30 min)
Period 8	1:58-2:24	(26 min)
PM Announcements	2:24-2:26	(2 min)
Period 9	2:29-2:55	(26 min)

Three-Hour Delay Schedule

Warning Bell: 11:12am

Homeroom	11:15-11:23	(8 min)
Period 1	11:23-11:39	(16 min)
Period 2	11:42-11:58	(16 min)
Period 3	12:01-12:17	(16 min)
Period 4	12:20-12:36	(16 min)
Period 5 & Café 7	12:39-1:09	(30 min)
Period 6 & Café 6	1:12-1:42	(30 min)
Period 7 & Café 8	1:45-2:15	(30 min)
Period 8	2:18-2:34	(16 min)
PM Announcements	2:34-2:36	(2 min)
Period 9	2:39-2:55	(16 min)

Minimum Attendance Procedure

In our ongoing strive for excellence, we place the utmost value on classroom instruction and classroom interaction and, therefore, our expectation is that students will be present in class on a daily basis. If your child is ill and needs to stay home, please call the attendance office at 680-1652 to alert the attendance secretary, and send a note in with your child when he/she returns to school. This will legalize your child's absence and allow your child to make up missed work, tests, quizzes, etc. Please be aware, however, that the absence will count toward the allowable number of absences as set forth in the Minimum Attendance Procedure outlined below.

In order to receive credit for a course at TZHS, students must earn an average of 65% or higher (including a final exam or assessment). In addition, students may not miss more than the number of class periods for any class as outlined below.

<u>Course</u>	ABSENCES
1 Credit Course	20
1/2 Credit Course	10
Physical Education	06

Absences such as illness, lateness in excess of 20 minutes, class cuts, early dismissal, truancy, etc., all count towards the maximum absences allowed. Consequences will be assigned as outlined in the Student Handbook for class cuts, truancy, and lateness. Absences such as music lessons, office visits, field trips, AP exams, and other school related absences will not be counted. Students are responsible for making up all missed work regardless of the reason for the absence.

Extended Illness

During the first week of an extended illness, a parent or guardian must contact the school. Parents must provide a doctor's note detailing the nature of the illness as well as the potential length of absence. Students who anticipate an absence of two or more consecutive weeks will be provided a home tutor.

Notification of Class Absences

Students and their parents or guardians will be informed of class absences at various intervals as noted below:

	Full year Course	1/2 Credit Course	Physical Education Course Credit
1 st Warning	8	4	3
2 nd Warning	14	7	5
Loss of credit letter	21	11	7

Appeals

If a student is absent for more than the allowable number of class meetings due to an extenuating circumstance, or if there is a disagreement in the number of absences, he/she can make an application to the Appeals Committee. **Appeals must be requested within 10 school days** from the date of the Final letter.

The Appeals Committee will be comprised of teachers and administrators, and this committee will make a recommendation to the Principal for a final decision. If the decision of the Appeals Committee is not to reinstate the student's eligibility to earn credit, this information will be reflected on the student's transcript. If a student exceeds the number of allowable absences and chooses not to appeal, the student's transcript will reflect that the withdrawal/drop was due to excessive absences.

Ref: Minimum Attendance Procedure 16/17

TEST AND PROJECT GRADES

Subject	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
ELA				
MATH				
SS				
SCI				
World Long				
World Lang.				

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR MEETINGS

Date	Period	Date	Period	Date	Period
Date	Period	Date	Period	Date	Period
Date	Period	Date	Period	Date	Period
Date	Period	Date	Period	Date	Period
Date	Period	Date	Period	Date	Period

BUDDY LIST

PHONE #

English Language Arts

Social Studies			
Math			
Science			
Foreign Language			
Other	 	 	

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

PHILOSOPHY

The South Orangetown Middle School Community realizes the importance of and is committed to an environment where all staff, student, parents, and numbers of the community are involved in creating a safe school environment which is crucial if children are to achieve their social, emotional, and academic potential. The philosophy expects, promotes, and reinforces student behavior that is appropriate and positive. Infractions will be treated promptly, effectively, fairly, and with due process.

STUDENT CODE OF ETHICS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To attend school regularly, to participate in class, and to report promptly to class with all essential materials.
- To be familiar with and abide by all District policies, rules and regulations pertaining to student conduct
- To contribute to the maintenance of an environment that is conducive to learning.
- To treat student and staff in a respectful and non-discriminatory fashion.
- To bring concerns about school district policies or actions to the appropriate member of the school district, staff or administration.
- To report all acts or threats of violence, including threats of suicide, by notifying a faculty member or the building principal, or by calling the school.
- I will strive to be the best I possibly can be by working as hard as I can.
- I will promote understanding, harmony, and friendship by being kind, considerate, and courteous.
- I will never endanger anyone's health or safety.
- I will respect the property or others, and I will return anything that belongs to another person.
- I will complete all assignments given to me by my teachers to the best of my ability.
- I will report to class promptly, using the shortest route, and I will not run in the hallways.
- I will follow classroom rules and regulations provided by teachers, and I will not disrupt, distract, or interfere with teaching and learning.
- I will bring a signed note from my parent/guardian when I return to school following an absence.
- I will be responsible for the school materials loaned to me; I will keep them in good condition; and I will assume responsibility for the building by not damaging or defacing furniture, lockers or walls.
- I will maintain a clean environment by helping wherever needed, including the classroom, the cafeteria, and the hallways.

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE

LEVEL 1

Examples of Infractions

- Eating food in non-designated areas/times
- Failing to be prepared for class with materials and supplies
- Failing to follow the dress code
- Gum chewing
- Littering
- Neglecting to return required forms
- Non-defiant failure to complete assignments or to follow teacher directions
- Possessing of lighters or matches
- Tardiness
- Teasing, name-calling
- Violating cafeteria rules or procedures

Range of Disciplinary Consequences

From a warning to 2 days After-School Detention For repetitive infractions see Level 2-Range of Disciplinary Consequences

LEVEL 2

Examples of Infractions

- Computer or electronic device misuse
- Cursing or use of offensive language/gestures
- Disruptive behavior anywhere in school, on campus, on a school bus or at school sponsored activities, including school trips
- Intercepting school communication to parent/guardian
- Lying
- Minor property damage
- Possession of a laser pointer
- Racial/ethnic/sexually inappropriate comments
- Cursing or use of offensive language/gestures directed at a peer
- Inappropriate comments or conduct related to race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.
- Repetitive Level 1 Infractions
- Selling items or services for personal profit in school or on the school campus
- Defamation or spreading rumors
- Use of electronic devices during school hours (including cell phones, iPods, blackberry's, etc.)
- Engage in off campus misconduct that endangers the health and safety of students and/or staff within the school or substantially disrupts the educational process.
- Harassing or bullying another student

Range of Disciplinary Consequences

From 2 days After-School Detention to 1 day In-School Suspension

For repetitive infractions see Level 3 - Range of Disciplinary Consequences

LEVEL 3

Examples of Infractions

- Hitting another student
- Cheating or assisting others in cheating (on tests, quizzes, homework, projects, etc.)
- Coercing others
- Cutting class
- Defying authority/insubordination
- Forgery
- Gambling
- Intimidating others
- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Plagiarism
- Possession and/or sharing of cigarettes/tobacco products
- Provoking a fight
- Pushing/shoving
- Repetitive Level 2 Infractions
- Theft (based on severity and/or frequency-see Introduction)
- Threatening violence against others or against property
- Truancy (cutting school)
- Unsafe action
- Vandalism/Graffiti (based on severity and/or frequency-see Introduction)
- Trespassing on school grounds
- Selling, using, distributing or possessing obscene material

Range of Disciplinary Consequences

From 1 day In-School Suspension to 2 days Out-Of-School Suspension

For repetitive infractions see Level 4 - Range Of Disciplinary Consequences

LEVEL 4

Examples of Infractions

- Assault
- · Cursing or use of offensive language/gestures directed at an adult
- Extortion
- Fighting
- Illegal possession or sale of school property (such as school keys)
- Physical or sexual harassment
- Possession and/or sale of stolen property
- Possession of a dangerous article
- Possession and/or sharing of controlled substances (drugs, including alcohol) or drug paraphernalia on school property or at a school sponsored activity
- Repetitive Level 3 Infractions
- Smoking or using tobacco on school property (including school buses) or at a school sponsored activity (as per Board of Education Policy)
- Theft (based on severity and/or frequency)
- Vandalism or graffiti (based on severity and/or frequency-see Introduction)
- Inappropriately using or sharing prescription or over-the-counter drugs

Range of Disciplinary Consequences

Front 2 days Out-Of School Suspension to 5 days Out-Of School Suspension

For repetitive infractions see Level 5 —Range of Disciplinary Consequences

LEVEL 5

Examples of Infractions

- Arson
- Assault and battery
- Bomb hoax
- Misuse or false fire/smoke alarm
- Possession and/or use of firecrackers or explosives
- Possession, display, threaten and/or use of a dangerous weapon (as per Board of Education Policy)
- Sale, distribution and/or use of controlled substances (drugs, including alcohol) or drug paraphernalia on school property or at a school sponsored activity.
- Sexual assault (verbal and/or physical) (as per Board of Education Policy)
- Vandalism (based on severity and/or frequency-see Introduction)
- Act of violence against a teacher, administrator or other school employee

Range of Disciplinary Consequences

From 3 days Out-of-School Suspension to 5 days Out-of-School Suspension and referral to the police and/or appropriate authorities/agencies

Additional Consequence Options for All Levels

- Alternative school placement
- Counseling/counseling group
- Discussion with student
- Interim report
- Letter of apology signed by parent
- Loss of all credit (for cheating)
- Lunch detention
- Parent notification
- Parent/team meeting
- Referral to police and/or other outside authorities/agencies
- Restitution of losses or damages
- School/community service
- Student/team meeting
- Student meeting with Assistant Principal and/or Principal
- Student/parent meeting with Assistant Principal and/or Principal
- Superintendent's hearing
- Supervised study (assigned at teacher's discretion)
- Temporary suspension or permanent removal from privileges/activities/sports
- Temporary suspension from bus transportation (for bus misbehavior)

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL Bullying Prevention Policy

In line with the Dignity for all Students Act (2010) which went into effect on July 1, 2012, bullying, harassment or discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated at South Orangetown Middle School. This includes harassment and discrimination based on a person's race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, disability, gender or sexual orientation. Bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated on school property or at school functions (any school sponsored or PTA event). In addition, the school will investigate and have the ability to impose consequences for off campus bullying (cyber-bullying), harassment or discrimination that is brought to its attention, particularly if it is disruptive to the school environment or a child's experience in school.

The Dignity For All Students Act Coordinators at South Orangetown Middle School are as follows:

Mr. Dan Sullivan; Student Support **dsullivan@socsd.org** 845 – 680 – 1147 Ms. Siobhan Maiorano; Guidance Counselor **smaiorano@socsd.org** 845 – 680 – 1109