

**Ralich Christen**

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**From:** JENNIFER NZEZA <No-reply@sarasotacountyschools.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 15, 2021 11:30 AM  
**To:** Southside Elementary School Recipients  
**Subject:** Principal's Newsletter 5/15/2021

# Principal's Newsletter

May 15, 2021

## **SOUTHSIDE'S**

**VISION:** To learn, to dream, to laugh, to love every child every day - whatever it takes!

**MISSION:** To use data-driven instruction for progress monitoring, so that each student is learning, succeeding and reaching above and beyond their potential every day.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

5/28 - Southside Spirit Day \*\* Please notice the date change

5/31 - Memorial Day

6/9 - Kindergarten and 5th Grade Advancement Ceremonies

## WHAT'S NEW

### Advancement Ceremonies

#### Fifth-Grade:

**Location:** In person for students, virtually for parents and families

**Date:** Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Time:** 9:15 AM

**Pertinent Information:** Students should come dressed appropriately for this special event. Southside staff will take a class photo of students on the stage with their teacher, the principal and assistant principal. There will be a few special "firsts" at this year's celebration! We expect the event to last about an hour.

Student pick up after the ceremony will begin at **10:30 AM** at designated spots by class - you will receive this information soon. Parents are required to check out their child. Any student leaving with a friend will need prior written permission.

Similar to last year, fifth-grade students will also be able to take pictures with family and friends at fifth-grade banners outside the fence before or after the ceremony or at any time during the week before or after school. More to come on the location of those banners.

#### Kindergarten:

**Location:** In person for students, virtually for parents and families

**Date:** Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

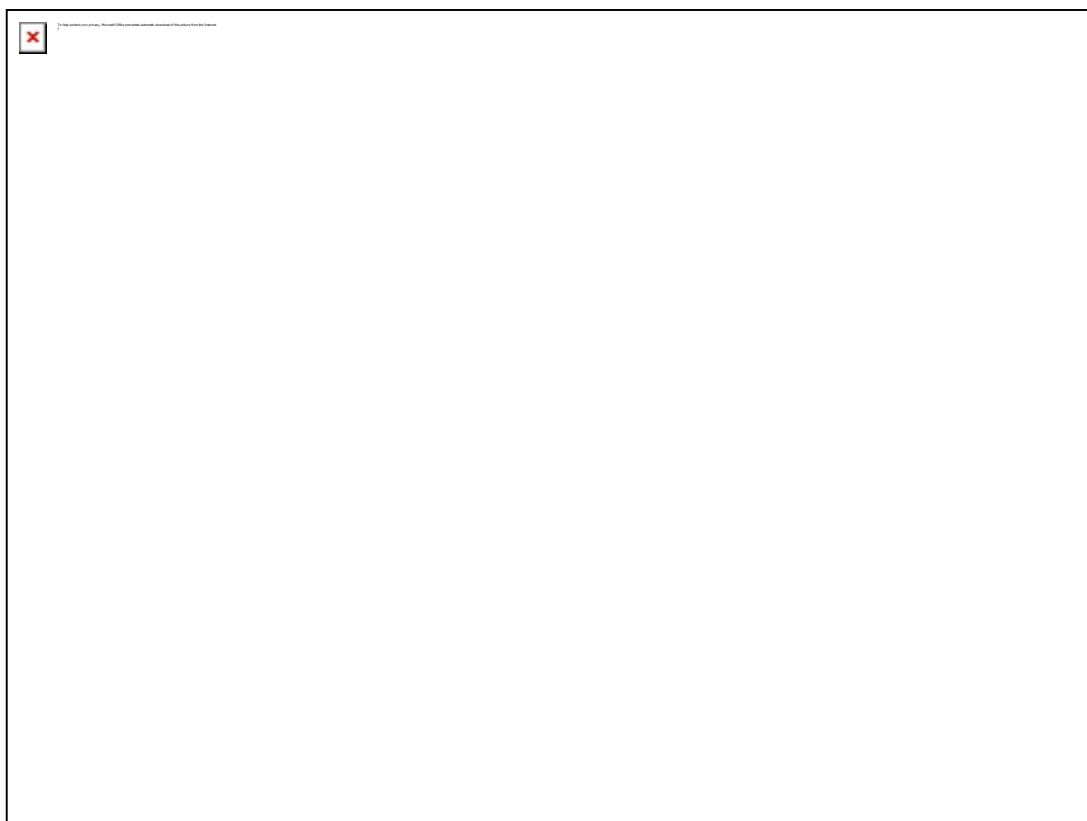
**Time:** 1:30 PM

**Pertinent Information:** Students should come dressed appropriately for the event. Southside staff will take photos of each student in front of a SS banner in the courtyard. Students will return to their classrooms after the event and will be dismissed at our normal dismissal time. We expect the ceremony to last about 40-45 minutes.

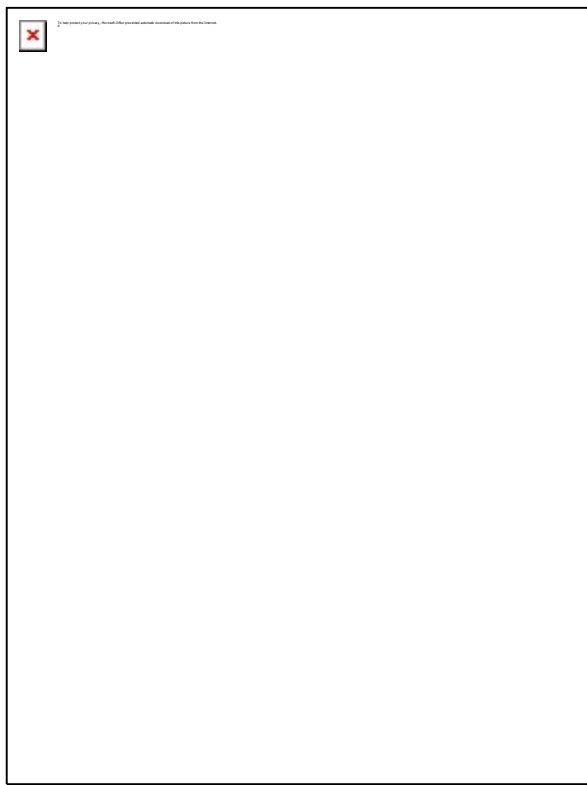
## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SOUTHSIDE

### Tea Served in Fifth Grade

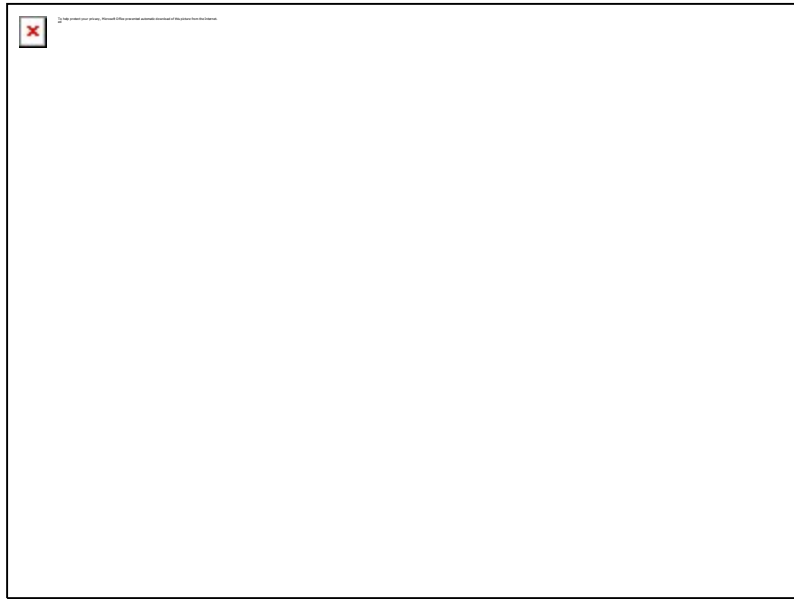
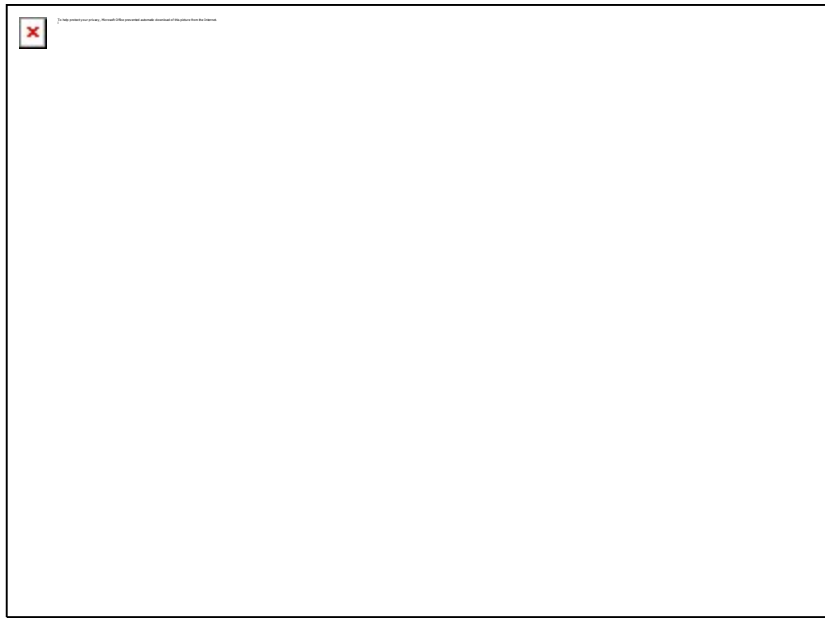
Fifth-grade students in Mrs. Eicher's classroom enjoyed "High Tea" as a culminating event to their study of the book *Chains*, by Laurie Halse Anderson. Set during the Revolutionary War, this compelling historical fiction novel is about finding ones' inner strength during the most unimaginable and tumultuous times.



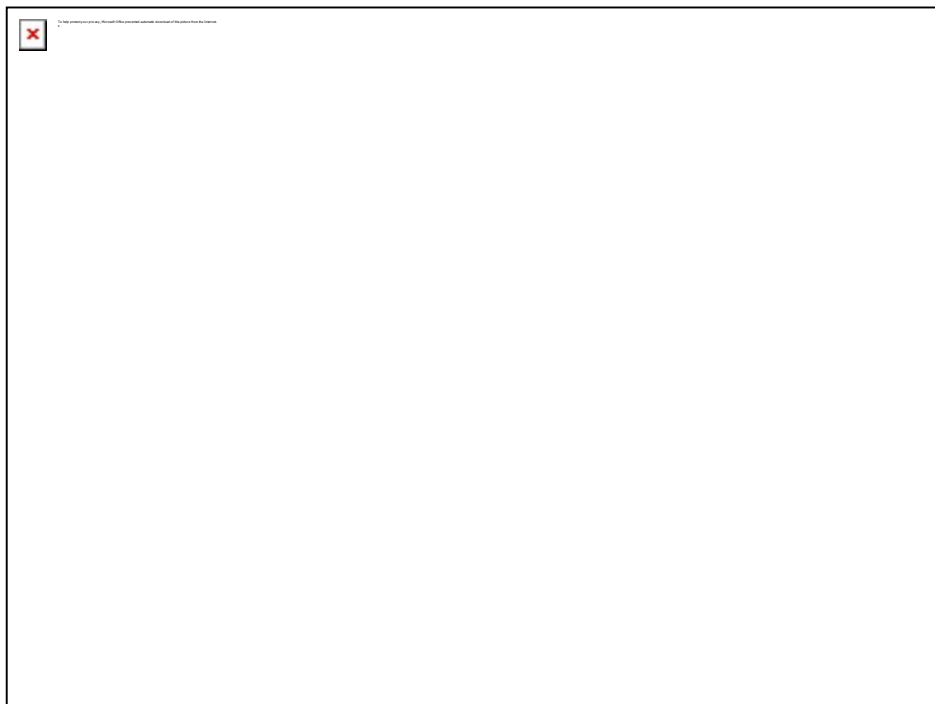
Students dressed in period clothing for the day's activities. They even got the hairstyles right from that era in history



Students worked in groups to answer discussion questions about the novel over tea and cookies. The questions helped students analyze how the characters developed throughout the story. According to Mrs. Eicher, the student conversations together were wonderful. They worked well together and talked deeply about the novel. No doubt this was something the students will remember for many years.



The students pictured below placed their computers behind them and didn't smile because there wasn't any technology in 1776 and no one smiled in pictures. :-)



**Exceptional Student Education Inclusion Teacher of the Year**

We are thrilled to announce that fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Stefanie Marchandy, received the Council for Exceptional Student Education's Inclusion Teacher of the Year award this week. We are very proud of her and the work she has done to meet the needs of all her students. Well done!

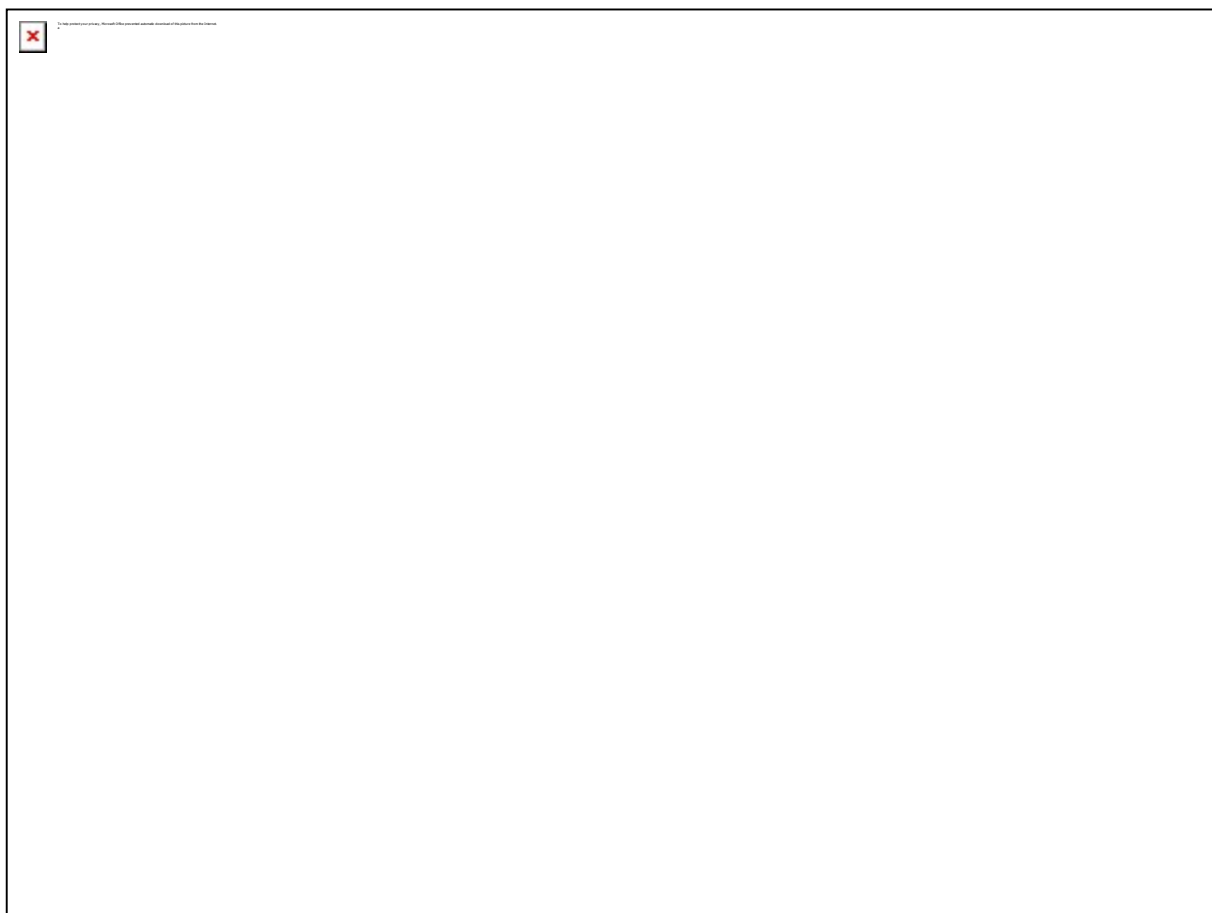


## **Southside Foundation for the Arts Welcomes New Board**

The Southside Foundation for the Arts (SSFA), which as you know supports all the arts for all the students at Southside by ensuring the full funding for our dance teacher, Mrs. Cockrell, ushered in its new board this week.

We want to give thanks to outgoing President, Brian Hersh and Vice President, Rachel Feldman for their outstanding leadership. They have shown remarkable resilience and have maintained the Foundation's mission and vision through unprecedented times. Also leaving the board after many years of service is the amazing Marina Parkin as our Treasurer. All three of these leaders played direct roles in transforming the SSFA into the strong foundation it is today. We will miss you greatly!

At the same time we warmly welcome our new SSFA President, Hillary Yunis! She has already set forth her goals for 2021-2022 and we are overjoyed with her excitement for this new role. Welcome to our new Co-Vice Presidents Tali Famiglio and Eric Fenton. These two powerhouse people will undoubtedly continue to bring our SSFA to new heights. We are also so blessed to have Liz Shallenberger join us as our Treasurer. Liz loves numbers and we love Liz!!



And finally, thank you the beautiful Lindsey Howell for remaining as Secretary for the board in 2021-2022! The picture above shows some of our board members enjoying time together during the announcement of the transition. We appreciate all of you!

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

**iReady Summer Challenge for 5th Grade Students**

Please consider having your current fifth-graders participate in this summer activity. The goal is to keep their skills current as they move into middle school.



**Have a FANTASTIC weekend!**



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