



fight fire with friendship

Taylor Eubanks '20 teaches Sam Johnson '21 how to aim a hose Oct. 24. Inspired by his tour of the fire science department, Johnson signed up for the program for 2021. "The best part is working with Chief Chapman, he's a great guy," Johnson said.

Photo: M. Brown

how we ride?

Jatin Thimmannagari '23 is lifted out of the fire truck Oct. 24. To help students from SSN be comfortable with fire safety, they were able to sit in the fire truck and see the sirens. "We got [Thimmannagari] out of the wheelchair and put them in the driver's seat and he was so happy," Katie Rochau, an SSN teacher, said.

Photo: M. Provost

suit up

Keaton Carnes '21 helps SSN students try on fire science gear Oct. 24. In Oct., the SSN class learns about community safety and toured fire science with this goal. "It's cool to be able to involve everybody to do the same thing," Carnes said. "Something as small as what you're born with shouldn't be something that pushes them away from stuff that we're able to do."

Photo: M. Provost

a helping hand

Dominic Alderet '20 and Jackson Reber '20 open a panel in the fire truck to get tools out Oct. 24. They helped to familiarize students from SSN with the tools so that they wouldn't be afraid of real firefighters. "I'm just helping them know safety that they can use at their own houses and not just bring happiness to them but to us as well," Alderet said.

Photo: M. Brown



lights, sirens, action

Chief Allen Chapman shows SSN students the inside of the school's firetruck to promote fire safety Oct. 24. In Oct., the SSN program learns about community and safety and visited the fire science program. "[The students in SSN] absolutely loved it," Debbie Rochau, an SSN teacher, said. "I wanted to build awareness so that they're not scared."

Photo: M. Brown



"IT REALLY OPENS YOUR EYES TO HOW SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS JUST SHOWING THEM WHAT WE DO BRINGS HAPPINESS TO THEM," KEATON CARNES '21 SAID.

ready, set, bunk up.

Kade Ramsey '20 bunks up Oct. 24. It took students around one minute and 33 seconds to put their full suits on. "I thought it was really cool how we could show them the safety features that are really key and important as well as get them involved in the fire science program a little bit," Ramsey said.

Photo: M. Brown

"IT WAS SO FUN.AFTER I LEARNED ABOUT THE PROGRAM, I DECIDED TO DO IT NEXT YEAR. I ACTUALLY JOINED FIRE SCIENCE FOR SENIOR YEAR," SAM JOHNSON '21



PROVIDING unity IN THE COMMUNITY

THE SSN PROGRAM EXPAND THEIR COMMUNITY AND CREATE A NEW IMPACT IN THE SCHOOL

Take a tour of the fire science department. On the far side of the school, nestled in the 4000s, is their giant, cement classroom. "It's just like a big garage, but all of the stuff is used and smells like smoke because it has been in real fires," Issy Kiefert '21, a fire science student, said.

In front of the program's own 11-foot tall fire truck lays their gear, always out in case the students need to "bunk up." Oct. 24, the SSN (Significant Support Needs) program visited fire science to learn about community safety. Instead of having a local fire department visit them like they usually have, SSN teacher Debbie Rochau coordinated with Chief Allen Chapman to have the two programs work together in school.

"We decided to make this an inclusionary activity where our kids in the SSN program saw peers out in the hallway that are here doing the same thing [as the fire department]," Rochau said. "I really wanted to bring awareness to them of just different programs that are available here."

Fire Science students helped show SSN what they do in class. They helped the students try on gear and explore the classroom.

"It is just so amazing to see how we are role models for younger kids in this community just as the firefighters who teach us are for us students," Kiefert said.

To familiarize the students in SSN with fire safety, so that they're not afraid in the real world, Chapman played the sirens on their fire truck and helped them to experience what it's like inside the truck.

"It was fun, I got to put on the jacket and see what it felt like," Sam Johnson '21 said. "They showed me axes and all the tools they used, I want to learn how to use the tools."

The visit to the fire science program inspired Johnson to join the class next year and become part of the family.

"My favorite part about fire science is how in just a matter of weeks into the program, we have come together and become a family," Kade Ramsey '21, a fire science student, said. "Our strength may not be in numbers but no one said a family has to be big in size to be strong, passionate and honorable."

Rochau's goal of expanding SSN's role in the community was accomplished throughout the year with events like collaborating with fire science and other field trips the program had.

"What we want is for the community to know us and to build awareness outside the classroom and expand our kid's vision of what they can do and who they can be," Rochau said.

Story: I. Holsman and A. Brauchler

WHAT'S brewin'

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS SELL COFFEE AND CANDY DURING ACCESS TO HELP LEARN SKILLS AND INTERACT WITH PEERS



java and jaguars

Jatin Thimmannagari '23 facilitates the Jaguar Java cart in the 9000's during access Aug. 26. The proceeds went toward the SSN program to provide for field trips. "Everyone needs to meet [the students] and come in and talk to them and interact with them," Educational Assistant Theresa Crump said.

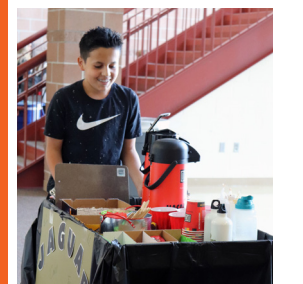
Photo: K. Zizzo



snack attack

Sam Johnson '21 and Eddie Barela '23 help Allison Yaple '21 purchase candy in the cafeteria Aug. 26. Every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:15 AM to 10:50 AM, SSN students brought the cart throughout the school in a search of potential customers. "We take the kids out and we're teaching them social interaction with the rest of the school and they're learning how to serve, make change, and interact with their peers," Educational Assistant Theresa Crump said.

Photo: K. Zizzo



caffeine and teens

Eddie Barela '23 wheels the Jaguar Java cart around the first-floor hallway in pursuit of additional customers Aug. 26. The Jaguar Java cart sells approximately 150 cups of coffee and packages of candy every Tuesday and Thursday during seminar and access. "We change out the kids who do the cart every day, so it's never the same kids. We cycle through all of the kids who are doing it," Educational Assistant Amber Kessler said.

Photo: K. Zizzo