



# Steinbrenner PTSA Newsletter

George Steinbrenner High School  
5575 W Lutz Lake Fern  
Lutz, Florida 33558  
813.792-5131

*A Hillsborough County School*

February 2021  
Volume 8, Issue 5

Visit our Website [steinbrennerptsa.org](http://steinbrennerptsa.org)

## Calendar

### THE WORLD of a TEEN

Find login information on our PTSA  
website [www.steinbrennerptsa.org](http://www.steinbrennerptsa.org)

#### February

- 5 Deadline for Submission of PTSA  
Scholarship Volunteer Hours  
(pg. 3)
- 10 6pm-WORLD of a TEEN Program;  
ZOOM (pg. 1 & 2)
- 12 Deadline to order 20-21 Yearbook  
(pg. 3)
- 12 Non-Student Day
- 15 No School-President's Day
- 19 10am-Superintendent's Advisory  
Council for the Education of  
Students with Disabilities; ZOOM  
(pg. 7)
- 27 9am-HCPTA/PTSA Winter Training  
& General Meeting (pg. 5)

#### March

- 12 Deadline for Warrior Wishes  
Letters (pg. 4)
- 12 Deadline to order Senior Banners  
(pg. 6-7)
- 12 10am-Superintendent's Advisory  
Council for the Education of  
Students with Disabilities; ZOOM  
(pg. 7)
- 15-19 No School-Spring Break
- 26 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grading Period

**\*\*Dates & times are subject to change.**

Calendar Links:

[Steinbrenner Calendar](#)  
[District Calendar](#)

AWARD WINNING PROGRAM THAT YOU  
DON'T WANT TO MISS!

STEINBRENNER PTSA PRESENTS

## THE WORLD OF A TEEN



A PANEL OF EXPERTS ASSEMBLED TO DISCUSS  
THE CHALLENGES FACING TODAY'S TEENS

SOCIAL MEDIA | DRUGS | RELATIONSHIPS | STRESS | AND MORE

INTERACTIVE AND INFORMATIVE

**FEBRUARY 10, 2021 6 P.M.**

VIRTUAL EVENT

OPEN TO ALL PARENTS AND TEENS

LOGIN INFORMATION ON STEINBRENNER PTSA WEBSITE  
[WWW.STEINBRENNERTAMPAFL.PTAP.TSA.ORG](http://WWW.STEINBRENNERTAMPAFL.PTAP.TSA.ORG)

Made with PosterMyWall.com

The wait is almost over for this fun & informative event for both  
parents and students. Make sure you check out our panel of experts  
for Steinbrenner's World of a Teen on page 2.

# THE WORLD of a TEEN



INTERACTIVE AND INFORMATIVE

**FEBRUARY 10, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.**

## VIRTUAL EVENT

We are thrilled to bring the award-winning 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **World of a Teen** program to Steinbrenner High School. A panel of experts has been assembled to discuss the challenges facing today's teens: drugs, alcohol, stress, social media, depression, relationships and more! All teens and parents of teens are invited.

Email your questions in advance: [questionsforpanel@gmail.com](mailto:questionsforpanel@gmail.com)

Visit the Steinbrenner PTSA website to access the login information. <https://steinbrennertampafi.ptaptsa.org>

Presented by Steinbrenner High School PTSA



## 2020-21 Steinbrenner PTSA Board

President: Beth Rogers  
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 VP of Programs: Amy Pardo  
 VP of Ways & Means: Michelle Stephenson  
 Alicia Seidel  
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 Men's Club: Jeff Stanislow  
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 Jennifer Bommarito

Newsletter: Leslie Nixon  
 PE/HOPE Uniforms/Spirit Wear:

Bridget Verrecchia  
 Jennifer Bommarito  
 Publicity: Chrissy Bond  
 Reflections: Jodi Scotch  
 Lauren Scotch

Scholarships: Sandy Webster  
 School of Excellence: Emily Rogers  
 Senior Activities: Christy Lowe  
 Senior Awards Night: Lisa Aiken  
 Senior Banners: Maura Weins  
 Steinbrenner Cares: Erica Rude  
 Student Ambassadors: Shelly Saunders  
 Student Incentives: Laurie Grantham  
 Jennifer Bommarito

Teacher Appreciation: Monique Kehr  
 Kristen Hendrickson  
 Teacher Grants: Chrissy Bond  
 Wellness: Portia Engman

Steinbrenner Principal: Tiffany Ewell



## THE WORLD OF A TEEN



## SPEAKERS

### HIGH SCHOOL ISSUES/TRENDS

Deputy Anthony Bennett  
 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER, STEINBRENNER HS

Michelle Gonzalez  
 SPECIAL AGENT, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

### ONLINE SAFETY

### DRUG PREVENTION

Laura Huff  
 PROGRAM MANAGER, MENDEZ FOUNDATION

Dr. Rucha Kharwa Patel  
 PHYSICIAN, URGENT CARE & WELLNESS CENTER

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

### MENTAL HEALTH

Dr. Karan Lamb  
 LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

Christine Meister  
 PREVENTION TEAM MANAGER, THE SPRING OF TAMPA BAY

### HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Jennifer R. Silliman  
 GROUP SUPERVISOR, HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS

## STAY IN THE KNOW

**Steinbrenner PTSA:** [www.steinbrennerptsa.org](http://www.steinbrennerptsa.org)

The PTSA website can now be translated into a variety of different languages. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on "Select Language". From there, choose your preferred language.

**Steinbrenner online store:**  
<https://gshsptsamemberhub.store/>

**Newsletter:** The Steinbrenner PTSA newsletter will be sent monthly to all registered families.

**Instagram:** @steinbrennerPTA

**Facebook:** Join the Steinbrenner PTSA Facebook page for the latest school news.  
<https://www.facebook.com/steinbrennerptsa/>

**School news:** Steinbrenner High website:  
<http://steinbrenner.mysdhc.org/>

**District news:** Hillsborough County School District Web site: <https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/>

[Hillsborough County PTA](#)

[Florida PTA](#)

[National PTA](#)

[Canvas](#)

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE ORDER YOUR 20-21 YEARBOOK NOW



Due to this year's extenuating circumstances, we've been granted an extension from our printing company to allow all Steinbrenner students who would like to purchase a yearbook the opportunity to do so!

**THE DEADLINE TO PURCHASE A YEARBOOK HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 12.**

There will not be another extension and there will not be extra yearbooks available to purchase after this date so order your yearbook today! You can do so by visiting:

[www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com)

School code 10655

## PTSA Scholarship REMINDERS

Requirements for PTSA scholarships are on our [website](#).

**Don't forget! To qualify, students must:**

- *Have become a PTSA member by December 31, 2020.*
- *Obtain 5 PTSA approved volunteer hours before February 5, 2021.*

One of the ways students can get volunteer hours is by contacting our PTSA Volunteer Coordinator at [gshsptsavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:gshsptsavolunteers@gmail.com).

## SENIORS

### Need PTSA Scholarship Volunteer Hours?

Earn volunteer hours toward the PTSA Senior Scholarship by submitting an article to the Steinbrenner PTSA Newsletter.

Submit an article for publication in the PTSA Newsletter & provide a picture or two. *Your topic can be about anything school related.*

**Deadline** to submit an article for PTSA scholarship volunteer hours is **February 5th**. Articles must be well written, are subject to editing, and approval by Miss. Ewell.

Submit article and/or questions to Leslie Nixon  
[shsptsanews@gmail.com](mailto:shsptsanews@gmail.com)



HCPS Scholarship Matrix provides a monthly view of available scholarships for HCPS Students. The matrix is updated monthly to reflect new opportunities:  
<http://guidanceservices.mysdhc.org/matrix/scholarshipmatrix.pdf>





## Warrior Wishes 2021

East Floors & Staircases is excited to partner with Steinbrenner High School this year as we send off our 2021 graduates with the Inaugural Warrior Wishes program.

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, teachers, coaches, clergy and friends may send your senior students a special note of congratulations on his or her upcoming graduation. We will carefully keep these cards and notes for each student and distribute them to the seniors. Every student will receive a large envelope containing these Warrior Wishes. The note and cards will be kept confidential until they are given to the students.

**MAIL  
TO:**

STUDENT'S FULL NAME  
Warrior Wishes  
East Floors & Staircases  
8506 Sunstate Street  
Tampa, Florida 33634

- Send cards or letters no larger than 8X10 (No Packages)
- Do not send anything of value (money, checks, gift cards etc.).
- ALL envelopes must have the recipient name on the outside.
- Keep letters & cards flat.

**LETTERS DUE BY:**  
**3/12/2021**



### WANNA BE A VOLUNTEER?

Hillsborough County School District's link to apply for volunteering is now open! All volunteers must fill out the application. [CLICK HERE](#) to apply.

Steinbrenner PTSA hopes to be welcoming back our volunteers soon. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to select volunteer opportunities at GSHS that you are interested in.

If you have any questions, please contact [gshsptsavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:gshsptsavolunteers@gmail.com)



## PTSA BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

### Make a Difference – Become a Steinbrenner PTSA Business Partner!

To become a business partner, please complete and submit the [Business Partnership Form](#) or email us at [gshsptsamembership@gmail.com](mailto:gshsptsamembership@gmail.com)

## Steinbrenner PTSA Needs YOU

Our PTSA is looking for volunteers to fill vacancies for the 2021-2022 school year. It is fun and a great way to stay connected to all that is happening at Steinbrenner.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Eva Ebert at [gshsptsars@gmail.com](mailto:gshsptsars@gmail.com)



### MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club would like your help supporting our school with some special activities and events.

Sign up to help and find out about events by emailing Jeff Stanislaw at [jeff@chiefinternetmarketer.com](mailto:jeff@chiefinternetmarketer.com).



JOIN ONLINE AT

<https://gshsptsa.new.memberhub.store/store>

Questions? Email

[GSHSPTSAmembership@gmail.com](mailto:GSHSPTSAmembership@gmail.com)

## HELP US THANK OUR TEACHERS TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

The PTSA planning committee is in the process of coordinating a week-long celebration for our teachers. We want our Teachers & Staff to know just how special they are to us!

We are in need of donations of new/unused products and/or services to be used as gifts for Teachers & Staff. If you have an item(s) to donate or would like to help solicit donations from local businesses, please let us know.

Donations to Steinbrenner PTSA are tax deductible. Business donors will be acknowledged and thanked in the PTSA newsletter that is published to all registered Steinbrenner parents.

If you are interested in serving on the planning committee, submitting a donation, or have questions, please contact the event co-chairs Monique Kehr and Kristen Hendrickson at

[gshsptsateacherappreciation@gmail.com](mailto:gshsptsateacherappreciation@gmail.com)

Hillsborough County Public Schools  
Quarantine Resource Center

Preparing Students for Life



This resource is for students, and families of students, who have been quarantined due to COVID-19. We understand how difficult these circumstances are for you and hope to relieve some of your stress by providing the resources found on [THIS PAGE](#). Most importantly, we want you to know that we are here to support you during this challenging time and are available for questions and guidance.

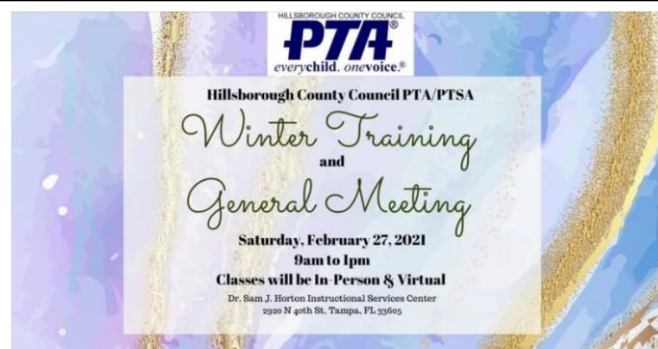
The Quarantine Resource Center contains Learning Resources for Elementary, Middle, & High School students. The website also has many links to Coping Resources.

## Welcome to Sunny Money!



Sunny Money was created by Dr. Deborah Kozdras and Dr. Sherry Moser from the USF Stavros Center to provide activities aligned to Florida (Sunny) Standards for Financial Literacy and Economics (Money). For K-12, they have inquiry activities like [Money-in-a-Minute](#) activities and [Disney Gifts and Clips](#). For K-5, they also have [Econ Express](#) and [Big Money for Little Kids](#) series using children's literature.

[Click here](#) to check out the Sunny Money homepage for more information.



**SAT, FEB 27 AT 9 AM EST**

## HCCPTA/PTSA Winter Training & General Meeting 2021

Tampa, FL

Event by Hillsborough County Council PTA/PTSA

2920 N 40th St, Tampa, FL 33605-3205, United States

Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 9 AM EST – 1 PM EST

Tickets

[CLICK HERE](#) for tickets.

## **FAQ: Senior Banners**

We are on the final stretch for senior year. Orders for your Senior Banners will be accepted through March 12. All payments, quotes, and pictures for your student's banner are due at this time. Don't miss out on the chance to recognize your child.

Listed below are some Frequently Asked Questions about the banners. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions you may have.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Q. What are the differences between the banners?**

**A.** There are two sizes of banners:

Small—2'x3', includes a salutation (Example: Love, Mom & Dad).

Large—2'x6', includes a salutation & a quote/message up to 100 characters, & a picture of your student.

#### **Q. How much do the banners cost?**

**A.** Small--\$40

Large--\$75

#### **Q. Can I get more than one banner?**

**A.** There is no limit to the number of banners you can purchase. You may want to let out of town relatives know about the banners. They may want to order one as well.

#### **Q. Can friends order banners?**

**A.** Yes, banners can be ordered by family and friends.

#### **Q. How are banners displayed?**

**A.** The banners will be placed around the hallways of the school during the middle of April. They will be taken down and returned to the student at cap and gown pick up.

#### **Q. What can I do with the banner when my student brings it home?**

**A.** The banners can be displayed inside or outside of your home to celebrate your graduate. Families use them as a party decoration and display them the week of graduation to honor their child's accomplishment.

#### **Q. Can I put a message/quote on the 2'x3' banner?**

**A.** You can add "Love, Mom & Dad" (plus other family members such as brothers &/or sisters) to these banners.

#### **Q. How long can the message/quote be for the 2'x6' banner?**

**A.** Your message/quote on the large banner can be up to 100 characters. This does not include the salutation. All banners have your student's name and "Congratulations". Keep this in mind when submitting your message/quote.

#### **Q. What happens if my message/quote is the same as one on another banner?**

**A.** This happens every year. It's not a problem. If you're trying to avoid this, you may want to stay away from Dr. Seuss and Winnie the Pooh quotes!!

#### **Q. What photo can I submit for the large banner:**

**A.** The photo you select of your student ***must*** be in compliance with the student dress code. The picture can be from your favorite vacation, your favorite picture from a previous school year, sports picture, or senior portrait.

The photo must be a high resolution in order to maintain the photo quality. For best results, scan an 8x10 photo at 300 dpi or get the original digital file from the photographer. Please don't send a proof or screen shot as

FAQ continued on pg. 7





18981 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Lutz, FL 33548

Mon - Fri: 8:00am - 8:00pm Sat - Sun: 9:00am - 5:00pm

**813-388-5922**

info@lutzuc.com | lutzuc.com

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION URGENT CARE & WELLNESS CENTER!**

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT OUR PTSA & SCHOOL COMMUNITY.**

An appointment is not needed, but feel free to check out their website [www.lutzuc.com](http://www.lutzuc.com) and fill out the patient registration form to speed up the process.

Most major insurances accepted.

**FAQ continued from pg. 6**

these will not work.

**Q. How do I submit the banner picture?**

**A.** Scan and email the photo you choose to [gshsseniorbanners@gmail.com](mailto:gshsseniorbanners@gmail.com)

**Q. When is the deadline for ordering banners?**

**A.** The last day we will be accepting orders is Friday, March 12, 2021.

**Q. I don't want the banner to be hung up at school. Can I still order one?**

**A.** Absolutely: Go ahead and place your order and we will make arrangements to get it to you.

**Q. What happens if my student doesn't pick up their banner?**

**A.** Any banners not collected during cap & gown pick-up will be available in the front office.

**Q. How can I order my banner?**

**A.** Simply follow this link to place your online order <https://gshsptsa.memberhub.store/store>



Shop Amazon Smile.

Choose Steinbrenner High PTSA. A portion of your \$ spent will be donated back to our PTSA.

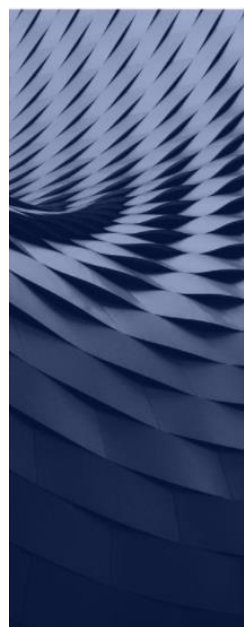


[Mascot Universe](#) is the place to go for all your spirit wear needs! [Mascot Universe](#) donates back to Steinbrenner PTSA for every Steinbrenner item purchased.

## School Board Human Trafficking PSA

WATCH: @HCSOSheriff & @HillsboroughSch unveiled this PSA for middle & high school students, as another approach to aid the fight against human trafficking. @ChadChronister & @AddisonGDavis highlight the warning signs!

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch the Public Service Announcement



## Superintendent's Advisory Council for the Education of Students with Disabilities

The primary focus of the Superintendent's Advisory Council for the Education of Students with Disabilities, is to identify and recommend systemic strategies to improve outcomes for all students who have disabilities within Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS). Voting members of the Council are appointed by the Superintendent and are comprised of school district personnel, parents of students receiving Exceptional Student Education (ESE) and community members. Guests are welcome to attend but due to time constraints, discussion may be limited to appointed members. Guests are encouraged to attend the council meetings, to volunteer to participate in work groups, and to express interests and topics for the council to consider for discussion at future council meetings.



Please complete the [Superintendent's Advisory Registration](#) form if you are interested in attending a meeting. A Zoom link will be sent to you upon completion.

\*\*\*\*

Questions:  
(813) 837-7732 or email [fdparentservices@sdhc.k12.fl.us](mailto:fdparentservices@sdhc.k12.fl.us)

**2021 Dates:**

10am-noon

February 19

March 12

April 16

May 21 (tentative)

## MATH HOMEWORK HOTLINE

The second semester is here, which means Math Homework Hotline is back live on Thursdays at 6-7pm to help students with their math assignments.

Tutors begin taking calls at 5:30pm: 813-840-7260

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch live shows.

February topics:

- 2/4 Transformations, Dilations and Similarity  
Translation, reflection, rotation, dilation,  
similar figures, and scale
- 2/18 Systems of Equations  
Solving equations linearly and algebraically
- 2/25 Geometry  
Determine areas of triangles & special  
quadrilaterals, surface area from nets &  
formulas



**\*\*Note:** picture is from a previous MHH topic

## Advice to High School Sophomores and Juniors

By Kyla Clewis

*Hello Sophomores and Juniors! I would like to share a few tips I wish I knew when I was in your shoes. I wish you the best in your high school career and beyond!*

**It is never too early to start thinking about what you would like to do after graduation.**

The four years of high school pass quickly! Before you know it, you will make decisions that affect your career and life. It can be stressful to think

Continued on pg. 9



## A WORD FROM OUR STUDENTS



### Dear Steinbrenner

By Leah Mixon

I miss the way you used to be.  
Though I still attend each and every day,  
You do not feel nearly as free.

Of course I mourn the loss of your larger events.  
No homecoming. No pep rallies. I may only lament.  
But what I think I miss most is the small little things.

Smiling at friends in the hallway,  
The joy that it brings.

The excitement of a classroom call,  
"Who is getting signed out?"

Now instead it's the room 213 doubt.

I'll admit at first I had stupid, stupid hope.

I should have known better,  
Should have seen through the smoke.

In spite all this, I thank you for two and a half years.

A global pandemic was not your fault,  
You are not responsible for these tears.

So Steinbrenner High School, goodbye I must bid.

I wish that someday,  
They will know you like I did.



 **Steinbrenner PTSA: <https://t.co/0hohx4Ynvf>**



## Advice continued from pg. 8

about what you would like to do after graduation, but you will have a better idea of your post-graduation plans if you consider your options early. For example, do you want to attend a trade or vocational school? Do you want to study at a university? Do you want to take a gap year before studying at a university? Do you want to enter the work force immediately? Do you want to join the military? Thinking about your interests and strengths will build your vision for post-graduation plans.

### Research universities you are interested in.

If you are interested in attending a university after high school, now is a good time to begin thinking about where you would like to go or what you would like to study. If there is a certain university you're considering: tour the campus, research the programs and majors offered, connect with current students or alumni, and take classes that will best prepare you for your field. Visit the university's website for information about what they offer and how to get connected, like through an email list or on-campus tours.

### Get involved!



Steinbrenner offers dozens of clubs and athletic teams to help you pursue your interests, meet new friends, and contribute to the

community. If you enjoy a particular activity, reach out to others and get involved with a club or team! These are great ways to connect with people and build a network of students with common interests. In addition, universities tend to admit students who are involved in their community and demonstrate commitment and leadership.

### Don't be afraid to ask for help.

You are not alone! Most likely, others have felt or experienced what you are going through and can support you. High school can come with high levels of stress, anxiety, or pressure. However, these are less difficult to handle when you have people in your life to support and help you. Your friends and family may understand what you are experiencing and may offer a listening ear or advice. Also reach out to a trusted teacher or adult if you are having serious trouble. You are worth it and you are valuable.

**You are capable and can do anything you put your mind and efforts to! Best wishes!**

## CHOOSING A UNIVERSITY

By Nicole Fink



When you think about applying to and choosing a college, normally you get excited thinking about your future. But you don't really take into consideration the lengthy process before you actually go. I first started my applications at the end of July and am still waiting to hear back from some schools. You have to write an essay for each school and then answer the questions individual to each school. Then, once you receive all of your decisions, comes the hard part of actually choosing which school to go to. There are so many factors you have to take into consideration. Like which location is best, programs best for your major, and the financial situation. COVID-19 is also a factor because a lot of students are having to choose a school without actually seeing it first. Picking the right college is very important because it will affect your future, so make sure all factors are taken into consideration.

## THE VIOLIN

By Casey Gibson

From the time I was young, I have always needed something to do. So, during my elementary years, my mother decided to put me into baseball. The whole deal was pretty ok for me at the time; I went to all the practices, played in all the games, and ate snacks with my teammates afterwards. It was the standard little league experience. Very quickly however, I realized that just maybe, sports were not exactly my forte, so to speak, considering most of my time during the five

Continue on pg. 10

## Violin continued from pg. 9



seasons I played was spent in the outfield looking at grass and scratching my head. I just never really became attached to athletics, even after trying a season of soccer.

After my endeavor with sports, I had a few years of downtime up until 7<sup>th</sup> grade where I chose orchestra to be my main elective class. In the wheel, where we got to try out each elective, I seemed to excel in orchestra and quickly began to enjoy playing the violin. Before this however, I had been playing piano regularly, including taking lessons, for about 4 years. Having found orchestra, it became clear that I was musically inclined more so than sports, painfully obvious that is. So, I continued with orchestra and quickly became comfortable with my instrument. By 8<sup>th</sup> grade I had auditioned for the highest-level orchestra at my school, Chamber, and make it in. I was

seated as concert master within one year of playing violin.

From there, an upward trajectory of increasing orchestra involvement was born. Aside from 9<sup>th</sup> grade (because I had to be in concert orchestra), I have been in the highest class available to me and seated high, if not first chair violin, for all my years. I participated in events like All County Music Program, which I have done 4 years in a row now, went to summer camp at Florida Southern College 3 years in a row, and continue to play and learn every day. I am very thankful for having found a hobby/niche that I fit into because it has led me to meet some of the most important and impactful people in my life, not only my friends, but teachers and other instructors along the way.

# THE WORLD *of a* TEEN

**February 10**

**6:00pm**

**ZOOM**

**Find login information on our PTSA website**

**[www.steinbrennerptsa.org](http://www.steinbrennerptsa.org)**



**STEINBRENNER PTSA**  
Home of the Warriors

