

Southwest Schools

Southwest 'Rider News

March 2010

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - Dave Hendricks

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Special points of interest:

- March 5 - NO SCHOOL Spring Break
- March 8 - School Board Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- March 12 - NO SCHOOL Spring Break
- March 14 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- April 2 - NO SCHOOL Easter Vacation
- April 5 - NO SCHOOL Easter Vacation

Board of Education Approves Sale of Property and Disposal of Surplus Property

At their February meeting, the Southwest Board of Education approved the selling of the old high school building and grounds at the former Red Willow site as well as the disposal of district surplus property. The sale of real estate and property auction will be held Saturday, June 12th, 2010. Vontz Realty was approved as the agent for the sale of the buildings and real estate and Young's Auction Service was approved as the agent for the sale of surplus property. A formal notice of sale will be published in the

Indianola News prior to June 12th as well as auction flyers being distributed throughout the area.

Security Camera System in the Jr/Sr High School

Most individuals are aware that a security camera system was installed in the new Jr/Sr high school building upon its completion. Many student comments have been made about having "Big Brother" watching them at all times, but most understand the need for student safety and building security after they have had an opportunity to ask questions about the system and hear the results of how it is being used. When

parents send their children to school they have a reasonable expectation that the school will keep children safe from not only outside intruders, but also from being bullied, engaging in a fight with another student, or having their possessions stolen. The cameras have proven to be a valuable asset in dealing with these concerns and hopefully are a deterrent to having these activities take place. Should you have any questions about the system or how it is being used please contact Mr. Springer or Mr. Hendricks at the Jr/Sr high school.

High School News - Mr. Springer

The 2009-10 year has been a great educational experience for students and staff alike at the high school level. The staff and the students have spent a lot of time working toward reaching the goals they set back in August. It doesn't seem that long ago we were getting ready for the first week of school in the old Bartley building. That was a great learning experience and seemed to bring the staff together as one group. Then after a few delays and weeks anticipation we were given the green light to move into the new facility. The building has proven to

be a great learning environment. The students are no longer being subjected to change in temperature and going from one building to another. This has also allowed the district to be a safer learning environment. Students each have lockers that are equipped with a lock so they can store books and coats without the worry of someone messing with their belongings. If you have not had the opportunity to see the new building, please drop by the school and we will give you a tour.

The class schedules for next

year are currently being discussed and we will start working on them in the weeks to come. These schedules are not finalized until summer when we have grades finalized from this current semester. The reason we have students register early is to give us a preliminary look at the classes we need to offer based on student request. Please discuss with your child the classes that they are interested in taking and their plans for post graduation. This does make a difference in the classes they need to consider.

Parents! Get Involved! Stay Involved!

2010 STATEWIDE PARENT INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE



Being a Parent is a Hard Job!

How do parents do it all? We want our kids to like us, love us, and respect us. We want our children to grow up happy, healthy, safe and successful. How do you make certain you've provided your child with the parental support and guidance they need?

If you want to be the best possible parent for your child...this conference is for you!

Take advantage of learning from professional educators, counselors, law enforcement officials and more. By attending the conference, you will gain parenting skills for a lifetime.

Keynote Speaker Scott Butler

Scott is an assistant principal in the Millard Public Schools and the current chair of the Greater Omaha Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Initiative. He is a recognized expert in the 40 Developmental Assets. Scott, along with his 16 year-old son Danny, will focus on parent/child interactions and how assets can impact those interactions in positive ways.

All conference attendees will receive a FREE copy of the book, *What Kids Need to Succeed: Proven, Practical Ways to Raise Good Kids*.

FREE Childcare! Limited free childcare will be provided on a first come, first serve basis. **Children must be pre-registered by March 19, 2010, no drop-in children.**

A special thanks to our Parent Involvement Conference

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WESTSIDE FOUNDATION
The Foundation of the Millard Community

March 27, 2010
Westside Middle School
8601 Arbor Street
Omaha, Nebraska
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Registration 7:30 a.m.



2010 Statewide Parent Involvement Conference Registration Form March 27, 2010

Westside Middle School
8601 Arbor Street, Omaha, Ne 68124

Name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Do you need childcare? Yes No

Ages of the children _____

Deadline to register for childcare is **March 19, 2010**.

No drop-in children will be accepted.

Please indicate if you are in need of special accommodations. Pre-registration is required for individuals needing an interpreter. Please indicate type of language or accommodation needs:

ASL SEE Spanish

Other Language _____

Physical Accommodation _____

Total Registration Fee: \$25 per participant; \$30 day of conference; includes continental breakfast.

Financial assistance may be available. Please contact your school for more information.

NO REFUNDS - but you may substitute someone.

Fill out and detach registration form. Make a \$25 check payable to Westside Community Schools and mail to Westside Community Schools, c/o Communications Dept., 909 So. 76th Street, Omaha, NE, 68114. **Mail no later than March 19.**

For more information: www.westside66.org
Follow us on Twitter at NebraskaParent

Elementary News - Mrs. Rasmussen

March begins with Read Across America Day, on March 2nd. Elementary students will celebrate Dr. Suess's birthday with green eggs and ham for breakfast and specials activities throughout the day.

The last regular Good Friends meeting will be held on March 18th. The third graders have enjoyed entertaining and spending time with their Good

Friends each month. Thank you to all those men and women who give up their time monthly to support our students. Also thank you to all the parents who have donated treats, drinks, decorations, or their time in support of the program. You are appreciated very much! The final celebration is an evening meeting held in May.

Finally, don't forget there are two spring break days this month. The first is Friday March 5th and the second is the 12th. There is no school for any students those two days. The 12th is also the end of the third quarter. Look for elementary report cards to come in the mail the week of March 15th.

High School Life Science - Mrs. Probasco

The new life science room is great. We have plenty of space and sinks. It is also great to finally have a Smart Board in the classroom. Thank you District patrons.

The biology classes are working through the State Standards as well as the one we work on all year. (12.2.1)

- 12.2.1 By the end of twelfth grade, students will develop the abilities needed to do scientific inquiry.
- 12.4.1 -students will develop an understanding of the cell.
- 12.4.2 -students will develop an understanding of the molecular basis of heredity
- 12.4.3 -students will develop an understanding of the theory of biological evolution
- 12.4.4 -students will develop an understanding of the interdependence of organisms
- 12.4.5 -students will develop an understanding of matter, energy, and organization in living systems
- 12.4.6 -students will develop an understanding of the behavior of organisms.

The anatomy/physiology class enjoyed the field trip to UNK. We toured the newly remodeled Bruner Hall of Science which was new when I started to college in 1967. The students graduating with a biology degree will have completed a research project their senior year. That is a very positive change; it almost makes me want to go back to college. We got to see the new planetarium which will be starting public showings in February. Watch for details in the Kearney paper. We also visited the Human Performance Lab again. The students always enjoy this part of the day. Shelby Hubbert wrote an excellent article about our day in the school newspaper that came out right before Christmas. Hopefully you got to read her article

We studied the nervous system, endocrine and cardiovascular system so far this semester.. Students presented power point presentations and/or brochures they have created concerning the senses or a disease of the nervous system. February 23 we will visit the Cambridge Hospital in the morning and have some other medical career people lined up to visit our classes.



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 Bartley, NE 69020
Return Service Requested
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 Fax: 308-692-3221

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Parent Survey

Please fill out the following survey and return it to the school office or mail it to:

Southwest Public Schools
 PO Box 187
 Bartley NE 69020

Name of Family _____

1. Do you have internet access at home or work? Yes No (Please circle)
2. If no internet at home or work is there any other place you access it such as the library? Yes No
3. Do you utilize Infinite Campus? Yes No
4. Would email be a good way to communicate with you about your children? Yes No
4. How often do you check your email? Daily Weekly Monthly Less
6. Would you prefer to have the newsletter emailed to you or continue to receive it through the mail? Home Mail