



'Rider News

High School News - Mr. Springer

The 2012-13 year has been a great educational success at the Junior/Senior high school. The staff and the students have spent a lot of time working toward reaching the goals they set back in August.

The month of May is a short month in terms of school. These are a few dates that you may want to keep open on your calendar. **** May 11th Graduation. **** May 16th is also the last day of school for 2012-13 school year. Teachers will be in and out the following week as they get their rooms ready for summer cleaning.

The new building addition on the old gym is getting closer all the time. We are excited to have it for practice and JV games next year. That will make some of our four game nights shorter and get kids home sooner on school nights

Summer school will once again take place this year to help students, grades 9-12 catch up on credit recovery. For Junior High students the summer school program is designed to get the students who may be low in English or Math skill extra help. This will hopefully ensure they

are ready for the next levels of course work when school starts. We will be posting the times and information about summer school prior to school being let out for summer

The schedule for next year is getting close to being done. We have spent a lot of time working to ensure students are able to take the classes they wish. If you have not visited with your child I would encourage you to ask them what they signed up for in the fall semester. If you should have any questions please call or stop in.

Earth Day - Mrs. Overton

Earth day has come and gone but our school keeps working hard. The elementary has recycled over 1200 pounds of paper this year. The fourth graders have been busy collecting the paper and weighing it each month. It has been an eye opening experience for them all. They have learned that an average person uses about

seven trees a year in wood products. Just think about the cardboard, paper, paper plates and so much more you use in a week. As well as paper, our school also recycles magazines and cardboard. Thanks to our custodians we take it all to the McCook Recycling Center. This summer the fourth

grade challenges each family to try and recycle one kind of material. The recycling center takes paper, cardboard, newspaper, plastic #2 and #1, magazines, tin, glass, and aluminum. Right now in the United States we manufacture about 85.5 million tons of paper, but we only recycle 22% of it.

Inside this issue:

Elementary News	2
Summer School	2
Speech & Drama	3
Music Contest	4
Summer Activities	6
Counselor's Notes	7
Board Minutes	8

Special points of interest:

- May 3 - Seniors last day
- May 11 - High School Graduation @ 10:30 AM
- May 12 - Mother's Day
- May 13 - School Board Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- May 16 - Last Day of School Dismissal at :
Elementary 12:45 PM
High School 1:00 PM
- May 17 & 18 - State Track in Omaha

Elementary News - Mrs. Rasmussen

The closing of this school year will be bitter sweet. At the close, Mrs. Kathy Brashears will retire. Mrs. B. has dedicated 27 years to Southwest Elementary and her students. We thank her for her service and wish her the very best in the next chapter of her life

All of our teachers and paraprofessionals work hard every day to make a difference in the lives of the students they serve. Teacher Appreciation Week is celebrated across the country May 6th - 10th. We at Southwest will be celebrating our outstanding teaching staff that week also. Parents and students you can help make their week special by: writing a note, making a card, bring food to the lounge, or giving small gift to show your appreciation. As the school winds down elemen-

tary students get to do some of their learning outside of the classroom. May 1st- first and second graders will tour in McCook. May 2nd - 4th grade will be traveling to Hastings, to tour the Hastings Museum. May 9th - 5th grade will spend the day learning at Fort Kearny, while 3rd grade heads to North Platte. Preschool students will visit the Children's Museum in North Platte on May 10th. AR is drawing to a close. Students have until May 8th to meet their goals. Currently, we have 40 students who have met that goal and we are hoping for more. May 13th students who have reached their goal will be treated to a day off of school. That day will be spent in Kearney at the Big Apple participating in fun activities they have to offer. On May 14th, students who have exceeded their goal by 50%

will have Pizza with the Principal. These trips are rewards for students who choose to spend time outside of school reading

We have a student who has reached an all new high for AR points. Austin Adam in fifth grade is currently well over 800 points and is trying to reach 1000 points by the year. Congratulations to Austin! Where ever he ends up, he will be the school recorded holder! Austin will be principal for the day coming up in May

Our last day of school is May 16th. We are in the process of lining up activities to make those last few days' memorable ones. Students will be dismissed at 12:45. Report cards and testing results will be mailed home shortly after school is dismissed for the year. Enjoy your summer! If you have any questions or comments please contact me at school 364-2613.

Book of the Month for May is "Flat Stanley" - Mrs. Young

Stanley Lambchop and his younger brother Arthur are given a big bulletin board by their father to display pictures and posters. He hangs it on the wall over Stanley's bed. During the night the board falls from the wall, flattening Stanley in his sleep. He survives and makes the best of his altered state, and soon he is entering locked rooms by sliding under the door, and playing with his younger brother by being used as a kite. One special advantage is that Flat Stanley can now visit his friends by being mailed in an envelope. Stanley even helps catch some art museum thieves by posing as a painting on the wall. Eventual-

ly, Stanley is tired of being flat and Arthur changes him back to his proper shape with a bicycle pump.

Both second grade classes have enjoyed working with Flat Stanley. They have sent out their own Flat Stanley's and are now getting them returned from all over the U.S. You will have to visit us to see where all our Flat Stanley's have traveled too.

The second grade classes also took care of coloring the book wall. They did an awesome job. Come and check it out.

Summer School Correction

There was an error in the April news letter. There is NO CHARGE for summer school. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Rasmussen at 364-2613.

Drama and Speech Awards - Mrs. Clark

One-act play production is over and so is speech season, but the memories linger. Numerous actors received special recognition either at R-PAC One Act or District Play Production. For their performances in "Who's Your Mummy?" Megan Kelley's Penny Pembroke, Oliver Kragelund's Kelvin Dobbs, and Kyle Van Pelt's Opec the Vulture received Outstanding Acting Awards. At district competition, held for the first time in Southwest's theatre, four Rider actors received special recognition for their acting. Adam Eaton's Professor Pembroke, Andrew Lepper's Professor Flam Bhey, Noelle Hinz's Granny, and

Megan Kelley's Penny Pembroke were award certificates for their outstanding performances. Well done, Southwest thespians!!! The speech team this year was small but mighty, with everyone competing well at invites, conference, and districts. Marissa Chambers, Andrew Lepper, Noelle Hinz, Adam Eaton, Kyle Van Pelt, and Oliver Kragelund all received superior ratings at R-PAC. At district competition, the team faired a bit better. Adam Eaton, Noelle Hinz, Andrew Lepper, and Kyle Van Pelt received a superior for their OID (Oral Interpretation of Drama); Noelle and Andrew, along with Kyle and Adam

won superiors for their Duets. Michael Lord received a superior rating for his informative speech on "pickpockets" and finished fifth overall. Oliver Kragelund qualified for State Speech by finishing second at districts in humorous prose. Congratulations to all the drama and speech students for their outstanding work this year!

The drama class will present its last play of the season, "Bad Auditions for Bad Actors," at 1:00 on Friday, May 3rd in the auditorium. You're welcome to join us for some fun and laughter.

May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month - Mrs. Barnett

Students at Southwest Jr/Sr High School have been participating in many sports and fitness activities throughout the year. This spring they have been engaging in activities that include Frisbee games, kite flying, and will soon participate in archery. As the weather warms up, I encourage you to get outside and get moving. Simple activities such as walking, playing tag, or playing at the park are inexpensive and still enjoyable. Not only is physical activity good for the body, it is good for the mind.

Benefits of Regular Physical Activity

Regular physical activity—

- Helps build and maintain healthy bones and muscles.

- Helps reduce the risk of developing obesity and chronic diseases, such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and colon cancer.

- Reduces feelings of depression and anxiety and promotes psychological well-being.

- May help improve students' academic performance, including

- Academic achievement and grades

- Academic behavior, such as time on task

- Factors that influence academic achievement, such as concentration and attentiveness in the classroom.

Centers of Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/physicalactivity/facts.htm>

Jr.-Sr. High Music Contests - Mrs. Brittenham

The busy spring season of music making is winding down and the music department would like to recognize some of our outstanding students for their hard work this semester.

On Saturday, April 13th, Cambridge hosted the Elementary/Junior High Music Festival. It was a long day, but a successful one.

The three large ensembles that performed were the Junior High Band, 6th Grade Band, and the Elementary Choir. All received *excellent* ratings for their performances.

Band students receiving *superior* ratings on solos and ensembles include: Kailee Miller (6th grade flute solo); Blake Williams (6th grade saxophone solo); Caleb Shald (6th grade trumpet solo and 3rd place elementary brass solo medal); Walter Fitzsimmons (6th grade trombone solo); Suzanne Roggenkamp (6th grade baritone solo); 5th grade woodwinds (Alyse Foster-flute and Jady Brooks, Lille Schultz and Johanna Sughroue-clarinet); 6th grade woodwinds (Kailee Miller, Caitlyn Smith, and Shelby Shoemaker-flute; and Sydney Mastin and Camryn Rasmussen-clarinet); 6th/7th Grade Saxophones (Ashley Bennett-6th, Derek Greenlee-7th, and Blake Williams-6th); and the 6th/7th Grade Trumpets (Ty Bennett-6th, Logan Greenlee-7th, Paul McConville-6th, and Caleb Shald-6th).

Band students receiving *excellent* ratings on solos include: TayLynn Waddell (7th grade clarinet solo); Brett Soderlund (6th grade snare drum solo); 5th Grade Saxophones (Cayleigh McConville, John Stritt, and Kailey Wilcox); 6th Grade Low Brass (Nicole Dewey, Walter Fitzsimmons, and Kara Nelson-trombone and Suzanne Roggenkamp-baritone); 6th Grade Percussion (Simon Moore, Jay Porter, Harley Remington, and Brett Soderlund); and 7th Grade Duet (Natalie Shald-flute and Stevie Wadle-bells).

Vocal students receiving *superior* ratings on solos and ensembles include: Elizabeth Adam (8th grade), junior high vocal solo; Paul McConville (6th grade), elementary vocal solo; Brett Soderlund (6th grade), elementary vocal solo and 3rd place medal for elementary boys vocal solo; and Kailey Wilcox (6th grade), elementary vocal solo.

Vocal students receiving *excellent* ratings on solos and ensembles include: Walter Fitzsimmons (6th grade), elementary vocal solo; Suzanne Roggenkamp (6th grade), elementary vocal solo; Lillie Schultz (5th grade), elementary vocal solo; Johanna Sughroue (5th grade), elementary vocal solo; Jady Brooks and Kailey Wilcox, 5th grade vocal duet; Ashley Kragelund and Stevie Wadle, 7th grade vocal duet; 6th grade girls ensemble (Nicole Dewey, Julia Lytle, Sydney Mastin, Cara Oltmer, Camryn Rasmussen, Caitlyn Smith, and Shelby Shoemaker); 6th grade mixed ensemble (Emily Anderson, Ashley Bennett, Kaden Guerrero, Kailee Miller, Kara Nelson, Jay Porter, Harley Remington, Suzanne Roggenkamp, and Brett Soderlund); Junior High Girls Ensemble #1 (Kaitlynne Ellis, Ashley Kragelund, Jaydenn Miller, Bethany Nicholson, Natalie Shald, Bailee Springer, Kayliegh Sughroue, Stevie Wadle, and TayLynn Waddell); and Junior High Girls Ensemble #2 (Kaitlynne Ellis, Ashley Kragelund, Jaydenn Miller, Bethany Nicholson, Natalie Shald, Bailee Springer, Kayliegh Sughroue, Stevie Wadle, and TayLynn Waddell). Also, the Junior High 8th girls (Elizabeth Adam, Jacy Ahlemeyer, Jill Fitzsimmons, and Isabella Ryan) received a *good* rating at contest.

Then, on Friday, April 19th, Chase County hosted the High School District Music Contest. Both music and band students from Southwest, grades 9-12 competed.

The two large ensembles that performed were the Southwest High School Band and the Southwest High School Choir. Both ensembles received *excellent* ratings.

Music Contests Continued

Band students receiving *superior* ratings on solos and ensembles include: Emily Fitzsimmons (Senior-tenor saxophone solo); and the brass duet (juniors Megan Kelley-trumpet and Miranda Wordemper-trombone).

Band students receiving *excellent* ratings include: Saxophone quartet (Emily Fitzsimmons-senior, Erin Greenlee-sophomore, Noelle Hinz-sophomore, and Kyle Van Pelt-freshman).

Vocal students receiving *excellent* ratings include: Karlie Swink (freshman), vocal solo; Kyle Van Pelt (freshman), vocal solo; Mackayla Wright (freshman), vocal solo; Emily Fitzsimmons and Chloe Hauxwell (seniors), vocal duet; Emily Fitzsimmons (senior), Chloe Hauxwell (senior), Taryn Jacob (senior), Arianna Gutierrez (freshman), Korin Jackson (freshman), and Makayla Wright (freshman); vocal sextet. Also, Ashley Schluckebier (junior), received a *good* rating on her vocal solo.

One of the final events of the spring semester was the first annual 5th/6th Grade Honor Band/Choir in Holdrege. Band students who participated include Austin Adam (5th trumpet), Keith Barrett (6th-trumpet), Jadyn Brooks (5th-clarinet), Nicole Dewey (6th-trombone), Walter Fitzsimmons (6th-trombone), Alyse Foster (5th-flute), Cody Hardy (5th-trumpet), Dylan Hofman (6th-trombone), Julia Lytle (6th-clarinet), Sydney Mastin (6th-clarinet), Cayleigh McConville (5th-saxophone), Paul McConville (6th-trumpet), Kailee Miller (6th-flute), Simon Moore (6th-percussion), Kara Nelson (6th-trombone), Jay Porter (6th-percussion), Camryn Rasmussen (6th-clarinet), Harley Remington (6th-percussion), Suzanne Roggenkamp (6th-baritone), Lillie Schultz (5th-clarinet), Caitlyn Smith (6th-flute), Caleb Shald (6th-trumpet), Shelby Shoemaker (6th-flute), Brett Soderlund (6th-percussion), John Stritt (5th-saxophone), Blake Williams (6th-saxophone), and Dominic Wilson (5th-tuba). Vocal students who participated include: Emily Anderson (6th), Kaden Guerrero (6th), Stacia Hinz (6th), Oakley Lehmann (5th), Cara Oltmer (6th), Johanna Sughroue (6th), Kailey Wilcox (5th), and Zach Wright (6th). The kids had the opportunity to experience the sound of a large ensemble and had a lot of fun working with the clinicians.

Finally, Mrs. Brittenham and Mrs. Roggenkamp would like to thank all the students for their hard work, their classroom teachers for their flexibility in allowing us to pull out students for extra practices, students' families for their support and encouragement, Southwest administration and staff for letting us take full advantage of these musical opportunities, the Friends of Southwest Music (music booster club) for donating their time and money to the music department for the students' benefit, and the community for promoting music in our schools. We hope you continue to support the arts in education and we will see you next year for more music making!

The Friends of Southwest Music would like to thank everyone for their support this year. Thanks to those who have donated and supported the kids. We were able to do several fun activities including a Jr. High trip to Minden to see "Annie" and a High School trip to see "Lion King". Thanks again for all your support and to the students for your hard work.

Summer Athletic Activities

How hard are you willing to work to become the best athlete you can be?

At Southwest, the coaches have put into place a number of summer activities to help you to excel.

All students interested in participating in a fall sport need to have a physical before practice begins. Those not signed up for the physicals here at school on May 7, 2013, need to arrange to get their physicals this summer before returning next fall.

Beginning in June and running most of the summer, the weight room and gym will be open from 7-9 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Your individual team coaches may have other drill work available on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, so check with them.

Below is a partial list of camps for Southwest athletes taking place this summer. Be sure to talk to your coaches about other camp activities that may also become available.

Football

Team Camp on June 28th at Southern Valley.

Morning conditioning and drills beginning in June. See Coach Brost for details.

Grades 5-8 McCook Football League takes place in July. Watch the local papers for sign up information.

Volleyball

SW Volleyball Camp Grades 5-12 June 10th-13th

UNK Volleyball Camp (High School) July 18th-19th

Top 10 Volleyball Camp (High School Varsity) July 29th-30th

See Coach Barnett for additional lifting and summer drill schedules.

Girls Basketball

Cambridge Summer League on Thursdays, May 30th – June 20th

Additional drill and conditioning work will be available during morning workouts.

Boys Basketball

June 21st, Maywood 1 Day Team Camp, June 21st

Hastings College 2 day camp – dates TBA.

Other drill and conditioning work available during morning workouts – see Coach Bish.

Wrestling

UNL Team Camp, June 16-20

UNK Team Camp, July 9-11

Mondays in June, Southwest Wrestling League

Wednesdays in June, North Platte Wrestling League

Morning lifting; see Coach Helberg for schedule

Golf

Cambridge Junior Golf Junior League, Boys and Girls, 2 divisions – see Coaches Ellicott or Clark for more details.

UNK Golf Camps, May 25, June 15, and July 20, ages 8 and up

Track and Field/ Cross Country

Individual event workouts, Morning lifting. See Coach Roggenkamp for details.

Other Important Dates:

Parents/Athletes./Coaches fall sport kick-off meeting is on Tuesday August 6th at 6:00.

Start of Fall Practice: Girls Golf, Football August 12

Volleyball, Cross Country August 19

Most coaches have a week of conditioning ahead of the start of fall practice.

I encourage all of our students to take advantage of as many of these activities as possible. Our coaches are dedicating themselves to being available to you year-round; let's build a program of excellence at Southwest!

How hard are you willing to work to become the best athlete you can be?

Counselor's Corner - Mr. Watt

SENIORS

Tips for college loans: borrow wisely, borrow only what you need even if it is less than the amount offered in your award letter, File the FAFSA at fafsa.gov each year you attend college, continue to look for scholarships while you're in college, keep track of your student loan debt throughout college at nslds.ed.gov.

- Be aware of orientation days at your selected college
- Start a list of dorm room items
- At graduation Seniors will receive a packet containing many items needed to claim their scholarships and a final transcript. Please do not lose this packet.
- Check out the "Students Transitioning to College" section at EducationQuest.org.

JUNIORS

- Register by May 3rd for the June 8th ACT
- This year's Seniors had 8 students make RPAC all-conference Academic team by scoring a 24 or higher on the ACT. This is a nice award and makes it much easier to find scholarships. Please remember all college bound students should take the ACT test 3-4 times by January 2014 in order to maximize scholarship opportunities.
- Continue campus visits and try to have your college choices narrowed to four (4) by the fall.
- Pay attention to the Seniors and the scholarships and awards they are receiving to best prepare yourself for next year.

Board of Education Meeting**Southwest Public Schools****District 179****April 8, 2013**

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on April 8, 2013 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.

Present: Tom Sughrue, Kevin Potthoff, Steve McConville, Steve Daffer, Duane Teter, Ondrea McConville, Principal Carrie Rasmussen, Superintendent Clayton Waddle, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: None.

Visitors: Mary Marsh, Cody Gerloch, Linda Clark, Don and Donna Behnke, Don Ellicott, Greg Wolford, and Lynn Harris.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by S. McConville, seconded by Sughrue, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: O. McConville, Daffer, Sughrue, Potthoff, Teter, and S. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by the board-approved method of meeting notice. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to the president of the board and all members prior to the meeting date.

Lynn Harris informed the Board members of the use of Rosetta Stone and the Spanish blended classrooms. She also related the use of Moodle in her distance learning College English classes, and the students' ability to take on-line quizzes and tests and their access to lesson plans and notes.

The Board was informed of a \$1,000 FFA grant and the first place finish of the elementary quiz bowl at the meet hosted by Southwest.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Daffer, to approve the March 11, 2013 board meeting minutes as presented. Ayes: Sughrue, Potthoff, Daffer, Teter, O. McConville, and S. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by Sughrue, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: Sughrue, S. McConville, Daffer, O. McConville, Teter, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Greg Wolford of W Design Associates explained the bid process involved in the ADA elementary restroom renovation project, which has been approved by the state. Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Daffer, to advertise and take bids on the elementary handicapped accessibility restroom renovation project. Ayes: O. McConville, Sughrue, Daffer, S. McConville, Teter, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Sughrue, seconded by S. McConville, to declare wrestling mats and a welder as surplus property. Ayes: Teter, S. McConville, Potthoff, Daffer, O. McConville, and Sughrue. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by O. McConville, to approve Payment Application #6 from EAD Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$70,397.09. Ayes: Sughrue, S. McConville, Potthoff, Teter, O. McConville, and Daffer. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by S. McConville, to approve Change Order #4 in the amount of \$14,047.12 to update the fire alarm system in the life skills building and gym renovation as required by the State Fire Marshall. Ayes: S. McConville, Sughrue, O. McConville, Daffer, Teter, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by S. McConville, seconded by Sughrue, to approve the purchase of a replacement heater for the gym renovation project from Rick's HTG & AC in the amount of \$1,914.00. Ayes: S. McConville, Sughrue, O. McConville, Daffer,

Continued:

Daffer, Teter, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Sughrue, seconded by Potthoff, to approve the resignation of Gabe Gauthier effective at the end of the school year with appreciation for his service to the district. Ayes: S. McConville, Teter, Sughrue, O. McConville, Daffer, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by O. McConville, to approve the teaching contract of Sasha Hollingsworth for the 2013-2014 school year. Ayes: S. McConville, Sughrue, O. McConville, Daffer, Teter, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Sughrue, to approve the employment of certified staff for the 2013-2014 school year as recommended by the superintendent excluding K. Brashears, C. Watt, and G. Gauthier. Ayes: Daffer, S. McConville, O. McConville, Sughrue, Teter, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Waddle discussed the Affordable Health Care Act and its effect on offering health insurance coverage to district employees, the selection of Bob Loshbaugh as the junior-senior high school guidance counselor for the 2013-2014 school year, advertising for vacant instructor positions, Rule 10 review, and a server replacement.

Principal Rasmussen reported on elementary awards, NeSA testing, installation of surveillance cameras, Title 1 Peer Review, and upcoming April events.

Mr. Potthoff thanked Superintendent Waddle for his part in recommending the county commissioners' special hearing regarding the Red Willow County Health Department and their decision to continue budgeting for this department, which is very important in providing immunizations to the students of the Southwest School District.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Sughrue, to go into closed session at 8:54 p.m., following a ten minute recess, to discuss recommendations given by the Board to prevent the needless injury to the reputation of an individual. President Teter repeated the motion, and the board voted as follows: Ayes: O. McConville, Sughrue, Daffer, Teter, S. McConville, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board adjourned closed session at 8:59 p.m.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Sughrue, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Ayes: Daffer, Sughrue, S. McConville, Teter, O. McConville, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 13, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Southwest Public Schools

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High School Sports Physicals are May 7th starting at 8:30 am. If your student will be participating in sports next school year they must have a physical on file. Thank you and have a great summer!

