



'Rider News

From The Desk Of Superintendent Todd Porter

And... the second semester is upon us! My hope is that the Christmas/New Year's break was a good, restful one for you and the New Year has started off with the very best for you and your family. This time of year hopefully allows us to visit family, friends and all of those folks that we sometimes are not able to see throughout the year. It is an adjustment to make when we return from long breaks, but we will charge ahead into our new semester with the goal of providing the best educational opportunities we can for our students.

We ended the first semester with a slight adjustment to the schedule due to weather. We do not want buses or students driving when wind chills are expected to be -40 to -50 degrees, along with the real possibility of vehicles freezing up and

folks being stranded on the roads. It was, therefore, in the best interest to let parents and students know that we were shortening the semester early so plans could be made - for many reasons. Child care, final plans for classes at both the elementary and secondary levels, as well as travel considerations. Yes, we realize it gets cold during the Nebraska winters, but this forecast was exceptionally frigid and was in the dangerous category, so I hope that that call was made in advance of some very significant weather forecasts. I hope that the rest of the semester will be easier on everyone weather-wise!

Our activities will continue to keep our students busy throughout January, February and hopefully part of March. Each year the winter activity season seems to make the second semester go by quickly. I urge

parents to stay on top of their students' homework and study habits, making sure that they are keeping up, asking questions when needed, and making up work that is due when a student is absent. It seems the number one reason that students get into trouble academically is that they don't make up or turn in work they have when they have been absent from school. Check Infinite Campus online, or simply email the instructor if there is a question. Stay ahead of the game, and your student's grades will look much better.

Thank you for supporting our students!

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Special points of interest:

- Jan. 4 - School Resumes
- Jan. 9 - 10:00 AM Late Start
- Jan. 9 - School Board Meeting Jr/Sr High @ 7:30 PM
- Jan. 20 - Early Out at 12:00 PM
- Jan. 25 - Southwest College and Career Fair. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM



The Southwest National Honor Society would like to thank everyone who helped with the Wish Tree, whether it was buying gifts or giving a monetary donation.

Thank You!

High School News - Mr. Springer

The first semester has past and student grades are recorded. You should have received your Childs report card by the time you are reading this. If you have not, please call the school. (Or maybe ask your child if they have seen it!)

Scholarships are starting to filter into the office and Mrs. Lewis has worked hard getting info to the kids. I hope as a parent you can sit down and discuss your child's plans after high school. It may not seem important if your student is not a senior, however in the colleges today there are programs that have a waiting list to even get accepted. So it is important to turn in an application prior to the senior year. ACT scores are part of getting accepted and they also hold a lot of weight in local and federal scholarships. Taking the test more than one time has proven, in almost every case, that the student will improve the second and even the third time. One point on the test can mean the difference of a few dollars or a full tuition scholarship. Students are encouraged to take the ACT test twice their junior year and again once in the fall of their senior year.

Reminder that it is important for you to call the school if your child is ill or not going to be in school that day. We will always follow up if a child is reported absent from first hour. Our first concern is the student's well-being in case they were in a wreck or had trouble. So please help us out by calling first thing if they will be absent.

High school credits are important if a child plans on graduating with their class. Failing a class will cause a student to miss out on multiple opportunities as they proceed through high school. The past two summers we have offered summer school for students to get caught up with classes they failed. If your child fails a class he/she will need to be at summer school for 5 weeks starting the first week of June. Classes are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 to 11:30 each week. The credit recovery program we use can be completed 4 weeks if the student works hard. Please call the school if your child fails a class so we can begin the process of getting them started on credit recovery.

Elementary News - Mrs. Fries

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a safe and relaxing winter vacation. I am looking forward to what the 2023 year will bring! Report cards will be completed and sent home the first week of January. The teachers and students have accomplished a great deal in the first semester and will continue to work hard through the 2nd semester. December was a busy month with our Christmas program, MAPS testing, research projects, class celebrations, Good Friends get-together, a movie field trip, and much more! One of the things that we will focus on at Southwest Elementary School at the start of the new semester is the NSCAS Winter

testing for grades 3-5. This test will provide teachers with valuable data that will be used to guide classroom instruction moving forward through the semester. We appreciate all that you do at home to help your child be successful at school. Working together in a partnership to provide your child with the best education possible is an important part of what we hope to accomplish at Southwest Elementary. If you ever have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me.



Seniors

Scholarships:

Seniors can access scholarship applications on their "Class of 2023" Canvas site. A list of available scholarships can be found at:

Go to www.swpschools.org

Hover over the Jr. Sr. High School tab at the top

Go to the bottom of the selection and choose "Senior Scholarships"

Click the google link

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zURF3HqXzbahngD2TD3qV45pqHd3IegdUWNg1CQtlk/edit?usp=sharing>

The spreadsheet is organized by monthly due dates so be sure to click the month tabs at the bottom of the page!! This is updated as I receive scholarships for the year.

ACT

Register for the ACT at: actstudent.org

Southwest School code: 280151

MCC test site code: 024600

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Registration)
February 11, 2023	January 6	January 20
April 15, 2023	March 10	March 24
June 10, 2023	May 5	May 19
July 15, 2023	June 16	June 23

College & Career Fair

There will be a college and career fair at Southwest High School on January 25th from 8-noon. Students will be able to talk with college representatives and career professionals during the event. Seniors will participate in mock interviews.



First Grade - Mrs. Overton

The first graders used their creativity to decorate our door for a contest this month. Just like each child, each snowman has its own personality.

In the month of December we take time to travel the world and learn about the different holidays that are celebrated. We talked about Las Posada in Mexico and ate tamales. We learned about Diwali in India. The kids made rangoli designs in art. We also learned that if we lived in Australia, we would be wearing our shorts to Christmas because it is summer there. It is always fun to hear about different cultures and how everyone has different traditions. Ask a first grader why in Germany they leave their shoes out on December 5th?? (Saint Nicholas will leave treats).

It's been a great first semester of learning and growing! Enjoy your family during the holiday season!

SOUTHWEST SCHOOLS LUNCH MENU

January - 23

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	Breakfast Granola Bar Lunch Hot Dogs	Breakfast Sausage Sandwich Lunch Tacos	Breakfast Muffins Lunch Goulash	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Breakfast Popart Lunch Lasagna Casserole	Breakfast Pancakes Lunch Breaded Beef Pattie	Breakfast Churro Lunch Turkey Slice	Breakfast Cereal Lunch Baked Potato Bar	Breakfast Cinnias Lunch Chili		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Breakfast Rice Krispie Bar Lunch Tuna & Noodles	Breakfast Frudel Lunch Burrito	Breakfast Banana Loaf Lunch Stromboli	Breakfast Breakfast Pizza Lunch Ham & Cheese Roll-up	Breakfast Pancake Sausage Stix Lunch Meatball Sub		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Breakfast Cereal Bar Lunch Spaghetti	Breakfast Tomado Lunch Hoagie	Breakfast Bagel Lunch Chicken Fajitas	Breakfast Cinn Toast Bar Lunch Tater Tot Casserole	Breakfast Ham & Cheese Bar Lunch Hot Beef Sandwich		
29	30	31	Menu Subject To Change			
Breakfast Yogurt Lunch Pizza	Breakfast Oatmeal Round Lunch French Dip		"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"			



Southwest Public Schools

January, 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Teacher Workday	2 Teacher Workday 4:00pm BB @ Hitchcock CO.	3 School Resumes	4 7:40am NHS Meeting	5 4:15pm Basketball @ Cambridge	6 9:00am GW @ Norton 10:00am WR @ Amherst 4:00pm Basketball vs Wauneta Palsade	7 Speech @ Wallace 10:00am WR @ Chase Co.
8 4:00pm Youth Bb Game (Old Gym) 10:00am Late Start/Teacher Inservice 4:30pm Elem and JH Quiz Bowl- Apache 7:30pm School Board Meeting	9 9:00am-12:30pm AKRS Equipment Tour 2:00pm JH GBB vs. McCook St Pats 4:00pm Basketball @ Hi-Line (Eustis)	10 1:00pm RPAC Quiz Bowl	11 2:30pm JH BBB @ Medicine Valley 2:30pm JH GBB @ Cambridge	12 4:15pm Basketball @ Bertrand	13 Speech @ Wallace 10:00am WR @ Chase Co.	14 ACADECA Regional RPAC BASKETBALL K-State Concert Band Clinic RPAC BASKETBALL 9:30am Girls Wrestling @ Rawlins CO (Atwood)
15 1:00pm-9:00pm RPAC Vocal	16 2:30pm JH BBB @ McCook St Pats 4:00pm Basketball vs Loomis	17 FFA LSE Contests @ Curtis 9:00am-1:30pm ACADCEA Regional 1:30pm RPAC Art Contest	18 2:30pm JH BBB vs Bertrand	19 K-State Concert Band Clinic 12:00pm Noon Dismissal 1:00pm RPAC Wrestling	20 ACADECA Regional RPAC BASKETBALL K-State Concert Band Clinic RPAC BASKETBALL 9:30am Girls Wrestling @ Rawlins CO (Atwood)	21 ACADECA Regional RPAC BASKETBALL K-State Concert Band Clinic RPAC BASKETBALL 9:30am Girls Wrestling @ Rawlins CO (Atwood)
22 K-State Concert Band Clinic RPAC BASKETBALL	23 RPAC BASKETBALL 2:30pm JH BBB @ Cambridge	24 8:00am-12:00pm SW College and Career Fair	25 First Eligibility RPAC BASKETBALL	26 WR @ Medicine Valley RPAC BASKETBALL	27 WR @ Red Cloud Speech @ Perkins CO RPAC BASKETBALL	28 WR @ Red Cloud Speech @ Perkins CO RPAC BASKETBALL
29 UNK Honor Choir and Band	30 3:00pm JH BBB @ Dundy Co/Straton 5:00pm Basketball @ DCS	31				

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
December 12, 2022

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at

7:33 p.m. on December 12, 2022 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Duane Teter, Brooke Brooks, Jennifer McConville, John O'Dea, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: Jason Neseth and Jason Kloepping.

Visitors: None.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Brooks, to excuse absent board members, Neseth and Kloepping. Ayes: Teter, McConville, Brooks, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth and Kloepping. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: O'Dea, McConville, Brooks, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth and Kloepping. Motion carried.

Notices of the meeting were posted at the Adams Bank and Trust in Indianola, the Stockmens Bank Bartley Branch, Post Offices in Bartley and Indianola, Southwest Elementary School in Indianola, Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley, and published in the Valley Voice newspaper and on the school website.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

Moved by McConville, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 board meeting. Ayes: McConville, Teter, Brooks, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Absent: Kloepping and Neseth. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: Teter, Brooks, O'Dea, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Kloepping and Neseth. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Brooks, to approve the 2023-2024 Teacher Negotiated Agreement with a \$1,000.00 increase on the base salary. Ayes: McConville, O'Dea, Brooks, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: Kloepping and Neseth. Motion carried.

The semi-annual review of Covid-19 Protocols and uses of the ARP ESSR III Grant, as posted on the school website, are being used for class size reduction and interventions and was discussed by school board members.

Superintendent Porter discussed the recent safety audit and corrective actions, elementary roof repair status, the hiring of a custodian and cook, and the December 12 elementary math inservice and district safety meeting.

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, January 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School Library in Bartley.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, McConville, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth and Kloepping. Motion carried.

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Address Service Requested

