



SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lisa Hawkins, Principal

167 South Main Cross Street

Hanover, IN 47243

Phone: (812) 866-1261; Fax (812) 866-4680

4/12/24

Middle School Rebel Families,

Today we held a pep session to kick off ILEARN testing next week. We had some fun with an activity and also provided information about where students should report, what they should expect, and what they need to bring. Students were also encouraged to give us their best effort and show us what they know!

April 15-16 - ELA Testing

April 17-18 - Math Testing

April 19 & 22 - 6th Grade Only - Science Testing

April 22-May 10 - Makeup Tests

Here are some things parents/guardians can do to help us get the best from your student everyday:

- **Ensure your student arrives at school on time.**
- **Have your student eat a healthy breakfast at home or at school.**
- **Ensure your student gets a good night's sleep.**
- **Talk with your student about goals and expectations for the test.**
- **Gently encourage them to do their best.**

Have a great weekend!

Mrs. Lisa R. Hawkins, Ed.S

Principal

Friendly reminder about testing days:

- **All students will need earbuds or headphones on testing days. They cannot be Bluetooth/Airpods per the IDOE. Earbuds are available to purchase at school for \$1, if needed. Each testing teacher will keep student earbuds or headphones in a tote with the student's name on them so we have everything ready to go on testing days. Earbuds will be returned to students once testing is complete.**
- **Cell phones, smart watches, and/or any other unauthorized devices are not allowed in the testing rooms and is a testing violation with the IDOE. Please reinforce with your**

child that these devices are not allowed in testing sessions. As always, students are asked to keep devices powered down in their locker during the school day.

- All students should bring a CHARGED Chromebook, paper, pencil and a book or reading material to their testing room each day.

Similar to our everyday Rebel Strong tickets, students will have a chance to earn ILEARN Effort tickets during testing weeks. Effort Tickets can be earned in two ways: *on time arrival/charged chromebook* and *effort*. Students will place tickets in a grade-level tub to enter daily drawings for various prizes.

If you are interested in knowing more about ILEARN, please reference the links below:

- [ILEARN for Families - Flier - English](#)
- [ILEARN for Families - Flier - Spanish](#)
- [Parent/Student: ILEARN Released Items Directions](#)

FFA - Livestock Judging Contest: Ten middle school FFA students traveled to Greensburg yesterday to participate in the Area 1 Livestock Judging Contest at the Decatur County Fairgrounds. Throughout the morning, individual students evaluated six classes of live animals for market and breeding characteristics. After the live evaluation portion, students went to a separate building and presented oral reasons using industry terminology to judges explaining why they placed the classes the way they did. This is the first time any of our middle school students have attended an event like this and we are excited to announce that three students made it into the top 50! We are also excited to congratulate our high school team for finishing as the 2nd overall team. All students did a wonderful job and represented Southwestern in a positive way. We would also like to recognize and congratulate our FFA sponsor, Mr. Stockdale.

Teams and students:

SW FFA 2: 23rd Overall Team: Luke Coles, Ryan Hall, Josie Hubbard

SW FFA 3: 20th Overall Team: Baylor Hubbard (Top 50 Individual), Isabella Farmer, Jake Coles, Mason Field

SW FFA 4: 18th Overall Team: Alexis Hord (Top 50 Overall Individual), Molly Bruce (Top 50 Overall Individual), Amelia Sloan

Spring Pictures - April 16th: You must pre order to be able to get your picture taken on April 16th. You can pre-order on mylifetouch.com with your student ID or Picture Day ID: EVTCJHGHN. You can also pick up an envelope from the HS or MS office and return the money to the HS office by April 16th at 8 am.

Dress Guidelines: The full dress code can be found on pages 33-34 of the student handbook. Please help us out by being aware of what your students are wearing to school and by talking to them about the dress code.

Dress code violations will be documented in Harmony and parents will receive notification when violations are considered office level. Specific things we want to highlight as the weather starts to change:

- Shorts must be mid thigh in length.
- No hats, hoods, or head coverings are to be worn in the building.
- Shirts must have sleeves.
- All types of tight clothing should be avoided unless another garment is worn over the item.

After School Tutoring Opportunity: The National Honor Society has started tutoring sessions again. Sessions will be held on Thursdays after school until 4pm. These are available free of charge to any student that needs extra help with any subject area or if they just need a quiet, focused space to complete homework.

Tutoring sessions will be held in room H213 in the high school upstairs. Students do not need to sign up. They just show up with their work and NHS students will help with whatever is needed.

Upcoming Events:

*Please follow the athletics Facebook page for additional updates regarding athletic changes.

April 15

MS Tennis at Home vs New Washington

April 16

MS Golf at North Branch

MS Softball at Clarksville at 6pm

MS Baseball at Carroll Co

April 18

MS Tennis at Shawe

MS Softball vs. North Decatur at Home at 6pm

MS Baseball at New Washington