



## **SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Lisa Hawkins, Principal**

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**4/5/24**

**Middle School Rebel Families,**

**We hope everyone enjoyed their spring break! Students have done a really good job transitioning back to the building for the final grading period of the 23-24 school year!**

**ILEARN Testing begins next week at Southwestern Middle School.**

**April 9-11 - Practice Tests**

**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.**

**We are excited for our students to have an opportunity to show us what they know!**

**Have a great weekend!**

**Mrs. Lisa R. Hawkins, Ed.S**  
**Principal**

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**April 8th - Eclipse Day - eLearning Day:** Students should expect the following things to occur on Monday's eLearning Day:

- **Assignments will be posted on Google Classroom by 9:00 a.m.**
- **Attendance will be taken for each period via a Google form survey.**
- **Assignments will be meaningful and productive.**
- **The time limit of each class period will be respected so assignments and activities will be kept to 50 minutes or under.**

**Eclipse Glasses:** Eclipse Glasses, courtesy of the Health Department, were passed out to students during RAP today.

**Additional ILEARN Information:** To kick off testing, we plan to have a short pep rally on Friday, April 12th during RAP. There will be a schoolwide activity for students and then we will take time to present how each day of testing will operate. Our goal is for all students to know what to anticipate prior to testing and by doing so, help eliminate any type of initial anxiety our students may have related to testing.

For 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](#)

**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](http://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.

**Academic Team:** Our academic team competed in an invitational this past Thursday. This was a great time for the students to see how competitions work and to practice against other schools. The team members and coaches were very pleased with the outcome and will continue to practice and review material up until the competition on Saturday, April 27th at East Central Middle School. Team members: Molly Bruce, Haylee Crawford, Payton Ice-Cable, Maggie Joseph, Mallory Johnson, MiKayla Nussbaum, Savannah Nussbaum, Ariana Pantelidis, Katja Pretorious. Coaches: Mr. Campbell, Mr. Craig, and Mr. Maust.

**Upcoming Events:**

April 8  
MS Track at Rising Sun

April 9  
MS Tennis at Salem  
MS Baseball at East Oldham  
MS Softball at Crothersville

April 10  
MS Track at Madison

April 11  
MS Tennis at Home vs. Austin  
MS Baseball at Henryville  
MS Softball at Rising Sun