



SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lisa Hawkins, Principal

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8/11/23

Middle School Rebel Families,

We have had a really great start to the 23-24 school year! Students are getting used to their schedules and the routines around the building. We appreciate your help as students get back into the swing of things and especially with getting up, being on time for school, and going to bed much earlier.

An email will be sent to parents at the end of each week in an effort to keep everyone informed of things happening at school. Please be sure to take a few minutes to review the information. Remember that open and honest communication is what makes us stronger partners in your child's education.

Have a great weekend!

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

Lockers: A few students are still struggling a little bit with lockers but that is pretty typical after only a few days. It takes time and perseverance to learn each locker's unique personality. Our teachers have been super flexible the first few days with tardies. They will continue to be flexible early next week but by the end of the week, being late will result in a tardy.

Tardies: (pg 20 student handbook)

1. Warning
2. Warning
3. ASD - After School Detention
4. ASD
5. SMD - Saturday Morning Detention
6. SMD
7. SMD
8. SMD
9. SMD
10. Suspension- Pending Expulsion

Please be sure to stress to your student that they should be using their own lockers and not sharing with someone else. Lockers should be kept locked and closed during passing periods.

Personal Electronic Devices: Teachers have stressed to students that cell phones should be kept in lockers and powered down during the school day. The students have done an EXCELLENT job with this during the first three days! If a student needs to call home during the school day for something that cannot wait, please contact us at school and we can have the student use the phone at the front office. We encourage parents to review this policy (pg 33 student handbook) with students again at home and help us avoid any potential situations regarding cell phones.

Middle School Policy: Personal electronic devices are highly discouraged from being brought to school. Cell phones are permitted; however, they must be turned off and placed in the student's assigned locker as soon as they arrive at school. Cell phones may not be removed from the student's locker and/or turned on until after the 3:00 bell has rung. Violation of this policy will result in the phone being confiscated and the parent/guardian will be allowed to pick it up at their earliest convenience. Future occurrences will result in additional consequences.

***The school will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices or personal items.*

Dress Guidelines: Thank you for helping us by shopping for clothing that falls within our dress code. Please be sure your student continues to follow the guidelines listed below: (pg 33 student handbook)

Dress Guidelines

- Dress should not be immodest, immoral or distracting.
- The length of skirts and dresses should be at least to the knees or have a non-see-through garment that is at least mid thigh in length worn underneath.
- Shorts must be mid thigh in length.
- Modest holes and rips in pants are permissible as long as no skin is showing above mid thigh.
- Clothing with vulgarity, unacceptable writing, or unacceptable artwork will not be allowed.
- Clothing that promotes or advertises tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and/or the use of drugs is prohibited.
- Clothing with sexual innuendo is also not allowed.
- Shoes or sandals are to be worn.
- No hats, hoods, or head coverings are to be worn in the building.

Southwestern Middle School Facebook Page: Please be sure to "LIKE" our school Facebook page to gain access to important updates throughout the year. We are always looking for POSITIVE parent ambassadors to help us spread good information about our school to friends, neighbors, and the community. You become a parent ambassador when you "like" and "share" or make positive comments on our posts. Parent ambassadors are ESSENTIAL to the community culture of our school and we appreciate you very much! We have already posted

several wonderful things about our first few days and appreciate all of the positive feedback, “likes” and “shares!”

Classroom Updates: Our teachers have worked really hard throughout the first few days to establish routines and expectations. Students should be used to entering class and starting a warm-up/bell ringer right away. Objectives for the day are posted in each classroom, which helps students to know what they will be learning. Students have also been exploring each teacher’s google classroom, where they can find many things posted. Standards based learning will get started next week.

Chromebooks: Please be sure your student charges their chromebook each night. They will be using them throughout the day and classrooms.

Upcoming Athletic Events:

Monday

MS Soccer to Shawe - Big Bus - LEave at 4pm from soccer field; 7/8 VB at Home vs. South Ripley - 6pm Blue GYM

Wednesday

MS VB to Milan - Big Bus - Leave at 4:15PM from Blue Gym ; MS Soccer to Jennings CO B is now canceled and will be made up later.

Saturday

MS CC to SW Shelbyville - TBA