



SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lisa Hawkins, Principal

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8/18/23

Middle School Rebel Families,

Our first full week of school is complete! Students are much more comfortable with procedures, schedules, and lockers. Classes have started standards-based work and grades will begin showing up in Harmony soon, if not already!

Have a great weekend!

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

School Pictures: We will have school pictures at Southwestern Middle School on Tuesday, August 22nd. Forms were sent home earlier this week. We have extras in the office or you can pre-order pictures at mylifetouch.com. Use the picture day ID: EVTMTTZPN.

Bus Pass: If your student will be riding a different bus, please print a [bus pass](#). We also have them available at school for students to pick up at the office. Please note, we cannot accept information for a bus pass by phone. It has to be completed by a parent and approved in advance.

Student Conduct: The school and the home are partners in assisting our youth in the learning process. This includes behavior, academics, and extracurricular involvement of students. Our ultimate goal is to develop responsible, self-disciplined, and self-directed citizens and workers for the future. To meet this goal, we have developed clear expectations and clear consequences for times when these expectations are not met. As parents, your role is to support the school by expecting the same excellence and upholding teachers and administrators when consequences are given. By doing this, we are better able to hold students accountable and bring about growth and maturity.

We encourage each parent to be involved in the educational process.

1. Be informed by reading the student agenda.
2. Contact your child's teacher(s), or schedule a conference when you have questions or concerns.

3. Discuss behavior and academic expectations with your child.
4. Monitor your child's attendance, grades, discipline, etc through your Harmony Family Access.
5. Regularly check the email address on file with the school for important information.

Open and honest communication is what makes us stronger partners in your child's education.

Additional information about student conduct can be found in the student handbook on pages 22-28.

Cheerleading Tryouts: The middle school cheer coach will be having tryouts for any student in grades 6-8. The tryout will be August 22 at 3:30pm in the high school gym upstairs. If you have any questions, please call Coach Tina at 502-682-0422.

Attendance: Success is desired for every student. To assure success, attendance is essential. Students are expected to attend school regularly to derive maximum benefit from the instructional program. Since business, industry, and the professions expect and demand a high level of attendance and time-on-task, the education of our students must reflect these expectations and responsibilities. Through the combined efforts of parents, students, and the school, the goals of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility can be developed as we prepare our students for entry into the adult world.

Southwestern Middle /High School considers the development of good attendance habits as a vital and desirable undertaking for two essential reasons. First, it is difficult for young people to learn if they are not in class; the teaching-learning process builds upon itself. Secondly, educational achievement is directly related to attendance. A student who misses a day of school, misses a day of education that cannot be retrieved in its entirety. So that all parties involved in the education of our students can assist in the maintenance of excellent attendance and the development of self-discipline, the following policies and procedures are presented.

Additional information about attendance can be found in the student handbook on pages 17-21.

Breakfast: Students can eat breakfast at school for free! There are times when a bus arrives late due to traffic but even when that happens, we still encourage students to go to the cafeteria to get a grab and go breakfast and then report to their 1st period class. Please encourage your students to visit our cafeteria for breakfast!

Personal Electronic Devices: Teachers have continued to stress that phones should be kept in lockers and overall, the students are doing a very nice job with this expectation. Thank you for your help at home with reiterating this at home to your student(s).

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.*

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!

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

Upcoming Athletic Events:

Monday

MS Volleyball to Austin - Big Bus - Leave at 4:45pm from Blue Gym

MS Soccer to South Ripley - Big Bus - Leave at 4pm from soccer field

Wednesday

MS Soccer to Rising Sun - Big Bus - Leave at 4Pm from soccer field

MS Cross Country to JCD - Big Bus - Leave at 4pm from HS Gym

6th Grade VB to Silver Creek - Mini Bus - Elizabeth White

MS VB at Home at 6pm vs. New Washington - Blue GYM

Thursday

MS Volleyball to Shawe - Big Bus - Leave at 5pm from Blue Gym

MS Soccer to Jac-Cen-Del - Big Bus - Leave at 4pm from Soccer Field