



SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lisa Hawkins, Principal

167 South Main Cross Street

Hanover, IN 47243

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

9/1/23

Middle School Rebel Families,

***ClearSight* assessments occur three times per year at Southwestern Middle School and our first round of testing will take place next week. *Clearsight* provides actionable, immediate data that helps us track student mastery of grade-level standards and informs instruction throughout the school year.**

Parent/Teacher conferences at Southwestern Middle School will take place on Wednesday, September 6th from 5-8pm. Our teachers are excited to meet parents and discuss student progress. We will have multiple entrances open and chairs available in the hallway while you wait for the teacher. These are typically first come/first serve 10-15 minute slots so if you come to an area with a line, we encourage you to visit another teacher while you wait.

Remember, no school on Labor Day, Monday, September 4th! Have a great holiday weekend!

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

Clearsight Testing: Each student will need a pair of wired headphones that connects to the chromebook for testing next week. If your student needs a pair, they can be purchased from our technology department for \$1.

Testing Schedule:

6th grade: English - Tuesday; Math - Friday

7th grade: English - Wednesday; Math - Thursday

8th grade: English - Wednesday; Math - Thursday

Grades: Multiple grades have been posted for each class. Please be sure you are checking Harmony frequently to stay up to date on your student's progress.

Transportation/Breakfast: Starting Tuesday, September 5th, each bus will drop off at the middle/HS at 7:35am. This should really help with our morning arrival and breakfast issues. Remember, breakfast is free for Southwestern Middle School students!

6th graders have done really well with the grab and go breakfast out of the concession stand this week. 6th graders who want a hot breakfast should still report to the cafeteria. 7th and 8th grade students should continue to report to the cafeteria for breakfast. Any student who arrives at school after 7:55am will receive a grab and go breakfast and should report to their 1st period class.

Harmony: It is really important that parents check Harmony and make sure contact information is correct, specifically for phone and email. The middle school staff uses Harmony to document behavioral concerns and having a correct email address ensures you stay informed.

Parents will be notified of all office level consequences via email. Phone calls will be made for any behaviors that result in OSS/AOSS (Out of School Suspension/Alternative to Out of School Suspension) or beyond. When students receive an ASD (After School Detention) or SMD (Saturday Morning Detention), they will be called to the office to discuss the situation and will receive paperwork with the date of the detention highlighted, which will be similar to what the parent receives via email. We will make parent calls even for ASD's and SMD's when possible, but we do want parents to know that information for this level will typically be sent via email.

Dress Guidelines: We are starting to have some repeat violations of our dress code both at school and on the bus. The full dress code can be found on pages 33-34 of the student handbook but the specific issues we are seeing an uptick in are related to the following:

- 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.

We are also noticing more students using book bags throughout the day. Book bags should be kept in the student's locker during the school day.

Please talk to your student about these specific areas. Thanks in advance for your help!

Tardies: Students are starting to accumulate tardies, resulting in office level consequences. If you notice your student is having issues with tardies, please have them reach out so we can help.

TARDY POLICY: (Pg 20 Student Handbook)

1st and 2nd Tardy – teacher's discretion

3rd and 4th Tardy – After School Detention for each

5th through 9th Tardy - Saturday Morning Detention for each

Over 9 Tardies - Suspension Pending Expulsion

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 is taking care of their chromebooks and charging them each night! They will be using them throughout the day as part of classroom instruction.

Upcoming Athletic Events:

Tuesday

MS Soccer to Seymour - Big Bus - Leave at 4pm from Soccer Field

MS VB at Home vs. Switz. Co - Blue GYM

Thursday

MS Cross Country to Rising Sun - Big Bus - Leave at 4pm from HS GYM

6th Grade VB to Brownstown - Elizabeth White - 1 mini bus

MS Tennis to Brownstown - 1 mini bus - Foster Mefford

MS VB at Home vs. Clarksville - Blue Gym

Saturday

MS Soccer to Switz. Co - TBA

6th Grade VB to Borden - 1 mini bus - White