



SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lisa Hawkins, Principal

167 South Main Cross Street

Hanover, IN 47243

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

9/8/23

Middle School Rebel Families,

We had a great turnout for Parent/Teacher conferences earlier this week! Thank you for visiting the building and speaking with teachers. If you were not able to make it, please be sure to reach out to teachers with any questions.

We have had some logistical changes in the 6th grade wing this week due to an issue with the air conditioning and some roof repairs. Students and teachers did a great job with the changes and learning has continued, as scheduled. Adaptability is definitely an important life skill and I'm very impressed with how flexible everyone has been. We should be back to our normal areas next week.

Have a great weekend!

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

Middle School Spell Bowl Opportunity: If interested, please have your student pick up a Spell Bowl Permission Slip and information form at the middle school office. Mrs. Scroggins will be the head coach. The cost is \$30 to cover a team shirt and snacks. Practices will be on Monday and Wednesday after school and the competition is on November 1st at Madison Jr. High with an opportunity to make it to the state finals on November 11th.

Student Grades/Progress: We are several weeks into the first 9-week grading period. Please be sure you are checking Harmony frequently to stay up to date on your student's academic progress. The end of the grading period is Friday, October 6th.

Morning Transportation/Breakfast: Buses have dropped students off promptly at 7:35am this week. This has really helped with students getting breakfast and reporting to 1st period classes on time. Our grab and go area has continued to be successful. In fact, we would like to offer this to both 6th and 7th grade starting next week. Of course, all students may report to the cafeteria for hot breakfast but the grab and go is just another option. 8th grade students should continue

to report to the cafeteria for breakfast. Remember, breakfast is free for Southwestern Middle School students!

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: The full dress code can be found on pages 33-34 of the student handbook. Specific issues we continue to have issues with include:

- 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.

Dress code violations have been primarily warnings up to now but moving forward, they will be documented in Harmony and parents will receive notification when violations are considered office level. Please help us out with this by talking to your student about the dress code. 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!

Upcoming Athletic Events:

Monday

MS soccer game vs Rising Sun after the Varsity boys game

MS Cross Country to Madison - Big Bus - Leave at 4pm from High School Gym

6th and MS VB to Christian Academy of Madison - 5:30pm - Big Bus - Leave at 4:30 from Blue Gym - White

MS Girls Soccer to Christian Academy of New Albany - Big Bus - Leave at 4:30 from Soccer field - Brooks

Tuesday

6th VB at Home at 6pm

MS Soccer at Home vs. JCD

MS Tennis at Home

Wednesday

MS Girls Soccer to Shawe - 1 big bus - Leave at 5pm from soccer field - Brooks

MS Soccer at Home vs. South Ripley

Thursday

MS Soccer to Madison - Big BUs - Leave at 4:15 pm from soccer field

MS VB at Home at 6pm

MS Tennis at Home

Saturday

MS Cross Country to South Dearborn - TBA - Big Bus

MS VB to ORVC Tournament at South Ripley - TBA - Big Bus