



— SOUTHWEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL —

COYOTE CLASSIFIED



OCTOBER 2020

Hello Southwest Families

My name is Jon Rossi and I am so happy to let you know that I am the interim principal at Southwest Elementary this year. I was born and raised in Joliet, Illinois. I've taught at Danville High School, North Ridge Middle School, and Southview Middle School. I was also an assistant principal at Pine Crest Elementary in Georgetown and Danville High School.

I am celebrating my 11th year working in education and it is my pleasure to serve you and your children during the 2020-2021 school year. It is definitely going to be one for the books! We have some great challenges to overcome but I am confident that after meeting the faculty at Southwest, we are sure to succeed. I am so impressed by our teachers and support staff and feel very blessed to have the opportunity to serve the District 118 community alongside them.

We are off to a great start at Southwest Elementary School. Thank you for your grace and patience as we work through issues during this time. It has been a learning experience for everyone. Please make note that we will be reviewing crisis drills with all SW students this month and they will then be participating in those practice safety drills throughout the month/year.

We will continue to promote college and career readiness through our AVID program.

Looking forward to a great year! Go Coyotes!

Thank you for your contribution to our education:

United Church of Tilton, McDonalds, Anne Kinate, Sharon Craft, Dr. Ashton, Salvation Army, Walmart, Danville Gardens, Danville Metal Stamping, Dively Enterprises, Life Church, Mervis Industries, Quaker, Hyster, Kelley Printing, Jimmy Johns, Culvers, Fairchild Animal Hospital, Robinson Chiropractic, Sunset Funeral Home, Second Church of Christ, Education Personnel Credit Union, Meijer.

“BE at the BUS”

We want to remind everyone of bus safety procedures for your children and our students!

Parents/Guardians: Must be at the bus stop with their child

Pre-K Students: An authorized Parent/Guardian of Pre-K student must be seen by the bus driver before the student will be allowed off the bus.

Kindergarten Students: An adult must be seen by the bus driver before a Kindergarten student will be allowed off the bus.

Only the student is allowed on the bus - It is illegal for family members or others to board a school bus.



OCTOBER CALENDAR

10/7 6:00PM Board Meeting

10/12 4th Staff Institute
No School for Students

10/21 6:00PM Board Meeting

10/26 Remote Planning Day
Parent Teacher Conferences
No School for Students

11/3 Election Day
District Closed- No School

11/11 4th Veterans Day
District Closed- No School

11/16 Asynchronous Day
All students work from home

Food Distribution for Remote Learners only

If you have kids in multiple schools, you can pick up all their food at one school.

Danville High School

Tuesday mornings 10-11AM

Tuesday evenings 5-6 PM

North Ridge

Tuesday evenings 5-6 PM

South View

Tuesday evenings 5-6PM

Mark Denman

Tuesday evenings 5-6 PM

Southwest Students are Amazing!

—Accelerated Reader—

This school year our students will continue to independently read books from the library and take tests like they always have in the past. Our way of selecting the winners this year will be little different. But parents, please encourage your students to read, read, and read.

Happy Reading.

AVID Corner

Welcome back Southwest students! Whether you are in person or online, you are an AVID student!

At Southwest being an AVID student means you are Always Prepared, Very Respectful, Intentionally Safe, and Determined and Responsible.

Our in-person students have been doing an amazing job of remembering and showcasing these qualities on a daily basis. Online students have also been caught showcasing these qualities while learning from home! Some ways we are seeing students modeling being Always Prepared (or if not practiced yet can showoff being Always Prepared) by setting up a designated work space, having their computer ready for their class's start time, or having materials needed nearby. Students can be Very Respectful by muting their microphones and only sharing their screen when the teacher asks. Your child can be Intentionally Safe by only visiting sites that have been approved by your child's teacher. Lastly being Determined and Responsible means never giving up though we know and understand trying to learn from home so far away from your teachers can be hard! Please continue to be patient with your child's teacher and know we staff at Southwest are so proud of all of the amazing things we know our Southwest students are learning and doing whether here at school or at home! Keep up the great work Southwest!

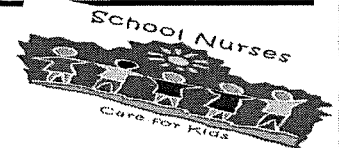
A Note from the Nurse....

IS MY CHILD TOO SICK TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Here are general guidelines to use when determining if your child should stay home from school:

- Temperature over 100.0 degrees/ any fever within the last 24 hours
- Frequent diarrhea stools; 3 or more within the last 24 hours
- Open sores that are draining and oozing
- White part of eye is red and there is draining or oozing
- Child acts or looks sick
- Vomiting within the past 24 hours
- Difficulty breathing
- Persistent coughing
- Unexplained rash
- COVID-19 Symptoms

This is a good time to remind your children about good handwashing, coughing into their sleeve, and keeping their hands away from their mouth, nose and eyes. If you have any questions, contact the school nurse at 444-3500 or 444-3546.



~~~~~Pre-K~~~~~

Despite the technology challenges that have been presented, the preschool children and families continue to learn anyway! They have been sending their families pictures of activities, answering questions through Class DOJO, and commenting on their teacher's daily posted videos. Hopefully soon we will be able to engage in live virtual meetings! We have spent two weeks learning about school and we are following that up with a theme about our homes. The teachers worked hard all summer developing themes and activities that can be done either in person or at home. The preschool department is continuing to enroll children who qualify. Screenings are held regularly and follow social distancing protocol. If you are interested in getting your child screened and/or enrolled, please call 444-3266.

KINDERGARTEN

We would like to Welcome all our new Kindergarten students to Southwest. We are continuing to adjust to the in-class and on-line classrooms. We would like for all students to practice tying their shoes at home. Your child should know all their shapes and colors at this time. Please check your child's book bag or Google Classroom Homeroom daily. They will have homework. Homework may include handwriting, reading, and math. Remember math directions are found at the bottom of each page. If you have any questions, please feel free to call. We appreciate your support!

FIRST GRADE

As we move into October we will begin our 2nd Unit in Benchmark. We will be learning about many types of characters in fiction stories. Also, we will be learning how to spot clues that let us know a story is fiction. In math, we are working on addition and subtraction with ten frames and number lines. Through our social/emotional curriculum, Second Step, we have been practicing how to be an active listener (eyes watching, ears listening, brain thinking about what the speaker is saying) and how to use self-talk to get ourselves back on track.

Happy Fall! First grade remote learners will continue to work on their packets. We are hoping to have your students' tablets in their hands as soon as possible. When the tablets are delivered to Southwest and ready for student use, we will contact you with pickup information. We are looking forward to meeting with your students online!

Second Grade

We are so happy to be back in school even though this year looks and feels different. It has been great getting to know your child these last few weeks. We have been spending time learning the routines and procedures and getting to know each other. Please make sure you are checking your child's folder and bookbag each day for important information that might be sent home (in-person) and please make sure to check Class Dojo and Google Classroom for announcements (remote). There is a lot of new and different information this year and we don't want anyone to be misinformed. We are happy to be back and looking forward to a great year!

Third Grade

Welcome back to 3rd grade! Both remote and in-person students are off to a great start. We reviewed addition and subtraction in the first couple of weeks of school. We will soon be diving into multiplication and division. The students seem excited for that! Our first unit in Reading is "Government for the People". Our essential question that we will be discussing throughout the unit is, "Why do people participate in Government?" Ask your students some questions about what they are reading about and continue practicing addition and subtraction facts. All 3rd grade students also have an account on Reflex Math which provides fun fact practice. They should know their passwords and can do this from a computer, tablet, or phone.

Fourth Grade

Hello Families! It's so good to be back either remote or in-person! This year more than ever it is crucial that your student is completing their work at home. We've had several students not turn in assignments already and this year they're going to have to work even harder to get things done from home. Please make sure you're checking your students assignments in Google Classroom (if remote) and checking agendas to make sure all work is completed at home (in person). We look forward to a great year despite Covid!! 😊



Erin's Law...

Our Southwest Social Workers, Miss Crooks and Mrs. Pribble, will be teaching Erin's Law. Erin's Law requires public schools in Illinois to implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program that teaches students age-appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and how to tell a trusted adult. Miss. Crooks, will be covering Erin's Law with the Preschool students the month of November during her regular scheduled Friendship classes. Mrs. Pribble, will teach K-4th grade students Erin's Law on October 9th. Please contact either Miss Crooks and Mrs. Pribble for any further ques-

Mr. Sanders-ESL

Our in-person K, 1st, and 4th are going over procedures and routines and beginning Benchmark. Our remote K, 1st, 3rd, and 4th are beginning to meet online and go over procedures, routines and will begin in Benchmark as well. I am so excited to be back at Southwest working with our EL students.

Data Driven

With Fall just around the corner there are so many fun activities you can do at home to incorporate Math into your fall fun.

If you carve a pumpkin use it to do a lesson on measuring for older students, have them measure around the pumpkin, the height of the pumpkin, and have them do some estimation of how much the pumpkin weighs.

For younger kids during pumpkin carving, you can have them tell you about the shape of the pumpkin, the color of the pumpkin, and have them help you count the seeds that you take out of the pumpkin.

Baking fun, have the kids help you bake some of your favorite fall treats, this is a great way to help students learn measurement and working with fractions...not to mention reading as they read the recipe ingredients and directions.

These are some quick tips to get you started on fun education fall activities to do with your kids.

A Note from Mrs. Pribble....

After watching the news or overhearing an adult conversation regarding the pandemic, young children might get scared. COVID-19 has changed their schooling, friendships, and normal routine, so it should be a top priority to address your child's fears and reassure their physical and emotional well-being.

Talk at an age-appropriate level. If your child is young, don't volunteer too much information, as this could cause their imagination to run wild. Instead, try to answer any questions they might have.

Answer questions simply and honestly. If your child has questions about the pandemic, know that honesty is always the best policy. While you don't want to frighten young children, there's nothing wrong with talking about the need for taking safety precautions such as social distancing and washing their hands.

Be understanding. If you're forced to quarantine as a family, your child will be disappointed at not being able to see friends or visit with other family members. Be receptive to this. Explain to them that you understand their disappointment, and you are missing out on friendships and special occasions as well.

Arrange virtual playdates. Offer an alternative to in-person playdates via the Internet. Set your children up on video conferencing services so they can keep in contact with close friends and grandparents.

Give extra love and affection. This is a stressful time for all of us and we could all benefit from extra affection.

Designate special one-on-one time. If everyone is at home with each other all the time, having one on one time with each child is a great way to forge a closer bond. Have your child choose an activity for the two of you to participate in together.

Find things to be grateful about. Every night, share with your child one fun or positive thing you experienced that day and encourage them to do the same. It could be a work or school accomplishment, a home repair, or something as simple as witnessing a beautiful sunset. It may sound corny, but acknowledging gratitude and positive experiences can provide a respite from negative thinking and really boost your family's mood.