

SOUTH ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



CURRENT INFO

Oct. 15-16 MEA Break
NO SCHOOL

*Note: Oct. 14th & 19th are Day 1A
for specialist schedules

Oct. 29 End of 1st quarter

Oct. 30 Teacher workday
NO SCHOOL

UP-COMING INFO

Nov. 19 Conferences 3:30pm-7:00pm

Nov. 20 Conferences 7:30am-3:30pm
NO SCHOOL

Nov. 24 Conferences 3:30pm-7:00pm

Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Break

NO SCHOOL

Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Break

NO SCHOOL

**SNACK
TIME**

The South Snack Cart Program is available for \$20 per semester. Please note that due to COVID-19 and the unknown of what the entire 2020-2021 school year learning structure will be, we will only be accepting payments of \$20 per semester.



If you haven't sent in payment for your child, please send it with them to give to their teacher. Checks can be made payable to South Elementary. Also, you have the option to pay online through Infinite Campus. If you have any questions, please call Marlene in the office at South (934-2754 ext. 3028). Thank you!

There has been an extension given to food service benefits. All students will be eligible for a FREE breakfast and lunch at school. This extension is good through Dec. 31, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 507-934-2754.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS: Attendance and Devices

Attendance

It is **REQUIRED** that your child's attendance gets recorded on each of their distance learning days. Attached is step-by-step instructions on how to do attendance on distance learning days. If daily attendance is not done on distance learning days, your child is marked as an unexcused absence.

If you are having questions regarding attendance, please call the South Attendance Desk at 507-934-2754 ext. 3028.

NOTE: Attendance and Seesaw activities/school work are two separate things. You will have to do attendance each day in order for you child to be marked present for the day.

Devices Needed Daily

Please remind your child to bring their charged iPad to school every day. They are used within the classroom setting as well as on distance learning days.



Notes from the Nurse's Office:



REMINDER: MN State Law requires routine vaccinations to attend school. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! Please make sure your child is up-to-date on their shots. Contact the South nurse's office 507-934-2754 if you have questions about requirements.

We will not be doing the large group vision and hearing screenings this year. However, if you have a concern about your child, please contact the South nurse's office at 507-934-2754.

If you have any extra clothing you can donate, you can drop off the items at the South Elementary front office.

Suggested items: Shirts, Pants and/or Leggings, Socks

Reminder:

All students and staff are required to wear masks during the school day. If you child has a medical condition that does not allow for this, please contact your child's teacher.



Supporting Your Child in Distance Learning

Written by Doreen Oelke, South Principal

As I sit to write this article, we have almost completed our first month of hybrid instruction here at South Elementary. To say this new format has rocked our world, would be an understatement. Our focus continues to be on providing our students the best possible learning experience while following the many health and wellness COVID19 protocols we have in place. We have learned so much already and we continually examine our practices and adapt them as we see fit.

Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents & daycare providers who are helping students on their distance learning days or are supporting our all distance learning students with their online assignments. As we strive to help our students get the most out of their experience, below are a few suggestions for how parents can help their students focus and be successful.

- Create an environment conducive to learning within your home.
 - Set up an area where your child can focus without distractions such as toys, pets, etc..
 - Provide your child with a flat surface to write on. Please refrain from having your child lay in bed or move about during instruction.
 - Enjoy meals, snacks, beverages when your child is not online.
 - Turn off the television, music, & video games.
 - Provide a headset for your child to wear if a quiet environment is not available.
- If your child will be participating in an in person (synchronous) lesson, please make sure your child is online at the identified time.
- Please make sure that your child is doing their attendance check by opening the CAMPUS icon and clicking on “Yes, I am here.” (Please keep in mind that completing the assigned work is separate from the attendance check.)
- Aid & Fade: Once you see that your child is ready for his/her lesson, step back and allow the teacher, student & classmates to interact. This is especially important when your child is being assessed. Data from these assessments allow your child’s teacher to design instruction to meet the unique needs of your child.
- Break activities into smaller parts. One suggestion is to complete one activity on Seesaw, and then take a 15 min. break. Alternate this pattern until all assignments are completed. Take movement breaks in between sessions. Allow your child to have a voice in this schedule. Begin the conversation by asking, “What’s your plan for completing your work today?”
- Be mindful of the amount of time your child is in front of a screen. When not working on school work, students should be encouraged to socialize with family while spending time outdoors.
- Encourage your child to do his or her best.
- Communicate with your child’s teacher. Distance learning is a challenge for everyone. Working together, you may be able to find solutions for issues which may arise.