Trojan Times

December 2024

A monthly newsletter to families

Administration:

Principal: Mike Whisler
Associate Principal (Last Names A-L): Tori Adkins
Associate Principal (Last Names M-Z): Louisa Samples
Manager of Student Engagement: John Polkowski
Athletics & Activities Director: Chris Williams

Counselors:

Last Names A-E: *Amanda Millan*
Last Names F-L: *Luke Felchlin*
Last Names M-R, Z: *Elizabeth Mueller*
Last Names S-Y: *Ying Jing Vang*

Social Workers:

Last Names A-L: *Janine Walch Blohowiak*
Last Names M-Z: *Anna Van Schyndel*

Attendance:
920-492-2653

Main Office:
920-492-2650

Student Services:
(Counselors/ Student Records):
920-492-2652

Athletics & Activities
920-492-2734

Upcoming Dates to Know...

Dec. 23 - Jan.1: No School/Winter Recess

Jan. 2: Class Resumes
Jan. 6: *Rescheduled* Band/Orchestra Concert
Jan. 9: All Choir Concert
Jan. 14, 15, 16: Semester 1 Exams
Jan. 17: No School (Professional Development)
Jan. 20: No School (MLK Jr. Day)
Jan. 28, 29: Cap & Gown Sales

Feb. 7: No School (Professional Development)
Feb. 20, 25: (PM) Parent/Teacher Conferences
Feb. 28: (AM) Parent/Teacher Conferences
Feb. 28: No School



Mental Well-Being Resources

You are important. You matter.
And so does your mental well-being.
Please click the linked resources **HERE** from SW Social Workers, which may help you and/or your student.
In the event of a suicidal crisis or emotional distress, ***call or text 988*** to connect with a trained crisis counselor immediately.





**If you would like a printed copy of this newsletter, please contact the SW Main Office.*

Students playing *CHESS*

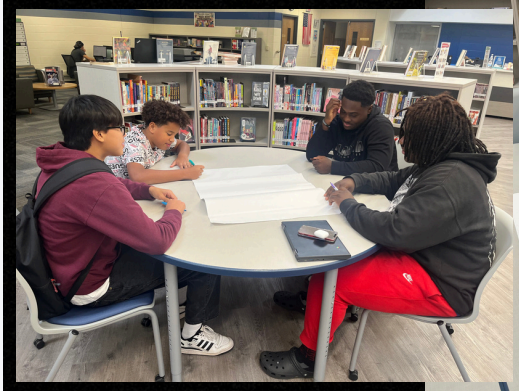


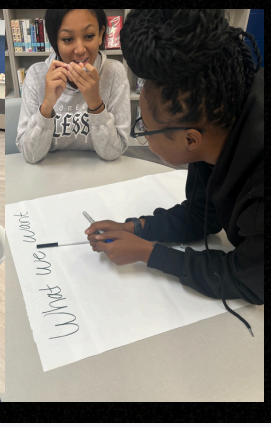


Daisy the bunny with Santa.



Black Culture Club celebrates African and Black history, culture, and achievements.





SW Marching Band & Color Guard performed in the Green Bay Holiday Parade.





AVID 1 & 2 students visited St. Norbert & Fox Valley Technical College. Students were given a tour of the campuses & learned about many of their programs/degrees. They listened to presentations from campus admissions leaders to learn about the college admission process.









STINGCANCER decorated ornaments and water bottles for cancer patients that will be donated to local hospitals.



"*Newsies*" the Musical, was nothing short of spectacular!
All cast members are shown below.



We celebrated two great athletes from our volleyball team as they signed their college scholarships!
Morgan Stewart signed with DePaul University.
Alexa Hernandez signed with UW-Green Bay.







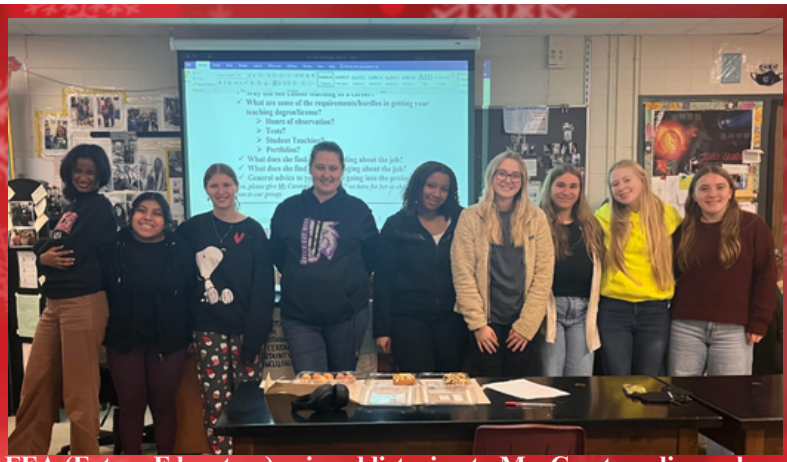




Together the Southwest Band and the Girls Basketball team collected over 400 items to donate to the Oneida Emergency Food Pantry during Thanksgiving week.

Congratulations to our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) for participating in the UWGB-Asset Builders Finance Bowl on Dec. 6th. The finance bowl is an interactive trivia competition designed to promote financial literacy and awareness among high school students.





FEA (Future Educators) enjoyed listening to Ms. Carstens discuss her journey to become a 1st year teacher. Ms. Carstens did her student teaching with SW's very own Mr. Sebranek. The students enjoyed listening to Ms. Carstens and valued her insight into the profession.



AVID 1 and 2 classes were visited by Donavan Jennings and Deslin Alexandre from the Green Bay Packers. Students had the opportunity to ask them questions and hear about their experiences with leadership and perseverance.





Wisdom that was shared with students included...

"If you think you are working hard enough, work harder."

"If you think you are good enough because you can beat the person next to you or across the field from you, you are not. You are competing with the ghost in the room. You have to always be wanting to get better."

Spotlights



Sophia Arneson
The Cupcake Couture
Youth Apprenticeship Spotlight

"In addition to always exhibiting a happy mood, Sophia is very mature for her age. She always fills in where needed, is one of my best workers, and is someone I can always count on."



Congratulations to FBLA! Students Cooper Berkbile, Aaron George and Lincoln Sherman won 1st place at the 2024 JA Northeast Stock Market Challenge.



NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY
Students of the Month

Every month, the SWHS National Honor Society celebrates students who have ***demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, overcome significant challenges, reached a personal academic goal, or have proven themselves as academic leaders in the classroom****. The below students have been nominated by a teacher for December.*

Mario Venture
Abigail Torres-Letona
Sofia Miranda
Aniet Rodrigues-Espinoza
Degrote Ngena
Marrisa Nau
Naik Bakht "Mariam" Habib
Kardin Yang
Lyla Wellens
Michael Link
Nathan Behnke
Memphis Kasten
Cooper Berkebile
Madison Beres
Braeden DeJardin
Liam McCabe



Let's Talk...Connect with School Staff!

Want to connect with school administration?
Please call the Main Office ahead to see if the principal or associate principal is available or if there's a need to schedule an appointment. School administrators are always available via email.

Want to have a conversation with a staff member?
If so, please reach out to them by phone or email to schedule a short appointment

Thank you for your assistance with scheduling appointments with staff ahead of time.
This will help us ensure that we are providing the best service possible to the students and families of Southwest High School.

Southwest Who's Who?

Administration
Main Office Phone Number: 920-492-2650
Attendance Phone Number: 920-492-2653


Mr. Mike Whisler
Principal
Email Mike


Mr. Chris Williams
Athletic & Activities Director
Email Chris


Ms. Tori Adkins
Associate Principal
Student Support A-L
Email Tori


Mr. John Polkowski
Manager of Student Engagement
Email John


Ms. Louisa Samples
Associate Principal
Student Support M-Z
Email Louisa

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD Southwest Who's Who?

Career Center


Ms. Melissa Hovanick-Larson
Career Center Coordinator
Email Melissa
920-492-2652


Ms. Lisa Schroeder
Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator
Email Lisa
920-873-3057


Mr. Sonny Soquet
Career Coach - NWTC
Email Sonny

Image coming soon

Ms. Lisa Kong
Career Coach - UWGB
Email Lisa
920-518-3767

Student Services
Phone Number: 920-492-2652


Ms. Amanda Millan
School Counselor
Student Support A-E
Email Amanda
920-492-2719


Ms. Janine Walch Blohowiak
Social Worker
Student Support A-L
Email Janine
920-492-5582


Mr. Luke Felchlin
School Counselor
Student Support F-L
Email Luke
920-492-2718


Ms. Anna Van Schyndel
Social Worker
Student Support M-Z
Email Anna
920-492-2709


Ms. Elizabeth Mueller
School Counselor
Student Support M-R & Z
Email Elizabeth
920-492-2717


Ms. Kaitlyn Stollberg
School Psychologist
Email Kaitlyn
920-481-9474


Ms. Ying-Jing Vang
*Student Services Department Head
School Counselor
Student Support S-Y
Email Ying-Jing
920-492-2716


Mr. Jon Wiegert
*Special Education Lead Teacher
Email Jon
920-272-7222


Ms. Bonnie Baranczyk
School Nurse
Email Bonnie
920-272-7638


Ms. Ma Vang
Registrar
Email Ma

Welcome

Meet Our New Staff!

Marci Spofford
Long-Term Sub: Physical Education

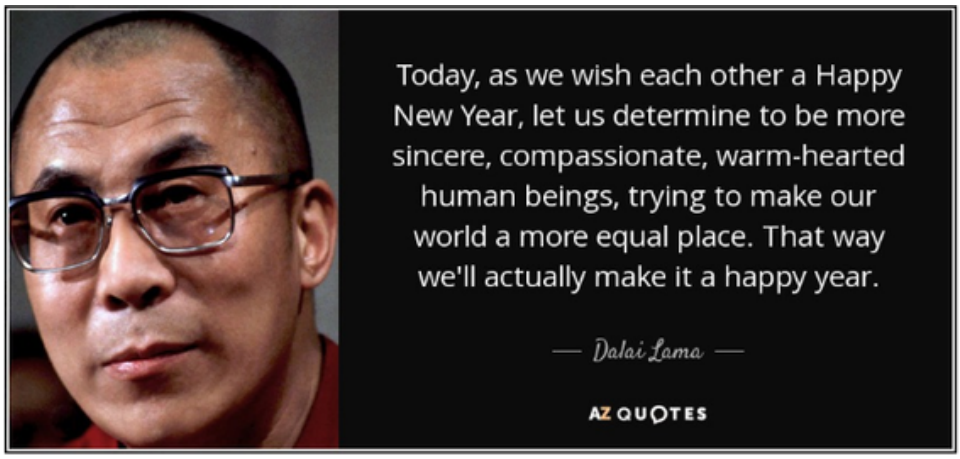
Joey Lemke
Mid-day Custodian

Rianna Vargas
Itinerant DHH Teacher

A Note From Principal Whisler...

Southwest Family:

As we bring 2024 to a close, and look forward to 2025, I think of what I hope for all Southwest students - the hope to be genuinely good young people. So, I provide you this December the following quote from the Dalai Lama:



Have a fantastic Winter Break, and a Happy New Year! We'll see you back at school on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Happy New Year!

Mr. Whisler



Who Can I Call? Mental Health Resources

Is your child experiencing a crisis?

Has your child harmed or threatened to harm themselves or others?

911

988 Lifeline

Family Services Crisis Center
920-436-8888
(24/7/365)

Who to call for mental health care in Green Bay



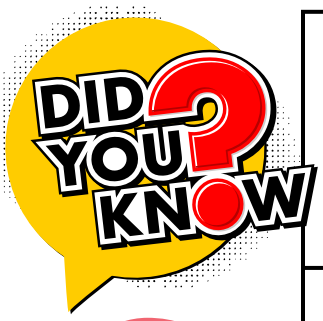
Are you are looking for a mental health support in the community?

24/7/365 Mental Health Care Coordination Service for GBAPS Students and their Families
Click on link for
Care Solace

Brown County Mental Health Navigation Guide

- Contact your child's doctor who can facilitate a referral for mental health services
- Check to see if your employer has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Check with your insurance provider

For Your Information...



Chromebooks & Stickers – *Can students place a sticker on their student issued device?*

The Department of Technology supports customizing cases; however, stickers should not be placed on student devices.

GBAPS Infinite Campus – NEW Absence Request Tool – The new Absence Request tool is available for parents & guardians who have an Infinite Campus Parent Portal account, to notify your school in advance when your student will be absent. When the request is processed by the school, student attendance is automatically updated.

*For more about this new tool, please view the attached information in **English** or **Spanish**. Please contact your school's attendance office with any questions. Parents without a Parent Portal account can contact Central Registration at (920) 448-2001 or the Help Desk at (920) 448-2148.*



Dear Families,

As we are approaching the winter break (December 23rd-January 1st), we appreciate everyone's efforts to avoid taking extra time off around the break.

Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to develop personally, socially and academically. We thank our students and their families who do their best to show up daily, even when it isn't easy. If your child is not well enough to attend, please continue to contact the school to report the absence.

These are the fun things going on at Southwest High School that we want to make sure your child is present to participate/experience in the month prior to the upcoming winter break:

- Concerts, dances, spirit week, sporting events, clubs, etc.

We appreciate each one of you. May these days off be restful and restorative. If your family or your child needs support, please reach out to Student Services at 920-492-2652 for help. We look forward to seeing everyone again when school resumes on January 2nd, 2025. Thank you for partnering with us!

Southwest High School

Notes from the School Nurses

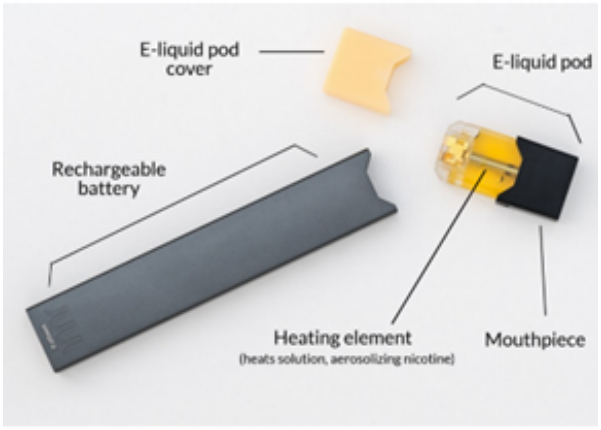
Vaping: Youth Epidemic

Basics

- E-cigarettes, or vapes, are designed to deliver nicotine, flavorings, illegal drugs or other additives to the user via an inhaled aerosol
- Typically, they consist of three parts; a rechargeable lithium battery, a vaporizing chamber and a cartridge or “pod” that contains the liquid
- Use among youth is increasing at an alarming rate, up 900% from 2011-2015
- They come in kid friendly flavors such as bubble gum, mint and various fruits
- Exhaled aerosol often smells fruity or sweet and is dependent on the flavor. It dissipates very rapidly and is easy to conceal

Devices

- Known as “e-cigs”, “dab pens” “vape pens”
- Most popular e-cigarette among youth is the JUUL due to its small size, minimal exhaled aerosol and reduced odor, making it very easy to conceal
- One JUUL pod, roughly the size of a small USB device, contains as much nicotine as an entire pack of cigarettes and is highly addictive
- The battery in a JUUL uses a USB magnetic charger that can plug into any USB port









Dangers

- Extremely high levels of nicotine are very addictive and harm the developing brain, impacting learning, memory and attention
- Youth use of nicotine increases the risk for future addiction to other drugs, including cigarettes
- E-cigarettes contain heavy metals, organic compounds and tiny particles that are inhaled deeply into the lungs, causing irreparable lung damage or even death
- EVALI- e-cigarrette or vape associated lung injury- 58 deaths and over 2,000 hospitalizations noted in February of 2020
- Pods may also contain marijuana, other illegal drugs or toxic chemicals
- Surgeon General’s advisory states “importance of protecting our children from a lifetime of nicotine addiction and associated health risks by immediately addressing the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use”[1]

[1] E-cigarettes.SurgeonGeneral.gov

From Student Services...

The Student Services Calendar of Events has grade-level specific information about upcoming student services related events for families.

Click for Student Services Calendar of Events

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITES

SCAN ME

Southwest High School Scholarships

More information regarding scholarships can be found in the Southwest High School Scholarship document.

Green Bay Schools District Scholarship Guide

Save the Date

Southwest Senior Scholarship Night
Monday, May 19, 2025 6 p.m.
Only Scholarship Recipients Invited*

From Youth Apprenticeship...

Northeast Wisconsin
Youth Apprenticeship Night
at NWTC

Learn more about the opportunities with the Youth Apprenticeship Program:

Who Should Attend?
Sophomore and Junior students interested in learning more about the Youth Apprenticeship program.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend with their students.

When?
Monday, February 3rd

Where?
NWTC Green Bay Campu
Student Center SC130
Enter at Door 9

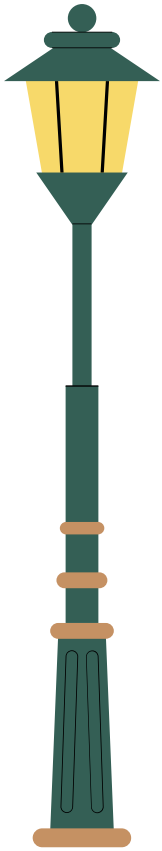
AGENDA

5:45pm - Check In Begins
6:00pm - NEWYA Presentation
6:30pm - NWTC Presentation
6:45pm - Panel Discussion
7:15pm - Campus Tours

Click this link to register.

Register Here:

Northeast Wisconsin YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP



INTERESTED IN YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP?

INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Northeast Wisconsin YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP

SCAN TO ENTER MEETING

TIME ZONE: AMERICA/CHICAGO
GOOGLE MEET JOINING INFO
VIDEO CALL LINK: HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/CFH-DAKF-BEP
OR DIAL: (US) +1 646-883-1050 PIN: 332 788 866#

Virtual Meeting on Monday, January 13th, 6pm

YA Parent meeting

CURRENT SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS NOT ALREADY IN YA

SENIORS & EARLY GRADUATES

Cap & Gown Sales

Jan. 28 & 29

During lunch hours





Click below for more information:

- **Cap & Gown Packages**
- **Announcements & Gifts**

CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATION

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025 | 4 P.M.

KRESS CENTER, UWGB

SAVE THE DATE

COLLEGE GOAL WISCONSIN

Need Help with the Financial Aid Application?

Join us

January 23, 2025

Southwest High School

Library Media Center

6-8 p.m.



SUBMIT NOW!

Complete your Diploma Information Form by clicking here!

**Only students are able to access the Google Form.*

Parent & Guardian Resource for Canvas

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing a guaranteed, viable and equitable educational experience for our students, we are excited to announce the adoption of Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) in Green Bay Area Public Schools.

Canvas LMS is a powerful and user-friendly platform designed to enhance the learning process and facilitate communication between teachers, students, and parents. Its features and capabilities will empower our educators to create engaging, interactive, and personalized learning experiences.

For the 2024-25 school year, most middle and high school courses will be using Canvas. Here are some key benefits of using Canvas:

- Streamlined Communication: Canvas provides a centralized communication hub, making it easier for teachers and parents to connect and stay updated on important information related to academic progress, assignments, and events.
- 24/7 Access to Course Materials: Through Canvas, students and parents will have 24/7 access to course materials. This allows for better organization and planning.
- Assignment Tracking and Grading: Canvas enables parents to monitor their child's progress in real-time, view assignments, and track grades. This transparency fosters a collaborative approach to education.
- Mobile App Compatibility: Canvas has a mobile app that provides on-the-go access to the platform, ensuring that parents and students can stay connected and engaged even outside the classroom.
- Submission and Feedback: Students can easily submit their assignments through Canvas, and teachers can provide timely feedback and grades, promoting continuous improvement.
- Personalized Learning Paths: Canvas supports differentiated instruction, allowing teachers to tailor learning paths for individual student needs and strengths.

It is highly recommended that all Southwest parents/guardians take advantage of the Canvas parent portal. In order to set up your Canvas Observer Account, please review the attached resources: English Spanish Hmong Somali

Infinite Campus Parent Portal Guide
Annual Updates for Current Students

Log In	Log into Campus Portal using your user name and password. If you do not have a username and password, please contact the Help Desk at 920-448-2148 or servicedesk@gbaps.org to set up a Campus Parent Portal account. • To gain access to the Parent Portal, you must provide the District with your student's birth certificate information for each enrolled student.
Annual Update	Annual Updates must be completed by the guardian of the student's primary household each school year to ensure that schools have accurate contact information for students and families. Follow the steps below. 1. Select "More" on the left hand side of of the screen 2. Select "Update Contact Information" 3. Select "Current Student Registration" 4. Read all instructions and select "Start" 5. Carefully review and update any information throughout the module Complete this process immediately, even if no changes are needed, as updates were due before the registration event.

Guardian's Guide to Chromebooks
What you've always wanted to know about Chromebooks in your student's classroom. Your student's Chromebook may be a little bit different than the computer you have at home or the one you use at work, so we've created this overview to help you understand what a Chromebook is and how it's used.
Currently this document is available in Spanish, English, and Hmong.
Please click the appropriate language to view the guide.



Ongoing Southwest Merchandise Sales

Show off your Southwest Pride & purchase apparel, backpacks, hats, accessories and so much more! Orders can be placed at any time and are shipped directly to you!

Click here to order your merch!

CLICK HERE TO ORDER YOUR 2025 YEARBOOK OR USE THE QR CODE!



ORDER NOW



SAVE THE DATES: SUMMER SCHOOL 2025

Session 1: June 16 - July 18

**No school June 19 & July 2-4*

Session 2: July 21 - August 15





Looking for Affordable Internet?

Use the Wisconsin Internet Discount Finder!

In seconds you can:

- Find internet providers where you live
- Find free or discounted internet service
- Get help applying for federal discounts

You already qualify for free or discounted internet service if you receive:

- Free or reduced lunch for your child
- SNAP / Foodshare
- SSI
- WIC
- Federal public housing assistance
- Badgercare / Medicaid
- Other federal benefits

Go to the Internet Discount Finder website at bit.ly/find-discount

Access the Internet Discount Finder on your phone right now!

Just point your camera at the QR code below and press "qrco.de"

Need help? Call the Wisconsin Internet Helpline: (608) 267-3595

The Internet Discount Finder is provided free of charge by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

Made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF Public Instruction

Or click the following link: Internet Discount Finder

