

South Point

OH





MESSAGE
FROM THE
SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Pointers,

Happy New Year! As 2025 gets underway, I want to take a moment to say how proud I am of the growth and resilience our district has shown during the first half of the school year. I want to extend my sincere thanks to all of our teachers, staff, students, and families for your dedication and hard work. None of our accomplishments would be possible without your commitment to our schools and our community. I also want to acknowledge the ongoing support from our local businesses, organizations, and community members. As we look to the second half of the school year, we will continue to prioritize learning and ensure students have the tools to succeed, both academically and socially. As always, I encourage you to stay engaged with our schools, attend upcoming events, and share your feedback with us. Together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of our students.

Proud to be a Pointer!

Chris Mathes, Superintendent
South Point Local Schools



SAFETY

STILL A TOP PRIORITY

South Point Local Schools are always striving to improve School Safety so that students can learn in a safe, nurturing environment. The school district has made an effort to increase and improve safety each and every year. Some of the recent improvements include:

- We regularly complete drills with guidance from the Ohio School Safety Center Website to practice the emergency management plan.
- South Point Local School District was awarded 400,000.00 dollars through Governor Mike DeWine's Ohio K-12 School Safety Grants Program. 100,000.00 dollars for each of our schools. Funds will be used to cover expenses associated with physical security enhancements such as radios for the buildings, visitor badging systems, fencing and ballistic wrap.
- Each building has an updated emergency management plan uploaded on the Ohio School Safety Center Website that was made in collaboration with Local Law Enforcement and emergency services.
- Updated and expanded Camera Systems for better image quality and coverage
- Resource officer in each building full time.
- Staff completes online Public School Works training yearly to stay up to date and in line with state and federal laws.
- Schools all have threat assessment teams in place
- Provided Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training to teams of staff.

ABRE-SEL/MH SURVEY

South Point Local School District used ABRE to deliver the SSIS coLab SEL and mental health survey in December to students from 3rd to 12th grades. The information gathered from this survey may be used to get help to students who are in need of a more intense level of social emotional or mental health assistance.



PARENT INFORMATION

If you or anyone you know is experiencing homelessness as defined below, please contact Brian Kidd—South Point Local Homeless Liaison at 740-377-4315.

Definition of homelessness:

The McKinney-Vento law says that homelessness includes individuals who do not have a fixed, regular and adequate home because they have lost their own home. This means:

- Individuals who have lost their own home, suffering a financial hardship or similar reason.
- Individuals who are sharing the housing of others.
- Individuals who are living in hotels or motels or in campgrounds or trailer parks that are not viewed as year round homes because they do not have accommodations, such as heat or running water.
- Individuals who are living in emergency shelters or who have been abandoned in hospitals.
- Individuals who are living in cars, parks, or public spaces.

GET INVOLVED

Every South Point Local School has a need for volunteers and there is a wide variety of opportunities available. If you think you would enjoy a deeper involvement with children, contact the building principal to see what is available.

Children perform better in school when they know their guardians are part of the “education team.” Talk to your child’s teacher on a regular basis. Two parent teacher conference days are provided during the year at all of our schools.



RESOURCES

- Safer Schools Ohio Anonymous Tip line—Text or Call 844-SAFEROH
- Homeless Education Programs Coordinator Office of Whole Child Supports Ohio Department of Education (Trish Barnett) – 614-324-7646.
- Human Trafficking Hotline—Text Help to #233733
- Ohio Department of Education Parent Page—
<http://education.ohio.gov/Parents>
- National Teen Dating Violence Helpline — 1-866-331-9474 or Text LOVEIS TO 22522
- Smoking, Drugs, and Alcohol tools—<http://www.starttalking.ohio.gov/>
- Dyslexia supports — <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Dyslexia>





COME JOIN OUR TEAM

SUBSTITUTES NEEDED IN ALL AREAS

TEACHERS, TEACHER AIDES, BUS DRIVERS, BUS AIDES,
SECRETARIES, FOOD SERVICE, CUSTODIAL, AND NURSES.
REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION DETAILS CAN BE FOUND AT
<https://www.southpoint.k12.oh.us>

UNDER THE PUBLIC INFORMATION TAB AND CLICKING ON
EMPLOYMENT. ANY QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO
THE SOUTH POINT LOCAL BOARD OFFICE AT 740-377-4315.

Keep Your Child Healthy and in School!

A regular attendance routine is important for your child's well-being, learning and long-term success. Below are tips to keep your child healthy and avoid unnecessary absences from school.

Nutrition, Sleep and Exercise

- Ensure your child eats a good breakfast every morning or check if your school serves breakfast.
- Maintain a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Keep screens out of the bedroom and limit use prior to bedtime.
- Encourage your child to stay active for at least 60 minutes a day.



Hygiene

- Stress hand washing, particularly before eating, and after using the restroom.
- Remind your child to brush their teeth twice a day.
- Avoid close contact with individuals who are sick. Don't share cups, utensils, hair brushes or combs.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or cough/sneeze into an elbow.



Safety

- Make sure your child wears a seatbelt and/or appropriate car seats during car rides, and a helmet when using a bike, skateboard or scooter.
- If your child walks to school, help them find a safe route to school and to travel with at least one friend. Have a backup plan in case of bad weather.



Keep Your Child Healthy and in School!

Wellness

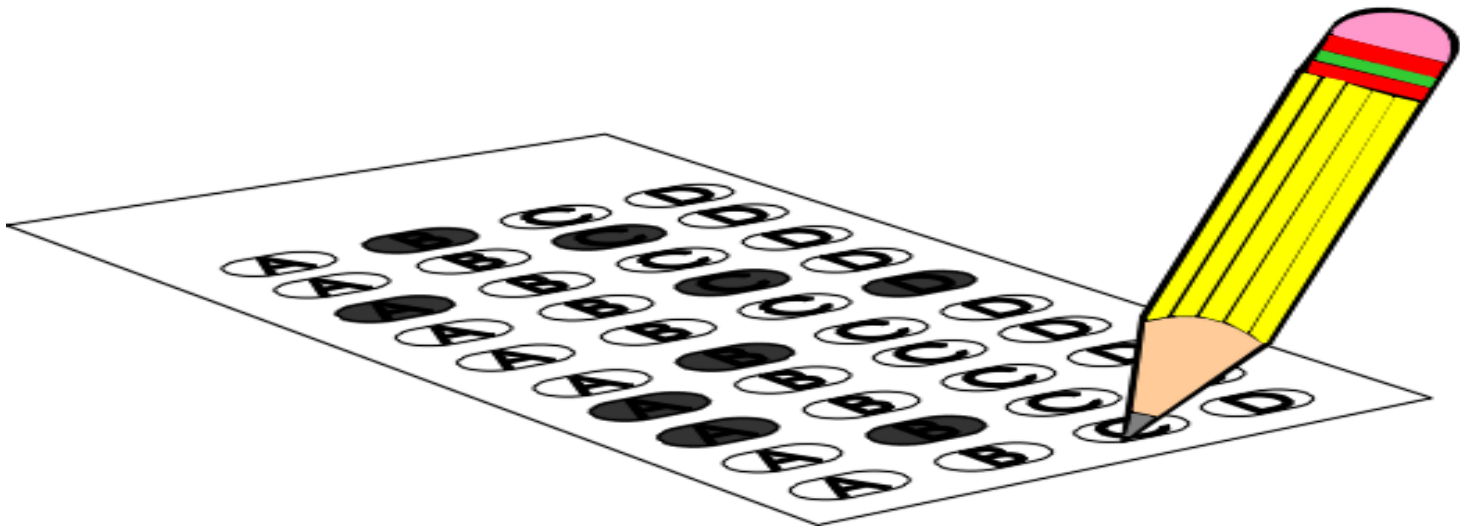
- Ensure your child visits their health care provider for:
 - A physical once a year.
 - All recommended Immunizations, including Flu and COVID-19.
 - Chronic health issues such as asthma or diabetes.
- Visit the dentist twice a year.
- Try to schedule non-urgent medical appointments outside of school hours.
- If your child doesn't have health or dental insurance, reach out to your school's nurse or social worker or other staff member to help connect you with resources.
- Complete your school's annual health form.
- Agree to allow your child to participate in health and vision screenings offered at school.
- If your child has a chronic health issue such as asthma, make sure that your child's health care provider completes appropriate school forms that allow your child to keep/carry any necessary medications at school.
- If your child has a disability, work closely with the school and your child's health care provider to ensure appropriate supports and services.
- If your child has a compromised immune system or is at high risk for complications from common illnesses, please talk to your school (school nurse if available) about developing a plan with you and your child's health-care provider to keep your child healthy and safe while attending school.
- If you are concerned that your child may have a contagious illness (including COVID-19), call your child's health care provider or school nurse for advice.
- If your child needs to stay home for a prolonged period due to illness, talk to your child's teacher to find out about resources they can use at home to keep learning once they feel well enough.



Engagement

- Make sure your child feels safe and connected at school. Involve them in afterschool activities.
- If you are worried that your child may be suffering from anxiety, talk with your teacher, the school nurse, social worker or other school staff to discuss the challenge and identify what can help your child. If your child is missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues, contact the school and/or your child's health care provider for support and resources.
- Ask the school about health-related policies including about COVID-19.
- Monitor your child's attendance and academic progress and seek support when needed.





STATE TESTING PRACTICE FOR GUARDIANS

Sample test items and practice tests

Both sample items and practice tests allow students to view and answer test questions that are like those that could appear on state tests. Teachers and parents also may use related resources to help their students know what to expect.

Log into the Student Practice Site at

<https://oh-ost.portal.cambiumast.com/families.html>

- Visit the [Students and Families section](#) of the test portal
- Click on the "Student Practice Site" button to enter the practice site.
- "Guest Session" will appear; **you do not need to enter information here.**
- Select "sign in."
- Select a grade level, then click on "yes."
- Select a specific test or sample item.