



**SOUTH**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

# South Middle School Newsletter

**September 25, 2022**

## Quick Links

**[South Middle School Website](#)**

**[South Middle School Facebook page](#)**

**[Daily Announcements](#)**

**[Community Events and Resources](#)**

**[Breakfast and Lunch Menus](#)**

Do you know about the **[South Middle School Facebook page](#)**? You may see a face or two you recognize.

## Upcoming Events

**9/30- Mid quarter 1**

**10/12 Picture Re-take Day**

**10/13 Schools Closed for conferences**

**10/14 Schools Closed**

**10/17 Schools Closed**

**10/27 School Play 7:00 pm**

**10/28 Mile Run**

## A Reminder from ECASD Food and Nutrition

Just a reminder to all our families, the USDA no longer provides waivers for universal free breakfast and lunch for students this school year. That program was established during the pandemic and the program has now ended.

**As always, our families can apply for free and reduced breakfast and lunch.** Paper applications were mailed with the ECASD Family Handbook this August. Applications are also online at **[www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com)**. Questions? Call Food and Nutrition at 715-852-3021.





# Penny Wars

September 26th- October 12th

## How it works

Each Lunch Period has their own jar for collecting money. **GAIN points** by adding **PENNIES** and **BILLS**. **LOWER** other lunch totals by adding **SILVER COINS**.

The lunch period with the **most points** wins and will watch their **lunch supervisors and officer Chapin** get a pie in their face.



### Adding

Pennies 1 point  
\$1 Bill 100 points  
\$5 500 points  
\$10 1000 points  
\$20 2000 points

All funds raised will go to field trips for the year.



### Subtracting

Nickels -5 points  
Dimes -10 points  
Quarters -25 points

SFAC would like to thank all families that have donated to the fundraiser. At this time, they have raised \$1210.00!

## Make Your Mark Fundraiser

Make your Mark on South fundraiser continues through September 30th. Our fundraiser is simple: a no sell/no buy fundraiser. By simply making a monetary donation to South's Falcon Advisory Council you are contributing to student celebrations, special projects, and classroom mini grants to name a few. Please help support the Make Your Mark on South fundraiser by filling out the attached form and return it to South by **September 30th**. No amount is too small. Thank you for your participation!

<https://www.ecasd.us/.../Make.../make-your-mark-flyer.pdf...>

## Conference Meal

It is a tradition at South Middle School that a meal is provided to the staff on the day of conferences. Sign up [here](#) if you would like to donate. We appreciate your generosity.



## Community Viewing of Suicide: The Ripple Effect

Tuesday, September 27, from 6:30 pm-7:30 pm, the Eau Claire Area School District and Marshfield Clinic Medical Center will host a community viewing of the documentary *Suicide: The Ripple Effect* at Memorial High School. The film focuses on the devastating impact of suicide and the positive ripple effects of advocacy, inspiration, and hope that are helping millions of people heal and stay alive. The film highlights Kevin Hines' journey, who at age 19, attempted to take his life by jumping from the Golden Gate Bridge. **A mental health resource fair will also be available throughout the evening.** Please see [The Ripple Effect](#) for more information on this event and how to RSVP if you're interested in attending. Families with questions about the event should reach out to their student's school counselor.

## Did you know that you can report you student's absences from your phone?

Here is a 60 second video on using the mobile app to submit absence requests:

<https://www.skyward.com/parents-and-students/family-access-toolkit/parents/video/power-up-absence-requests>

Or:

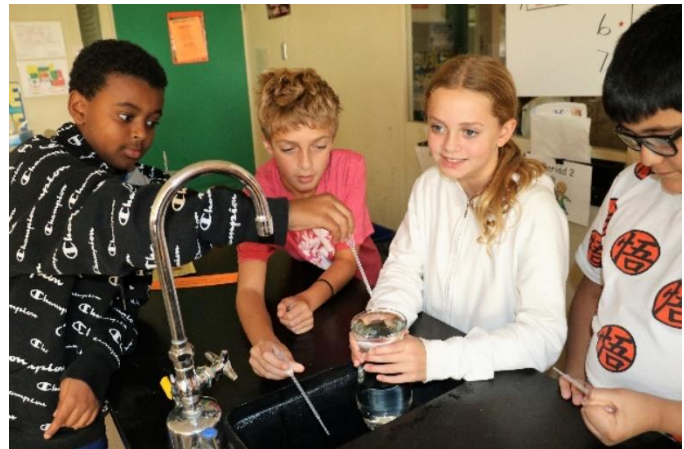
[www.Skyward.com/Support/Family](http://www.Skyward.com/Support/Family) Toolkit.



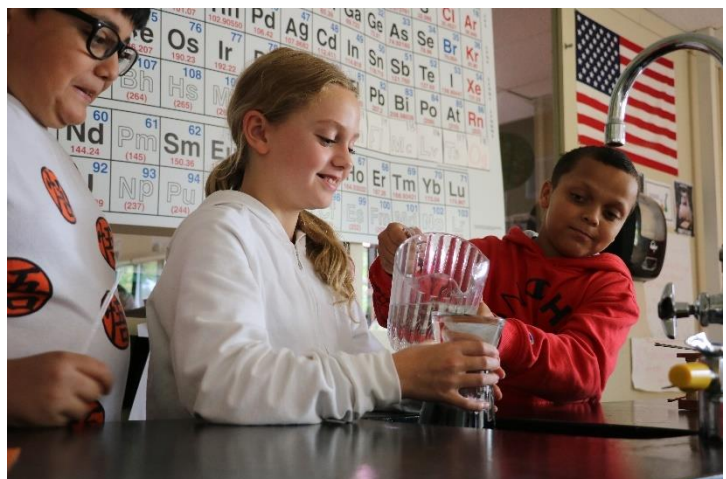
# COUNSELOR'S CORNER



You can find a lot [suicide prevention resources](https://www.changetochill.org) on the change to chill website.








Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade counselor, Ms. Kostka talked to sixth graders about healthy coping skills. She ended the lesson with a fun experiment.





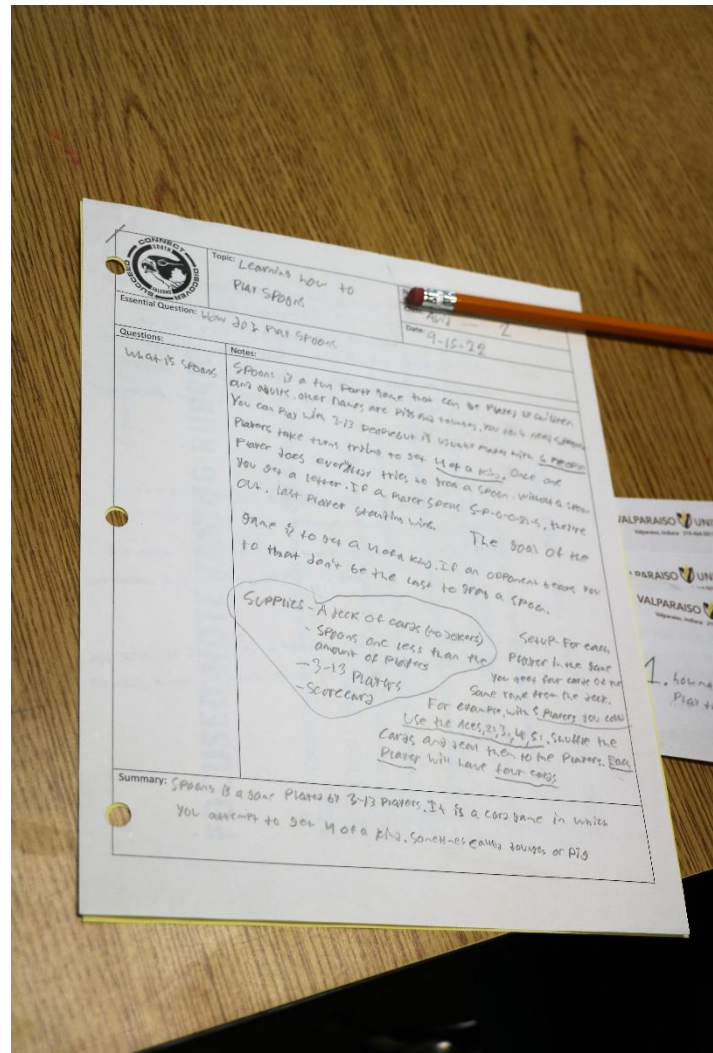
### The Five Phases of the Focused Note-Taking Process

AVID's focused note-taking process has five phases. It is important to note that while applying learning is the last phase of the process, it is essential that it inform the first phase, as the note-taking format should be shaped by the note-taking purpose. When teaching the focused note-taking process, educators need to determine how students will use their notes and set up the format appropriately. It is crucial for educators to model and invite students to engage in this thought process so that note-taking becomes a powerful and portable learning tool students can carry with them throughout their educational experience.

<b>Taking Notes</b> 	<b>Create the notes.</b> Select a note-taking format, set up the note page, record the Essential Question, and take notes based on an information source (lecture, book, website, article, video, etc.), selecting, paraphrasing, and arranging information in a way that meets your note-taking objective.
<b>Processing Notes</b> 	<b>Think about the notes.</b> Revise notes—by underlining, highlighting, circling, chunking, questioning, adding, deleting—to identify, select, sort, organize, and classify main ideas and details. Evaluate the relative importance of information and ideas in the notes.
<b>Connecting Thinking</b> 	<b>Think beyond the notes.</b> Analyze the notes using inquiry to make connections and deepen content knowledge by asking questions and adding your own thinking to create greater understanding, identify gaps or points of confusion, and connect your new learning to what you already know.
<b>Summarizing and Reflecting on Learning</b> 	<b>Think about the notes as a whole.</b> Pull together the most important aspects of your notes and your thinking about them to craft a summary that captures the meaning and importance of the content and reflects on how the learning helps you meet the note-taking objective.
<b>Applying Learning</b> 	<b>Use the notes.</b> Save and revisit your notes as a resource or learning tool to help you apply or demonstrate what you have learned.



AVID classes this week learned all about note-taking. Ms. Syverson made it fun by having them take notes on the game spoons. Students learned about the five phases of note-taking and applied their learning with a game of spoons.





## Send a Note

If your child is going to be leaving early during the day, please send a note with your child instead of calling. When parents call during the day, the office must interrupt class to notify students, which is disruptive.

*Thank you!*

## Safe Routes to School

The Eau Claire Area School District, in partnership with Safe Routes to School, would like your thoughts about your child walking and biking to school! This [quick survey](#) will take 5-10 minutes. Share your concerns, your top three problem intersections, and express why you do or don't allow your child to walk to school. Thank you for taking the time to take the survey!



# WHO SHOULD YOU CONTACT?

To help ensure you get the information you need as quickly as possible, South Middle School has established this communication chart:

**1 Contact the adult working with your student(s).**

This may be a teacher, counselor, instructional coach, athletic coach, bus driver, school nurse, or another employee.

*If you still need your question answered...*

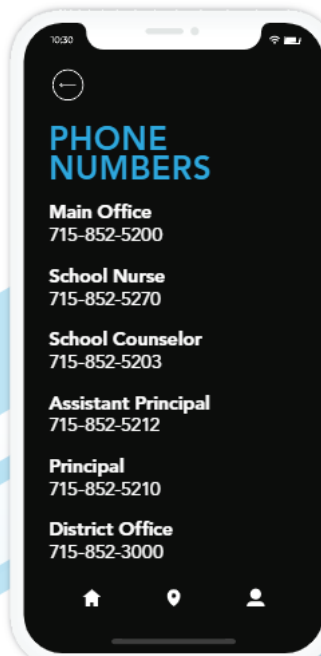
**2 Contact the administration in your child's school.**

This may be the principal, assistant principal, or activities director.

*If you still need your question answered...*

**3 Contact the superintendent.**

For email, refer to the staff directory on the school's website.



2115 Mitcheer Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701 • 715-852-5200 • [www.ecasd.us/South-Middle-School/Home](http://www.ecasd.us/South-Middle-School/Home)

## Study Club

Do you need some extra help with assignments? Or maybe you're just looking for a quiet place to get some work done after school. Meeting up with classmates for a group project? Come check out Study Club. Afterschool Study Club will be starting Monday, Sept 12 and run every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3 until 4 PM in the library.



## SMS 2022-23 Yearbook

Capture the memories with your 2022-23 yearbook. Share it with your friends today and save the memories for years to come. To order

visit <https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1117312/South-Middle-School/>

## Community Conversations: SCHOOL FUNDING IN EAU CLAIRE

Guest Speaker



Tom McCarthy  
Executive Director of the  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

**Monday, October 10, 2022**

Northstar Middle School  
2711 Abbe Hill Dr, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Dinner at 6 pm

Conversation & Questions  
from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm



Register Here!

*Hosted in partnership with Wisconsin PTA and ECASD.*



Hispanic Heritage Month runs from September 15 to October 15! This month serves to highlight and celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. Learn more at <https://hispanicheritagemonth.gov/>.

## Technology Information

We wanted to share some important information about technology with you. Per the ECASD Family Student Handbook, the district is now charging for laptop and iPad loss and damage. Please encourage your student to handle theirs with care to prevent charges.

The most common damages occur when students:

- Don't carry their laptops in a padded backpack.
- Leave laptops on the edge of a table or desk.
- Cover their laptop camera with tape or sticker (use a piece of paper instead).
- Drop their backpacks from their shoulders to the ground.
- Set their laptops on the floor.
- Lend their chargers to friends. (We have spares in the library that friends can check out instead.)
- Stack heavy things on top of their laptops or backpacks.
- Leave a device unattended.

If your student's laptop needs repairs, please have them stop by the library. Fees will be assessed and emailed out to families via our library system. Payment (cash or check) can be taken at the table. A full list of potential fees can be found here: [go.ecasd.us/TechFees](https://go.ecasd.us/TechFees).

In addition, students will be responsible for the maintenance of the device. Weekly, outside of school hours, students will need to update their device. Here are Step by Step directions and a Video to help. This [video](#) will help teach you how to print at school.

## Note from the Physical Education Department

The Eau Claire Area School District has revised its Physical Education program in grades 6-12. Included in this revision is an increase in fitness instruction and the addition of fitness assessments. The instruction and assessments will include FITNESSGRAM. FITNESSGRAM is a health-related fitness assessment developed by The Cooper Institute and is a research-based criterion referenced test.

The Eau Claire Area School District considers FITNESSGRAM a quality assessment for three reasons:

1. FITNESSGRAM establishes a baseline of a healthy fitness zone from which students can set goals and check their progress (non-competitive) to plan for lifelong physical activity and to maintain and improve their fitness level. This health-related fitness assessment measures students' aerobic capacity, muscular strength/endurance, flexibility, and body composition.
2. FITNESSGRAM provides recommended activity program options that will help students reach healthy fitness zones in those areas where they need to improve.
3. FITNESSGRAM does not place an emphasis on skill or sports-related fitness such as speed measured by an individual's 40 yard dash time. It does not compare students to other students. All student data will be confidential.

FITNESSGRAM tests all students regardless of age, gender, or ability. Students are encouraged to be self-aware of health-related fitness and take responsibility by setting personal fitness goals. When students focus on the process of doing their personal best, a more positive lifelong impact is achieved.

There are several FITNESSGRAM assessment components, so students should expect the assessment process to take more than one class period. FITNESSGRAM assessment components include running, flexibility, curl-ups, push-ups, trunk lift. Height and weight are also included as a part of the assessment, and these measurements are taken privately. If you would like your student to be excluded from any of the FITNESSGRAM measurements, please contact your student's physical education teacher.

Each year students will be assessed in the first weeks of their physical education course, and again during the last weeks. This will allow students and their parents/guardians to measure their fitness progress over the school year and year-to-year.

FITNESSGRAM assessment reports will be emailed to all students, and also emailed to parents who have given at least one email address to their school through the Student Information Card, which is updated at the start of each school year. Parents/guardians without an email address will be given a paper copy of their child's report, which will be brought home by the child.

The Eau Claire Area School District believes by providing you and your child with this health-related fitness information you can lead your child toward a healthy lifestyle. A healthy student is better prepared to learn and perform in all aspects of life. A sample student report may be found at <http://www.fitnessgram.net/files/fgsamplereports.pdf>.

If you have any questions about the FITNESSGRAM Assessment, please contact your student's physical education teacher. You may also learn more about FITNESSGRAM at <http://www.fitnessgram.net/>.