



**MARCH  
2025**

Official Publication of the South Shore School District  
**THE CARDINAL REPORT**

Serving students, parents and our community

## Cardinals on the Cutting Edge

*Aidan Olkowski, Technology Education Instructor*



The South Shore School District is deeply grateful to the South Shore Education Foundation for their more than generous donation of a Lincoln Electric Torchmate 4510 CNC Plasma Table. This state-of-the-art technology is already making a significant impact on our students' education, providing them with valuable hands-on learning opportunities and preparing them for careers in fields like engineering, design, and manufacturing.

### A Game-Changing Donation

For years, South Shore School District has worked to provide our students with real-world learning experiences that give them an edge in the workforce. This donation takes this effort to a whole new level. This powerful machine allows our students to design and create precision metalwork, introducing them to advanced technology and techniques used in industries like CNC machining, welding, and fabrication.

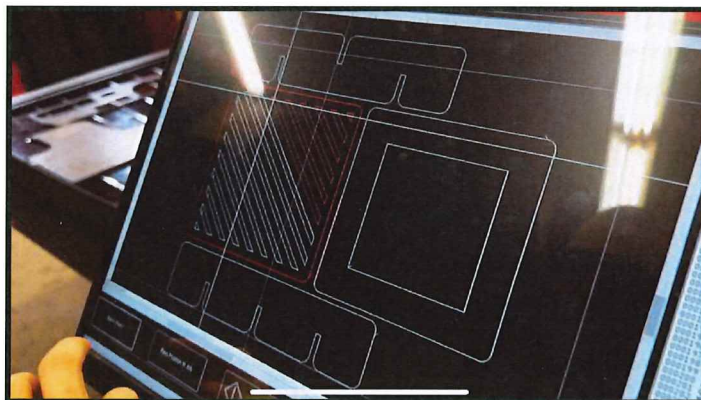
Thanks to the South Shore Education Foundation, our students now have access to tools that are typically only available in higher education or industry settings. This donation allows us to integrate hands-on learning with cutting-edge technology, giving students the skills and experience they need to succeed in their future careers.

### Immediate Impact on Students

Since the installation of the CNC plasma table, students in our technical programs have been eager to explore its capabilities. Whether they are designing custom parts for engineering projects, learning computer-aided design (CAD), or fabricating metal designs, students are gaining valuable skills that will serve them well in the job market.

Beyond just technical know-how, the Torchmate 4510 encourages students to develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and attention to detail. These are skills that will help them succeed not only in technical fields but also in a wide range of other careers. Integrating mathematical concepts with physical applications allows students to discover just how relevant topics such as algebra, geometry, and trigonometry are in industry.

Already, we've seen students create their own custom projects, blending creativity with technology. These experiences are preparing them for both higher education and the workforce, making them better prepared for future opportunities.



### A Strong Community Partnership

We would also like to thank the many local businesses, organizations, and individuals who have supported the South Shore Education Foundation. Their generosity and commitment to our students' futures are what made this dona-

(Continued on top of page 2)



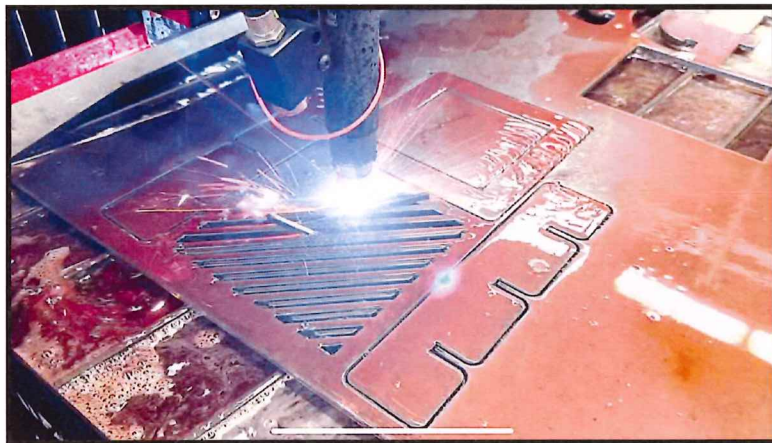
donation has given our district an incredible opportunity to enhance our Career & Technical Education (CTE) curriculum and provide students with real-world learning experiences that prepare them for success.

### Looking to the Future

We are excited to expand our curriculum, explore new partnerships with local industries, and provide even more opportunities for students to gain real-world experience. This donation will continue to inspire innovation and creativity in our students for years to come.

On behalf of the South Shore School District, we extend our deepest thanks to the South Shore Education Foundation. Your generosity is helping to shape the future of our students and providing them with the tools they need to succeed in an ever-evolving world.

Please reach out if you are curious about this technology and would like to see it in action!



## Spotlight on Student Learning: Planning with a Purpose

*Michelle Simpson, 4K-12 Principal & Director of Curriculum & Instruction*

On Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, the South Shore School District held its annual Planning with a Purpose day for students in grades 7-12. This event started after a key group of individuals in the community advocated for and began planning career fairs at the school. Those career fairs grew and expanded to a day-long event where students not only explore different careers but also take time to intentionally plan for their future.

### Career Fair

South Shore is fortunate to have MANY volunteers join us on our Planning With a Purpose day! During the morning, students attend a career fair at South Shore. This year, we had over 25 volunteers who helped with the career fair. Students had the opportunity to meet with so many individuals including US Army representatives, college representatives, local business owners, welders, healthcare workers, and the county judge. Students also attend break-out sessions where they hear from speakers on a variety of topics about career opportunities and employability skills. They even got to attend a robotics presentation from a US Army representative. To our many volunteers who made this day possible, THANK YOU! We could not have done it without you.



### Course Registration

Throughout the day, students begin to think about their schedule for the upcoming year. Teachers share summaries of the courses that will be offered, and students have the opportunity to explore the course catalog and the master schedule for the upcoming year. A key component of registering for classes comes before students even begin to select classes. Students take time to reflect on their strengths, interests, and talents as well as their future goals and careers they may be interested in. Students then work with teachers, administration, and the guidance counselor to develop a draft of their schedule. Students entering 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade have the opportunity to engage in a Youth Apprenticeship where they gain work experience. They can also apply to take college courses through Start College Now and the



(Continued on top of page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

## Early College Credit Program.

### Seniors

Planning With a Purpose looks a little different for seniors at South Shore. While they still engage in the career fair and break-out sessions, they also spend time working with the guidance counselor on applying for scholarships and beginning their senior project. Every senior at South Shore completes a project where they reflect on where they have been, where they currently are, and where they are going. They put together either a slide presentation or a trifold presentation, which they share with their peers and families at their awards night in May. This year, seniors also began to develop a College & Career Readiness Portfolio, which will include their resumes, transcripts, and other key documents that highlight their accomplishments throughout their high school experience.



### Our Future Is Limitless

Our theme at South Shore this year is "Our Future is Limitless." To all of the staff and community members who supported our students in thinking about and planning for their futures through this event, **THANK YOU**. We could not have done it without you.



## The State of U.S. Public Education and Why We Should Care

*Dani Mikula, Superintendent*



Public education is the bedrock of our democracy. As strong opposing viewpoints around public education heat up at the national level, I continue to receive an influx of questions and concerns regarding the potential impact of the current federal priorities around education. As a school superintendent, it is my passion and foundational purpose to be a number one advocate for education - and more broadly - for children. It is also my commitment to serve and represent all families by not taking political sides. The bottom line is that strong public education benefits everyone - the community, the workforce, businesses, and the broader economy. America is not America without it. Having informed discussions to increase the efficacy and support of public education is crucial, and something we should all care about.

### Q: What exactly does the U.S. Department of Education do for K-12 schools?

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) plays a critical role in shaping educational policy, ensuring access to quality education for all students, and providing funding that supports vital programs like Title, the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA) and school nutrition programs. It administers the funding for these programs and ensures that regulations are followed in order to receive those funds. For example, no educational program that receives federal funding can allow discrimination against students. This brings us to a branch of the department called the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), which ensures that schools receiving federal funding abide by federal civil rights laws. The USDOE also has a role in gathering data around educational outcomes as well as supporting and conducting education, research and development.



### Q: What does the USDOE not do?

The department does not decide what kids learn or how they learn it. It has no control over school curricula, and it's not forcing teachers to teach anything. Those decisions happen at the state and local levels. The idea of sending education "back to the states," isn't new or interesting, because it is already there. The majority of influence and decision-making for public schools has always come from the state and local level.

(Continued on top of page 4)



**Q: Can they really put an end to the U.S. Department of Education?**

Yes, but it does not appear likely. Abolishing the department cannot be done through an executive order and would take an act of Congress. While Congress could abolish the department, the likelihood of our current Congress passing such legislation is slim. The more likely scenario is already happening with significant reductions and changing priorities. On March 12, the USDOE announced a 50% reduction in workforce, going from 4,133 workers down to 2,183. This will have a direct impact on our schools, likely in the areas of oversight and enforcement of federal regulations, and potentially funding and support to students with IEPs, school nutrition, and learning supports for students experiencing poverty. At South Shore, the percentage of low-income students is almost 60%.

**Federal Dollars and How They are Used at South Shore**

Federal funding, while a relatively small percentage of our operating budget, goes to critical services within our school. South Shore currently receives approximately **\$179K** from federal funding sources. Individuals with Disabilities in Education (IDEA/Special Education) is approximately \$60K, Title funding is approximately \$54K, and federal dollars supporting school meals for children is about 65K. Title I is used to help students with math and reading in small groups. Title II focuses on class size reduction and professional development for teachers, and Title IV focuses on technology, giving students access to a well-rounded education, and safe and healthy schools. The South Shore Board of Education has been able to make free breakfast and lunch for students a priority with the support of federal funding.

**Q: If the USDOE were to end, would my child lose IEP, special education support or 504 disability accommodations?**

No. Irrespective of available funding, one thing that will not change is that state and federal law requires that public schools provide students with disabilities appropriate “modifications, aids and related services free of charge”. While they remain mandated and protected by law, they will likely not be enforced at the same level. Already the department has paused investigations on many IDEA and OCR complaints. When school districts do not receive enough state and federal funding to cover the costs of special education, they pull from their general funds to fill the shortfall. This is already a big problem, and how we continue to fund those needs is the million dollar question crippling most districts. Governor Evers is calling for the state to reimburse 60% of special education costs in his 2025-27 biennial budget, which would have a significant positive impact on our budget at South Shore without adding burden to our local taxpayers. However, this proposal would need to be approved by the Wisconsin Assembly and the Senate, which is unlikely. This one piece of the state budget would have an enormous positive impact at South Shore and every other school in our state if it were to happen.

**Q: What are you doing as a district leader to advocate for our school?**

As your superintendent, I pledge to continue to do the following:

1. Stay informed and proactive in planning and budget projections. Plan for the worst, hope for the best.
2. Lead and fight for education and our rural schools and communities at every level.
3. Always search for ways to be more effective and continue to improve student outcomes. If public education is going to keep earning bi-partisan support, we have to be highly effective.

**Summary: Why Federal Funding Matters**

While state and local sources provide the majority of funding for South Shore, federal dollars help ensure that our children in high need areas receive the support they need. Ultimately, as priorities and funding are shifted within the USDOE, schools will have to make difficult decisions about which areas to cut in order to ensure a balanced budget. It is important for all of us to stay informed and to engage with lawmakers to support our children. Advocacy at every level is increasingly critical, especially for a small rural school like ours.

If you are still with me, you care about this topic and probably have questions or thoughts to add. Please reach out if you do. The fact that we are having more discussions at all levels of government about the role of public education is ultimately a great thing. Now is our chance to come together and fight for it.

**CONNECT WITH US!**



**#WEARESOUTHSHORE**



*Follow-us*  
**ON**  
**FACEBOOK**

@southshoreschooldistrict

**CONNECT WITH US!**



**#WEARESOUTHSHORE**



*Follow-us*  
**ON**  
**INSTAGRAM**

@southshoreschooldistrict





## 2025 SOUTH SHORE FREE THROW CONTEST

### WHEN:

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH - 10:00-11:30AM

### WHERE:

**SOUTH SHORE SCHOOL**  
Port Wing, WI

### WHO:

OPEN TO ALL AGES - \$10 PER SHOOTER  
(10 DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS)  
SPONSORED BY THE CARDINAL CLUB

### WHY:

TROPHIES FOR TOP FEMALE AND MALE IN EACH AGE GROUP.  
ALL PROFITS GO TOWARDS YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM.

## WSMA Instrumental Large Group Festival



The SSHS Wind Band performed at WSMA Instrumental Large Group Festival! The event exists to provide constructive feedback for each ensemble from a panel of 3 adjudicators. Our group did very well with challenging music, and are grateful for the helpful encouragement from the judges!



## Bayfield County Land & Water Conservation Department Announce Poster Winners



Congratulations to Tilia! Her poster, Home is Where the Habitat is, won first place in the elementary division (grades 2-3) of the poster contest sponsored by the Bayfield County Land and Water Conservation Department as part of a statewide program. Her poster then went on to the Northwest Wisconsin Division and won 2<sup>nd</sup> place! Way to go Tilia!!

South Shore Elementary students also placing in the elementary division were Willow Jeffress - 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Hazel Adair - 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Middle division grades 4-6 placing were: Maddie Missinne - 1<sup>st</sup> place, Kate Missinne 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Cassidy Josephson 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Congratulations to all!!



Kate Missinne, Cassidy Josephson,  
Hazel Adair and Tilia Pinter





## NWMA High School All-Conference Choir

The SSSH Choir participated in the NWMA High School All-Conference Choir Event! They joined students from three other area schools for the day at NHS. Under the direction of Dr. Ryan Fuchs from UWS, rehearsed all morning, and performed a concert for the NHS Students and Staff in the early afternoon. The music was challenging and it was an EXCELLENT performance! If you would like to listen to it in full, check out the 'School District of Maple' youtube channel for the recording. Thank you to all the participants and those that attended

## South Shore Education Foundation Sponsors "A One-of-a Kind Musical Experience"

Students, staff, and families of the South Shore School District took part in an incredible interactive concert experience! **The Pamoja Project**, aka community project, brought *The Mizizi Ensemble* to our area. This ensemble is a group of people from Uganda, which are involved in helping to rehabilitate children that have lost everything through the wars happening in surrounding areas. The goal of this project is to build a more compassionate understanding of our fellow humans.



Through song and dance, we collaborated to make a once-in-a-lifetime experience in our very own little gym. Everyone joined in at the request of group leader Sam, and it was exciting and fun!

Thank you very much to all the educators involved in this project that brought it to our area, to the South Shore Education Foundation for sponsoring this event specifically at our school, and to all the audience participants for making it so memorable!



4<sup>th</sup> graders had a special visit from Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Park Ranger Steve, who shared the fascinating geological history of Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands!

His excellent presentation included the story of their creation, which started billions of years ago, to what we see today.

The students asked many questions and learned so many interesting facts! Ranger Steve also introduced students to invasive species affecting the lake—especially the sea lamprey, which caused plenty of students to cringe!

We're so grateful for Ranger Steve's knowledge and passion for our environment. Can't wait for his next visit!







# **South Shore Drama Club**

**Presents**

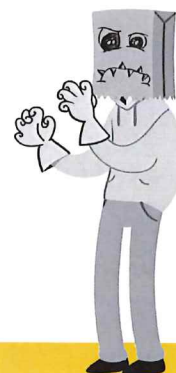


**Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> - 7PM**

**Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> - Noon**

**Cost: \$5 Per Person**

**Location: High School Gym**







## Rev. Leslie A. Bechtel, Sr. Scholarship

The Reverend Leslie A. Bechtel, Sr. Scholarship is available to students who have graduated from South Shore High School and who are attending one of the campuses of the University of Wisconsin System.

Students must submit their application, along with a statement that includes the area of interest they are pursuing, goals and a perspective of how their field of study will serve humanity. Also, they will need their resume, transcript of grades from the University they are attending and a copy of their Financial Aid Statement.

Selection is based on the following factors: financial need, academic standing, plans to attend/is attending the University of Wisconsin System, and a clear statement of goals and career plan.

Students interested in applying for the scholarship need to submit their completed application, statement of goals, resume, transcripts, and financial aid statement to the Guidance Counselor, P O Box 40, Port Wing, WI 54865. Deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### ATTENTION: Students and Parents of Graduating Seniors

The Herbster Community Club (HCC) would like to remind all graduating seniors and their parents that the HCC provides scholarship funds for students to continue their post-high school college or vocational education. Students may reapply for scholarship assistance for up to four years. In order to be eligible, the student must be a graduate of South Shore High School or a resident of Herbster (Town of Clover), regardless of high school attended.

Please see our website for additional requirements and deadlines. ([herbstercommunityclub.org](http://herbstercommunityclub.org))

## South Shore Lions Club Scholarship Applications Available



The South Shore Lions will be awarding scholarships to graduates from South Shore High School and Bayfield High School. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors, 2 at South Shore and 1 at Bayfield.



Applications are available from the high school counselor. In addition, the South Shore Lions will be awarding Continuing Education Scholarships totaling up to \$1,000 to graduates of South Shore High School in their 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> year of undergraduate studies. Scholarship Applications are available by emailing [southshorewilions@gmail.com](mailto:southshorewilions@gmail.com) or contacting Sue Ostrenga, Scholarship Coordinator at 715-774-3254. Deadline for all applications is April 20<sup>th</sup>.





## Homemade Trailer For Sale

The Career & Technology Education (CTE) department is selling a homemade trailer that was completed in 2023. The overall trailer dimensions are 8' 5-1/4" wide (fender to fender) and 19' 3" long (hitch to tail). The trailer has been DOT inspected and a VIN has been issued making it completely road legal. The tires have some

uneven wear from a now corrected issue and will need to be replaced by the purchaser. Deck is built with pressure treated lumber. Light surface rust on leaf springs and axle. All lights are in working condition and utilize a four flat connection. This is a very heavy and overbuilt trailer with a large deck perfect for bulky items. If you would like to come look at the trailer prior to placing your bid; it will be located in the school parking lot near the buses. **Minimum bid is \$4,000.00.** (Cost of materials)



Please direct any questions to Aidan Olkowski at [aolkowski@sshore.k12.wi.us](mailto:aolkowski@sshore.k12.wi.us).



## CNC PLASMA TABLE FOR SALE

The Career & Technology Education (CTE) department is selling a 4' x 4' PlasmaCAM brand CNC plasma table along with everything needed to make it fully operational including a Thermal Dynamics plasma cutter and a desktop computer with the software already loaded up. This setup has been well used and functions as it should. Sale will include assistance loading and a run down as to how to get it set up. The table is kept indoors and is available for viewing if desired prior to placing your bid. **Minimum bid is \$1,000.00.**

Please direct any questions to Aidan Olkowski at [aolkowski@sshore.k12.wi.us](mailto:aolkowski@sshore.k12.wi.us).



PTO Meeting

**YOU'RE INVITED**

to our next PTO meeting which will be held on  
Monday, April 7, 2025  
Jr-Sr High School Library  
5:30pm



**Wisconsin - Minnesota  
Border Battle Game  
Romano Gymnasium**



**UMD  
Tuesday,  
March 25<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 P.M.**





# You may apply for open enrollment from February 3-April 30, 2025

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend a school district other than the one in which they live. Applications may be submitted to up to three nonresident school districts.

Pupils in 5-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.

Open enrollment for prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

The open enrollment application period for the 2025-26 school year is from February 3-April 30, 2025. **The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2025. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.**

Parents may apply online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>.

A pupil may only open enroll to an online/virtual school if:

- (1) the school has been created as a virtual charter school that meets the requirements of the charter school law [Wis. Stats. 118.40 (8)] or (2) the pupil is required to physically attend school in the nonresident school district every day that school is in session. Other important things to know about applying to virtual charter schools:

## Can an application be rejected?

Yes. Nonresident school districts may deny an application if regular or special education **space is not available** for the pupil; **special education or related services** are not available; or if the pupil has been **referred for a special education evaluation** but has not yet been evaluated. Nonresident school districts may also deny an application if the pupil has been expelled during the current or preceding two years for certain violent conduct or if the pupil was **habitually truant** from the nonresident school district during any semester in the current or previous school year.

If there are more applications than spaces, pupils must be selected randomly, after giving preference to pupils already attending school in the nonresident school district and siblings of currently-attending pupils.

Some school districts establish waiting lists to fill unused spaces, but others do not.

## Can a resident district prevent a pupil from leaving?

Yes, in limited circumstances. A resident district can deny a pupil's application for an invalid application (early or late application or missing information), ineligibility due to age (too young or too old), or if the resident district does not offer the same type of prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten, or early childhood program as the nonresident district or the pupil is not eligible for the program in the resident district.

## Can parents appeal if an application is denied?

Parents whose applications are denied may appeal to the DPI within 30 days of the denial. State law requires the DPI to uphold the school district's decision unless DPI finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable. The DPI's decision may be appealed to circuit court.

## Must pupils reapply every year?

Once a pupil is accepted into a nonresident school district, the pupil may continue to attend that district without reapplication except that:

- The nonresident district may require a pupil to reapply one time—at the beginning of middle school, junior high or high school.
- A pupil may be returned to the resident school district if

the special education required in a new or revised IEP is not available in the nonresident district or there is no space.

- A pupil who has become habitually truant in the nonresident district may be returned to the resident district.
- Is there a cost for parents to participate in the open enrollment program?

There is no tuition cost to parents for participation in open enrollment. Parents of open enrolled pupils may be charged the same fees as resident pupils.

## Who is responsible for transportation?

*Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from school.*

If transportation is required in the IEP for a child with a disability, it must be provided by the nonresident district.

Low-income parents may apply to the DPI at the end of the school year for partial reimbursement of their transportation costs.

## Can a parent select a specific school in the pupil's nonresident school district?

Yes. A parent may request a specific school or program in the nonresident district. However, assignment to the requested school or program is **not guaranteed** and your pupil may be assigned to a different school other than the one requested. It is up to each nonresident district to determine a pupil's school assignment.

## Can an open enrolled pupil participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities in the nonresident school district?

Open enrolled pupils have the same rights and responsibilities as resident pupils.

Inter-scholastic athletics are governed by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), which has rules concerning transfer pupils. Parents should check with the school district's athletic director about eligibility.

## Important open enrollment dates

**February 3 – April 30, 2025** – Parents must submit applications online or directly to the nonresident school district.

**June 6, 2025** – Nonresident school districts must mail notices of approval or denial. If the application is approved, the school district must notify the parents of the specific school or program to which the pupil is assigned. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

**June 13, 2025** – Resident districts must notify applicants if the application is denied. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

**June 27, 2025** – Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the pupil will attend the nonresident district in the 2025-26 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the pupil to attend the district.

## For more information contact:

Public School Open Enrollment Program Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841  
Toll free: 888-245-2732, option 2 Email: [openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov) Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe> Email: [openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov)

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability.



# FAMILY SQUARE DANCE THANK YOU EVENT!



**FOOD.  
SQUARE DANCING.  
COMMUNITY.  
CARDINAL PRIDE.**

## JOIN US!

The South Shore School District invites all community members, students and families to join us as we extend a heartfelt **THANK YOU** for supporting our school. A BBQ lunch will be provided by the South Shore Education Foundation and there will be activities for all to enjoy. **More details to come!**

**SUNDAY**

**APRIL 6, 2025**

**12:00-3:00 PM**



**South Shore School District  
Board of Education Meeting Agenda  
In Compliance with the Wisconsin  
Open Meeting Law**

Public Notice §19.84 (3)                      Clyde Clauson, President  
§19.85 (1)(c)                                  Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk

**A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be at South Shore Jr-Sr High School, Port Wing, WI at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2025.**

Members of the public may attend in person or through Zoom. All public participants phones, microphones, and chat dialog boxes will be muted or disabled during the meeting. Members of the public who do not wish to appear in person may email dmikula@sshore.k12.wi.us with Public Comment in the subject line.

*Any person wishing to attend who, because of a disability, requires special accommodations, should contact the office at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting time, so appropriate arrangements can be made.*

**Regular School Board Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday, March 19, 2025  
5:30 p.m.**

1. Welcome
  - 1.01 Call to Order /Roll Call
  - 1.02 Pledge of Allegiance
2. Recognition/Highlight
  - 2.01 We Are South Shore
  - 2.02 Acknowledge and Accept Donations
3. Audience Participation
  - 3.01 Audience Participation Guidelines – limited to five (5) minutes
4. Agenda Modifications
  - 4.01 Modifications to Agenda Items or Prior Minutes
5. Consent Agenda
  - 5.01 Approve Meeting Minutes - February 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
  - 5.02 Approval of Bills and Budget Report (Ending February 2025)
  - 5.03 Approve Personnel Report
6. New Business
  - 6.01 Building Project & Budget Update
  - 6.02 PMA Investment Plan Update
  - 6.03 Discussion of Federal Updates Impacting K-12 Education
  - 6.04 Preliminary DRAFT 25-26 Budget
  - 6.05 Strategic Plan Progress Updates: Goals 3 & 4
  - 6.06 Strategic Plan Development Proposal 25-26
  - 6.07 Appoint a Board Representative to the CESA #12 Annual Convention
  - 6.08 Start College Now & Early College Credit Applications
7. Policy
  - 7.01 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Neola Policies
  - 7.02 1<sup>st</sup> Reading po5411 Third Grade Promotion and Retention: At-Risk Students
- 8.0 Board/Admin Reports
  - 8.01 CESA 12 Delegate Report
  - 8.02 Superintendent's Report

(Continued on top of next column)

(Continued from previous column)

9. Upcoming Dates
  - 9.01 Upcoming Dates
10. Closed Session; The Board will Convene in Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to Consider Employment, Promotion, Compensation or Performance Evaluation Data of any Public Employee Over Which the Governmental Body has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility
  - 10.01 WI State Statute 19.85(1)(c) to Consider Employee Leave Request
11. Reconvene to Open Session
  - 11.01 Consider Public Action from Closed Session Item
12. Adjournment
  - 12.01 Adjournment

---

**• Board of Education •  
School Board Regular Meeting Minutes  
Meeting Held Wednesday, February 19, 2025  
5:30pm - 8:13pm  
(Minutes to be approved at the 03-19-25 Board meeting)**

**A REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING** was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 in the LMC at South Shore Jr-Sr High School, Port Wing, WI and virtually via Zoom. The meeting had been properly publicized in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

**1. Welcome**

**1.01 Call to Order / Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by President Clauson at 5:30pm.

Roll Call: Present: Justine Broderson, Terry Burhans, Clyde Clauson, Mark Hoefling, Rebecca Kavajecz. Virtual: James Stemwedel (until 7:46pm); Absent and excused: Merlyn Coy. Also, present, Danielle Mikula, Superintendent.

**1.02 Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Recognition/Highlight**

**2.01 We are South Shore**

Tabled.

**2.02 Acknowledge and Accept Donations**

- Cornucopia Club: \$300 toward library books
- Cornucopia Club: \$170 and warm winter clothing to students

**3. Audience Participation**

**3.01 Audience Participation Guidelines**

None

**4. Agenda Modifications**

**4.01 Modifications to Agenda Items or Prior Minutes**

7.07 is not ready. Tabled to next month.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**5.01 Approve Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting**

(Continued on top of page 13)



(Continued from page 12)

## **5.02 Approval of Bills and Budget**

Approval of Bills and Budget (ending January 2025)

Approval of Bills and Budget (ending January 2025)

- General fund 98131-98141 and 98148-98295 and payroll/direct deposit on 900014429900014554, 1853-1855, and 3861-3872 for payment.

## **5.03 Approve Personnel Report**

### **Spring Coaches Update**

- Softball Coaches: Mackenzie Correll and Allison Hipsher
- Track Coaches: Myla Lahti (Head Coach) Bill Trautt (Assistant Coach)
- Baseball Coaches: Jesse Olesiak (Head Coach) and Ethan Bratley (Assistant Coach)

Motion by Hoefling, second by Stenwedel to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote: Yes: Broderson, Burhans, Clauson, Hoefling, Kavajecz, Stenwedel. No. None. Absent Coy. Motion carried by roll call vote.

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **6.01 Teaching & Learning**

Met February 4<sup>th</sup>

- College and Career Readiness (on agenda later) District Assessment Data (on agenda later)
- Act 20 - policies to come out in next few months; reading plans rolled out for all elementary students that needed one.
- Science curriculum renewal discussion; Beth Hoagland will be presenting at the WI Science Teachers conference
- Calendar (on agenda later)

### **6.02 Finance & Operations**

Met February 5<sup>th</sup>

- Reviewed Bills and Budget Balances
- Facilities Updates
  - Committee updated on project design process
  - Discussion of needs in HS Gym
- Long Term Disability Insurance Renewal
  - Committee recommends approval to board.
- Bond Rating Update
  - Provide final documents to full board.

### **6.03 Policy & Governance**

Met February 12<sup>th</sup>

Policies Reviewed

- NEOLA Updates Volume 34.1
- For Information: Technical Updates 34.1
  - 1100, 1130, 1241, 2210, 2264, 2266, 2270, 2271.01, 2416, 2440.01, 2464, 3214, 3230, 3281, 4124, 4214, 4230, 5113, 5341, (rescind), 5512, 5611 (not taking), 5710 (rescind), 6231, 6235, 6620, 7410, 7430, 7440, 7540.03, 7540.04, 7540.07, 8120, 8125 (not taking), 8305, 8531, 8600
  - Special UGG EDGAR update: 3340, 6110, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6325, 7310, 7450

## **7.0 New Business**

### **7.01 Building Project Pre-Design Process Update**

(Continued on top of next column)

(Continued from previous column)

Reviewed design and design changes to date. Discussion.

### **7.02 Board Update on Bond Sales Not to Exceed 12M**

\$12 million in bonds were sold on February 3. Funds will be transferred to us on March 4.

### **7.03 Consider Financial Investment Consultant**

Presentations given by PMA and American Deposit Management.

Motion by Hoefling, second by Stenwedel to select PMA as our financial advisor and to adopt WISC Resolution 25-02

### **RESOLUTION NO. 25-02**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE "WISCONSIN INVESTMENT SERIES COOPERATIVE" AND AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE INVESTMENT PROGRAMS OF THE FUND

WHEREAS, Wisconsin school districts, technical college districts, cities, villages, counties and towns may invest their monies as authorized by Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.0603 (1m); and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.0301 (the "Intergovernmental Cooperation Act") provides, among other things, that municipalities may contract with other municipalities for the joint exercise of any power or duty required or authorized by law, including investment of their monies; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Investment Series Cooperative (formerly known as the Wisconsin School District Liquid Asset Fund) (the "Fund") was formed as of June 23, 1988 pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act by the adoption of an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement relating to the Wisconsin School District Liquid Asset Fund by Oregon School District and Sheboygan Area School District, as the initial participants of the Fund, which Agreement was amended as of July 15, 1994 and July 12, 2002 (the "Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Fund is governed by the Wisconsin Investment Series Cooperative Commission (the "Commission") in accordance with the terms of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement has been presented to this governing body (the "Governing Body"); and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement authorizes municipalities to adopt and enter into the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and become participants of the Fund; and

WHEREAS, this Governing Body deems it to be advisable for this Municipality (the "Municipality") to adopt and enter into the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and become a participant of the Fund for the purpose of exercising jointly with other municipalities the power to invest their monies, so as to enhance the investment earnings accruing to each; and

WHEREAS, this Governing Body deems it to be advisable for this Municipality to make use from time to time, in the discretion of the officials of the Municipality identified in Section 2

(Continued on top of page 14)



(Continued from page 13)

of this Resolution, of the Fixed Rate Investment Program available to participants of the Fund; and

WHEREAS, this Governing Body deems it advisable for this Municipality to make use of, from time to time, the services provided by PMA Financial Network, LLC, PMA Securities, LLC, BMO Bank, National Association, and/or their affiliates and successors, in connection with the Municipality's utilization of the Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. This Municipality shall join with other Wisconsin municipalities in accordance with the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act by becoming a participant of the Fund and adopting and entering into the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement. A copy of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement shall be filed in the minutes of the meeting at which this Resolution was adopted. The President (Chairperson) (Mayor) and the Clerk (Secretary) are authorized to take such actions and execute any and all such documents as they may deem necessary and appropriate to effectuate the entry of this Municipality into the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and to utilize Fund programs through PMA Financial Network, LLC, PMA Securities, LLC, BMO Bank, National Association, and/or their affiliates and successors.

Section 2. This Municipality is authorized to invest its available monies from time to time and to withdraw such monies from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, including investment in the fixed income program of the Fund through the intermediaries PMA Financial Network, LLC and PMA Securities, LLC. The following officers and officials of this Municipality and their respective successors in office each are designated as "Authorized Officials" with full power and authority to effectuate the investment and withdrawal of monies of this Municipality from time to time in accordance with the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and pursuant to the Fixed Rate Investment Program available to participants of the Fund: (List the name(s) and title(s) of the officer(s) and official(s) who will be authorized to invest and withdraw monies in and from the Fund and pursuant to the Fixed Rate Investment Program.

1. Danielle Mikula, Superintendent
2. Clyde Clauson, School Board President
3. Rebecca Kavajecz, School Board Clerk
4. Linda Kavajecz, Bookkeeper/Payroll Manager

The Clerk (Secretary) shall advise the Commission of any changes in Authorized Officials in accordance with procedures established by the Commission.

Section 3. Members of this Governing Body and officials of this Municipality are authorized to serve as Commissioners of the Commission from time to time if selected as such pursuant to the provisions of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement.

Section 4. This Municipality may open depository accounts, enter into wire transfer agreements, safekeeping agreements, and lockbox agreements, or other applicable or related documents with BMO Bank, National Association, and any other institutions participating in the Fund programs or programs of PMA Financial Network, LLC and PMA Securities, LLC, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Section 34.05, Wisconsin Statutes, Section 120.12(7) (if applicable) and, when directed by one of the Authorized

(Continued on top of next column)

(Continued from previous column)

Officials, Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.0603. PMA Financial Network, LLC and/or PMA Securities, LLC are authorized to act on behalf of this Municipality as its agent with respect to such accounts and agreements.

Section 5. Credit unions, banks, savings banks, trust companies and savings and loan associations authorized to transact business in the State of Wisconsin which qualify as depositories under Wisconsin law and are included on a list approved and maintained for such purpose by the Administrator of the Fund are designated as depositories of this Municipality pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Section 120.12(7) (if applicable) and Wisconsin Statutes, Section 34.05. Monies of this Municipality may be deposited in such depositories, from time to time in the discretion of the Authorized Officials, pursuant to the Fixed Rate Investment Program available to participants of the Fund through the intermediary PMA Financial Network, LLC

It is hereby certified that South Shore School District duly adopted the Model Resolution at a duly convened meeting of the Governing Body of the Municipality held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 19, 2025, and that such Resolution is in full force and effect on this date, and that such Resolution has not been modified, amended, or rescinded since its adoption.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.

Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk  
South Shore School Board

Roll call vote: Yes: Broderon, Burhans, Clauson, Coy, Hoeftling, Kavajecz, Stemwedel. No. None. Absent Coy. Motion carried by roll call vote.

#### 7.04 Strategic Roadmap Q2 Progress Updates

**Goal 1:** Principal Simpson gave an update on the progress the College and Career Readiness team has made during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2024-2025 school year. This includes an update on Personal Learning Plans and the individual College and Career Plan 2025 graduates will complete this spring.

**Goal 2:** Principal Simpson presented on District Assessment data.

#### 7.05 Achievement Gap Reduction

Principal Simpson presented the 2024 AGR report.

Motion by Burhans, second by Broderon to approve the February 2024 AGR report as presented. Roll call vote: Yes: Broderon, Burhans, Clauson, Hoeftling, Kavajecz, Stemwedel. No. None. Absent Coy. Motion carried by roll call vote.

#### 7.06 Consider 2025-2026 District Calendar and Schedule

Motion by Stemwedel, second by Broderon to approved the 2025-2026 calendar as presented. Roll call vote: Yes: Broderon, Burhans, Clauson, Hoeftling, Kavajecz, Stemwedel. No. None. Absent Coy. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Motion by Burhans, second by Hoeftling to approve a half day on the last day of school this year. Roll call vote: Yes: Broderon, Burhans, Clauson, Hoeftling, Kavajecz, Stemwedel. No. None. Absent Coy. Motion carried by roll call vote.

#### 7.07 Consider Contract Approval - Market & Johnson

Tabled.

(Continued on top of page 15)



(Continued from page 14)

### **7.08 Consider Approval of Long-Term Disability Insurance Renewal**

Motion by Burhans, second by Broderon to approve the Long-Term Disability Insurance renewal as presented. Roll call vote: Yes: Broderon, Burhans, Clauson, Coy, Hoefling, Kavajecz, Stewwedel. No. None. Absent Coy. Motion carried by roll call vote.

## **8. Policy**

### **8.01 NEOLA Updates Volume 34.1- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

- po1100 - District Organization (Revised)
- po1130 - Ethics and Conflict of Interest (Revised)
- po3230 - Ethics and Conflict of Interest (Revised)
- po4230 - Ethics and Conflict of Interest (Revised)
- po1241 - Non-Renewal or Termination of the District Administrator's Contract (Revised)
- po2210 - Curriculum Development (Revised)
- po2270 - Religion in the Curriculum (Revised)
- po2271.01 - Start College Now Program (Revised)
- po2416 - Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information (Revised)
- po2440.01 - Summer or Interim School Attendance (New)
- po2464 - Advanced Learning Instruction (Gifted and Talented" (Replacement)
- po3214 - Staff Gifts (Replacement)
- po4214 - Staff Gifts (Replacement)
- po3281 - Personal Property of Staff Members (Revised)
- po4124 - Notice of Reasonable Assurance of Employment (Revised)
- po5113 - Open Enrollment Program (inter-District) (Revised)
- po5330 - Administration of Medication/Emergency Care (Revised)
- po5341 - Emergency Medical Authorization (Rescind)
- po5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students (Revised)
- po5611 - Due Process Rights (Rescind)
- po5710 - Student Complaints (Rescind)
- po6231 - Budget Implementation
- po6235 - Fund Balance (Revised)
- po6620 - Petty Cash (Revised)
- po7410 - Maintenance (Revised)
- po7430 - Safety Standards (Revised)
- po7440 - Facility Security (Revised)
- po7440.02 - Smart Sensor and Monitoring Technology (Revised)
- po7540.03 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised)
- po7540.04 - Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised)
- po7540.07 - District-Issued Student E-Mail Account
- po8120 - Volunteers (Revised)
- po8125 - Consultants (New)
- po8305 - Information Security (Revised)
- po8395 - Student Mental and Physical Health Services (Revised)
- po8531 - Free and Reduced-Price Meals (Revised)
- po8600 - Transportation (Revised)

### **8.02 Special Policy Update UGG Edgar - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

- po3440 - Job-Related Expenses (Revised)
- po4440 - Job-Related Expenses (Revised)
- po6110 - Grant Funds (Revised)

(Continued on top of next column)

(Continued from previous column)

- po6111 - Internal Controls (Revised)
- po6112 - Cash Management of Grants (Revised)
- po6114 - Cost Principles - Spending Federal Funds (Revised)
- po6325 - Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds (Revised)
- po7310 - Disposition of Personal Property (Revised)
- po7450 - Property Inventory (Revised)

### **8.03 Special Update-Title IX- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

- po2264 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Rescind)
- po2266 - Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Revised)
- Form 2264 F1 - Notice and Statement of Nondiscrimination (Rescind)

### **8.04 Technical Updates 34.1-For Information**

Dani Mikula, District Administrator is authorized to review and make technical corrections to policies that have already been adopted through normal rulemaking procedures.

## **9.0 Board/Admin Reports**

### **9.01 State Education Conference Updates**

Justine Broderon Attended many workshops and networked with multiple people.

### **9.02 CESA 12 Delegate Report - Mark Hoefling**

Met February 18

- Rescind policy Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities
- Amanda Trautt talked about IDEA coaching
- New CESA building still having sewer problems.

### **9.03 Superintendent's Report - Dani Mikula**

- Congrats to Brandee Madison who will be playing in the border battle at UMD on March 25
- Basketball seasons are winding down, playoffs coming up
- Forensics team competed and 23 students are moving on to the next level
- Drama practice has started
- Square Dance BBQ community event is coming up in April

## **10. Upcoming Dates**

- March 5, 2025 - Finance & Operations Committee Meeting - 5:00pm
- March 19, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting - 5:30pm
- April 6, 2025 - Community "Thank You" Square Dance Event - 12-3pm

## **11. Closed Session - The Board will Convene in Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c) as Specified**

### **11.1 Superintendent Evaluation 19.85(1)(c) Superintendent Goals and Mutual Expectations Quarterly Check-in**

Motion by Broderon, second by Burhans to adjourn to closed session at 7:46pm for superintendent evaluation 19.85 (1)(c) superintendent goals and mutual expectations quarterly check-in. Roll call vote: Yes: Broderon, Burhans, Clauson, Hoefling, Kavajecz. No. None. Absent: Coy, Stewwedel. Motion carried by roll call vote.

## **12. Meeting Closing**

### **12.01 Adjournment**

Motion by Clauson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Rebecca Kavajecz, Clerk  
South Shore Board of Education



# Notice of Spring Election of School Board Members §120.06(8)(c), Wis. Stats

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the South Shore School District that on Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, spring election of school board members will be held.

Residents in **ALL** townships vote for one candidate in the Town of Clover position and Town of Orienta position in the Spring General Election.

Polling hours at **ALL** polling places are from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at your respective polling place.

Following is South Shore School District's School Board candidate portion of the Office Ballot for the School Board positions.

## OFFICIAL BALLOT SOUTH SHORE SCHOOL DISTRICT TOWNS OF BELL, CLOVER, ORIENTA, OULU, PORT WING & TRIPP April 1, 2025

### SCHOOL DISTRICT

South Shore School District  
School Board Member

#### Town of Clover

Vote for 1

☐ James A. Stemwedel

☐ write-in: \_\_\_\_\_

South Shore School District  
School Board Member

#### Town of Orienta

Vote for 1

☐ Mark J. Hoefling

☐ write-in: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAMPLE  
BALLOT**



## WALL OF FAME OVERVIEW & GUIDELINES

A Wall of Fame was established at South Shore Schools to recognize graduates who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following areas: academics, athletics, service to others, business or government. These individuals are recognized by the community at large and have been nominated for induction and authorized to receive this honor by the Wall of Fame Committee. Representatives from the five organizations of School Board, Alumni, Administration, Staff and the South Shore Education Foundation make up the committee. The Wall of Fame Committee will oversee a formal process to select and honor inductees.

### General Guidelines

- Approval of nomination by the committee shall be unanimous.
- Nominees shall be out of school a minimum of 10 years.
- There will be no more than three elected per year.
- A thorough background check will be conducted in confidence by the committee before a nominee is considered for induction.
- Wall of Fame inductees may be removed for cause by unanimous vote of the committee.
- South Shore Education Foundation will provide the funding to maintain the Wall of Fame.
- The Wall of Fame Committee will be managed by the School Administrator. Individual members will be appointed by their group.
- Induction ceremonies will be coordinated with alumni gatherings and community events.
- The form to nominate Wall of Fame honorees is available at the school office by contacting Diana Reijo at 715-774-3500 ext. 611.

In brief, the form asks for: name and address of proposed honoree; year the person graduated from South Shore High School; and a brief description of the nominees distinguishing accomplishments and a brief biography of the nominee.

The committee wants to stress that if you have nominated a person in the past and they have not been chosen, please **RENOMINATE** them to be considered for inclusion now!

Nominations are being accepted through May. Nominations will be reviewed and selection of the inductees will be decided in June.

(Nomination form on page 17)



South Shore High School  
"Wall of Fame"

"Wall of Fame" Nomination Form

Name of proposed honoree: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of distinguishing accomplishments: *Add additional page, if needed*

Brief biography of nominee: *Add additional page, if needed*

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Nominating Committee review:

Comments:

Accepted: \_\_\_\_\_

Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



# APRIL 2025 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Finance & Operation Committee Meeting	3	4 Track Invitational at UWS	5
6 Family Square Dance Thank You Event! Noon - 3PM	7 PTO Meeting Baseball vs Ontonagon Area at Oulu Ball Park Softball vs Ontonagon Area at Home	8	9	10 Softball at Webster	11	12 State Forensics
13	14	15 Baseball & Softball at Drummond Track at Shell Lake Youth Honors Choir at TBD	16 Regular Board Meeting	17 Baseball vs Drummond at at Oulu Ball Park Softball vs Drummond at Home - Double-Header Track at Grantsburg	18 NO SCHOOL For Students or Staff	19
20	21 In-Service No Students	22 Baseball vs Butternut/ Mercer at Oulu Ball Field  Softball vs Butternut/ Mercer at Home	23	24 Baseball/Softball vs Butternut/Mercer at Butternut	25 Baseball vs Webster at Oulu Ball Field	26 Prom
27	28 Track at Webster Memorial Blood Drive	29 Baseball/Softball at Hurley	30	1 Baseball vs Hurley at Oulu Ball Park  Softball vs Hurley at Home - Double-Header	2	3

SOUTH SHORE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
P O BOX 40  
PORT WING, WI 54865

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PORT WING, WI 54865  
PERMIT NO. 1  
CAR-RT-SORT

## MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

# POSTAL CUSTOMER SOUTH SHORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

### DISTRICT MISSION:

“TO PROVIDE A RIGOROUS, RELEVANT, HIGH-QUALITY, POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT TO FOSTER SUCCESS IN EVERY STUDENT.”