

# Raider Nation News

March 1, 2013

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On February 15th, RAAD (Raiders Against Alcohol and Drugs) held their annual "Game Night" for junior and senior high students. The students enjoyed Pizza Hut pizza, snacks and pop. The students and sponsors played board, card and video games as well as a group activity called Fruit Salad. In addition, prizes were drawn for throughout the evening. Mrs Bednar would like to thank all of the students and parents who helped to make the night a success.





# The Superintendent's Corner, by Mr. Gene Haddix

Dear Students, Parents and Patrons,

Spring sports officially started Monday, Febr. 25th, but from the looks of things, we will be indoors for a little longer. The ground hog must have seen his shadow! I know the snow has caused several schedule changes at the school and for your families. It is always difficult to decide what to do when the weather is bad! Thanks to everyone for your cooperation when we have had to call school off. I am so glad that we are receiving moisture in any form after the dry conditions last summer; although 18 inches of snow might have been a bit much all at once.

Our students and athletes have again represented Southern Public Schools very well the past several weeks. Our speech team is to be congratulated for their performance at the Pioneer Conference Speech Meet. Oral Interpretation of Drama - Kate Billups, Rachael Cole, Renee Jackson, Tejai Turek, and Brielle White - received two excellent ratings. Alexis Thrasher in Serious Prose received one excellent and one superior rating. Rachael Cole in Informative Speaking received one excellent and one superior rating. Renee Jackson in Poetry received two excellent ratings. Tejai Turek in poetry received two excellent ratings. The Pioneer Conference Art Show awarded Sydney Saathoff a first place ribbon and best of show for her artwork. The Southern Raiders Cheer & Dance Team received a runner-up trophy at State Dance and Cheerleading in Grand Island for Sideline Cheer. Travis Munstermann qualified for the State Wrestling meet in Omaha. Southern Raiders Basketball teams had an outstanding season. The Girls team achieved an overall record of 15 wins and 7 losses. They won the holiday tournament and placed third in class A division of the MUDECAS tournament. The Boys team achieved an overall record of 16 wins and 8 losses. They won the holiday tournament and the class B division of the MUDECAS tournament. I was informed that there have only been four boys teams in the past thirty one years to win sixteen games in a season! Way to go sponsors and students!

Congratulations to all the students on your achievements! You have achieved so much up to this point in the school year! I am looking forward to the spring and the many activities you will continue to excel in. So proud to be a Raider! Go Raiders!

Mr. Haddix



From the Desk of Mr. Jeff Murphy,  
Secondary Principal

Just when you think things will start slowing down because the winter sports seasons are over, you look at the calendar and realize that slowing down is not an option. The months of February and March are filled with many activities. Spring sports will be starting practices in the next couple of weeks. Both the Jr. High quiz bowl and Senior High quiz bowl teams have been meeting and preparing for competition that will be taking place over the next several weeks. Mrs. Cordry and her cast have started preparations for the school play that will be performed in April. Sr. and Jr. High vocal and instrumental groups will be having several performances coming up as well. All of the above mentioned activities along with the state testing that we are doing at Southern, makes for a very busy spring. Please take some time to come and support our students in all the activities that they have worked so hard to be successful.



Elementary Principal's Update  
by Mr. Jerry Rempe

State test time is approaching fast and I just want to remind the parents of grades 3 - 6 students that we make sure that they are getting plenty of sleep and that they are eating properly. Another activity coming up at the elementary is the Family Game Night on March 12th with activities beginning at 6:00 p.m. and ending at 8:00 p.m.

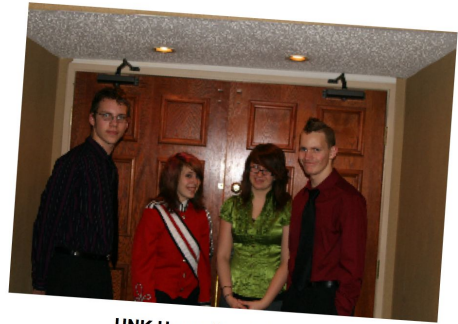
Finally I would like to congratulate our winter sports teams for their successes. The Boys Basketball team for completing a 16 - 8 season, the Girls Basketball team for completing a 15 - 7 season and our Wrestling team for completing a successful season this year with a state qualifier in Travis Munstermann.

Again, congratulations to all.





On February 14th, the Little Raider Preschool had their Valentine's Day Party. They exchanged valentines and played Memory and Valentine's Bingo!



UNK Honor Band & Choir  
4 Southern students attended UNK Honor Band & Choir. They were: Festival Chorus - Jacob & Jordan Harding; Women's Chorus - Alexis Thrasher; and Festival Band - Tejai Turek. Congratulations to these students for all their fine efforts!

We all *dream* a lot  
some are *lucky*,  
some are not.  
But if you *think* it,  
*want* it, *dream* it,  
then it's real.

You are what you feel.

*Tim Rice*



**Pioneer Conference Speech  
Febr. 20th**

Rachael Cole delivered an informative speech and received an excellent and a superior rating. (above)  
Oral Interpretation of Drama group also performed at conference and received 2 excellent ratings. (below)



**Prom reminder:** Meal tickets, glasses, picture frames & pictures for Prom dates who are not a Junior, Senior, or Sophomore Server need to be ordered and paid for in advance. Glasses and frames need to be ordered and paid for by March 15th; meals and pictures by April 2nd. Students and their dates must be signed up by March 15th. By April 12th, the student's name, their date's name and vehicle sheet must be turned in to the office.

# Spring NeSA Testing

by Mrs. Patty Goes



Students across Nebraska are preparing for the 2013 NeSA (Nebraska State Assessments) tests to be given this Spring. The window of time allowed is March 25 to May 3. Grades involved are 3-8 and 11. Southern students have been preparing all year for these tests but will have extra attention given in the classroom instruction during the month of March on the test language and computer skills for testing. The elementary will have their "Family Game Night" on March 12 for families to learn more about the type of questions that will be seen by the students on the NeSA tests. It takes all of us together to encourage our students to perform to the best of their ability on these tests.

\*Families can help the students maintain a regular schedule of sleep during the weeks leading up to the tests as well as the weeks of the tests.

\*Proper nutrition is important for the brain to be able to perform at its best.

\*Keeping the body hydrated with water allows the brain to function at its best.

\*Schedule family appointments around the test schedule to allow the student to attend during the class testing session because make up sessions put extra stress on the student.

All students involved must take all the tests during this window of time so even if a student is sick during the test, they will have to take the test when they return. We review student scores to determine curriculum changes as well as school improvement goals. Our school is important to our community's progress and our community is important to our school's progress. We need to work together to have our students perform their best at all times. The state testing is one way for us to evaluate our students, our school and our community. Remember though, that the state testing is only a snapshot of the complete picture. Just as we need to take many snapshots to get a family portrait that show the best one, we also need to take many snapshots of our students to show the best picture. NeSA is only one snapshot but a very important one that we can't delete if we don't like the results. We need everyone involved to encourage our students to do their best. For more information on the NeSA tests, please visit the Nebraska Department of Education website and choose assessments.

## Secondary Testing Schedule Grades 7, 8 & 11

	7th Graders	8th Graders	11th Graders
Reading	April 16 (8:30 to 10) April 17 (12:30 to 2)	April 16 (10:30 to Noon) April 17 (8:30 to 10)	April 23 (12:30 to 2) April 25 (8:30 to 10)
Math	April 11 (1 to 2:30) April 12 (1:30 to 3)	April 9 (9 to 10:30) April 10 (1:30 to 3)	April 3 (1 to 2:30) April 4 (9 to 10:30)
Science	No Testing	April 11 (1 to 2:30) April 12 (10 to 11:30)	April 30 (9 to 10:30) May 1 (1:30 to 3)

## Elementary Testing Schedule Grades 3 - 6

	3rd Graders	4th Graders	5th Graders	6th Graders
Reading	April 16	April 17	April 23	April 24
Math	April 3	April 4	April 9	April 10
Science			March 26	





## Dates to Remember:

March 5 - Jr. & Sr. High Vocal Music Concert  
March 7 & 8 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL  
March 10 - Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 11 - Board of Education Meeting  
March 12 - Elementary Family Game Night  
March 14 - Pioneer Conference SH Quiz Bowl  
March 15, 16, 17 - Alumni Patron Basketball Tourney  
March 17 - Vocal Music Recital and Music Booster Chicken BBQ  
March 18 - NO SCHOOL - Pioneer Conference JH Quiz Bowl  
March 20 - Mudecas SH Quiz Bowl  
March 21 - 5th & 6th Grade Vocal Music Concert  
March 21 - Crete Middle School Band Invitational  
March 22 - State Speech  
March 23 - Class C All State Band  
March 25 - SH Pops Concert  
March 26 - Scholastic Banquet  
March 28 & 29 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL



## HEAD START FALL ENROLLMENT OPEN

WYMORE HEAD START IS RECRUITING 3 AND 4 YEAR OLD CHILDREN FOR ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2013-2014 PRESCHOOL SESSION. THEY NEED TO BE 3 BEFORE JULY 21, 2013, BUT NOT YET 5 ON THAT DATE. FOSTER CHILDREN AUTOMATICALLY ARE ELIGIBLE.

THIS IS A FREE SERVICE TO INCOME ELIGIBLE FAMILIES. CHILDREN'S BIRTH CERTIFICATES, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, IMMUNIZATION RECORDS AND PROOF OF FAMILY INCOME ARE REQUIRED FOR ENROLLMENT.

CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES RECEIVE EDUCATION, HEALTH, NUTRITION AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN OUR CENTER BASED PROGRAM. CHILDREN ATTEND 4 DAYS A WEEK FOR 4 HOURS A DAY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JOYCE SMITH AT 402-645-3441.



## **INTERNET SAFETY**

Recently, Sgt. Jay Murphy , investigator with the Beatrice Police Dept. spent some time with Mr. Day's Health classes discussing Internet Safety. As part of the presentation, Sgt.

Murphy gave some facts about the many things that kids do in cyberspace. He talked with the students about chatrooms and how to prevent from getting into legal trouble as anyone can chat with people around the world. He spoke of online predators that try to "groom" young people into trouble and eventually try to meet with them. Sgt. Murphy also told the kids that parents should be aware of when and where their students are going on the internet. He stressed that real names and addresses should never be given out on the internet because once the internet is used like that, anyone can look at your personal information.

During the presentation, cyber bullying was discussed and Sgt. Murphy showed the

kids how people on the internet could humiliate, harass or endanger other kids by the comments and text that were put out for anyone to read. Certain legal issues were also presented to the students.

# HOOP

## **Hoops for Heart**

Our 6th annual "Hoops for Heart" event will take place at Southern Elementary on March 19th - 22nd. Students in grades 2 through 6 will have the opportunity to participate with all proceeds being donated to the American Heart Association.

Participants may also create their own web page and get pledges from friends and family online. All basketball activities will take place during PE classes. Permission slips and other necessary information will be handed out to students as the event gets closer. Participation in this event is not mandatory, but I hope you will encourage you son/daughter to "help save a heart" as heart disease has become the No. 1 killer of both men and women. It's a great way to have fun while raising money for a worthwhile cause! Students who participate will also qualify for additional prizes.

Thank you - Mrs. Willet, Elem. PE Teacher



# IT'S

## **Rock In Prevention Program will be March 27th!**

Southern will be hosting a Rock LIVE program for K to 8th grade on Wednesday, March 27th. Rock LIVE is a program that trains local high school mentors that, with Rock staff, teach younger Elementary and Jr. High students age-appropriate skills and provides students a working knowledge of the skills taught through skills practice. The Rock LIVE workshops are offered in 3 broad categories: Alcohol, Tobacco & Drug Prevention, Character Education & Anti-Bullying. The High school mentors provide local "real life" role modeling and share leadership, sports, hobbies, vocal and instrumental music, student government and other activities as fun alternatives to the self-destructive choices of drug use.