

RAIDER NATION NEWS

MAY 1, 2013

MRS. ADAMS' READING MASTERY GROUP

Mrs. Adams' Reading Mastery 3 Group has been working on creating posters of Australian animals. They spent a couple of weeks reading a story about a kangaroo named Toby who was kidnapped by hunters, taken to Canada and sold to a circus and then to a zoo before getting back to his mob. The story was fiction but had several true facts about kangaroos. The students were pretty familiar with them so when they finished the story they researched other Australian animals. Each student made a poster to go along with their animal. They really enjoyed learning about these animals!



Pictured above Left to Right: Bryce Kotinek, Michelle Lawr, Ashton Lovell, Evan Saathoff, Brian Forke, & Anthony O'Keefe. Not pictured: Hannah Mayer.

Results from Instrumental District Music Conference

Southern attended the District Music Contest in Fairbury on April 18 & 19.

A score of Superior(highest score) is I, Excellent is II and Good is III.

Results are:

Rachael Cole - Piano solo, I

Rozlyn Cole - Piano solo, II

Rozlyn Cole & Rachael Cole - Piano duet, II

Tejai Turek - Flute solo, I

Renee Jackson - Clarinet solo, II

Austin Boyer - Trumpet solo, I

Jordan Harding - Trumpet solo, II

Katelyn Billups - F horn solo, I

Tejai Turek & Renee Jackson - Flute & Clarinet duet, I

Jonathon Acton, Chaysen Bednar, Katelyn Billups, Mariah Canfield, Rachael Cole, Rozlyn Cole, Tiffany Elliott, Jan Fields, Jacob Harding, Jordan Harding & Daniel Lundstedt - Percussion Ensemble, I

Concert Band - 3 judges listen to the band. The band received a superior from each judge and received a plaque.

Jazz Band - The band received a superior from each judge and received a plaque.

The concert band and jazz band were one of only 2 other bands receiving straight superiors at the Fairbury contest.

The Superintendent's Corner by Mr. Gene Haddix



Dear Students, Parents, and Patrons,

Can you believe that summer is almost here? The school year has flown by again and soon we will be graduating the Class of 2013. I have been honored and excited to have been a part of their education the past two years. I wish each and every one of the graduates the very best!

Southern Public Schools will be expanding our Preschool to three sections for the 2013-14 school year. Two sections will be at the Preschool in Blue Springs and the third section will be in the afternoon at the United Presbyterian Church in Wymore in the Head Start classroom. Southern Public Schools, Educational Service Unit No. 5 and Wymore Head Start have developed a partnership to provide the expanded section of Preschool services for the children in our district. Parents that wish to enroll their child may obtain an application by contacting Joyce Smith at 402-645-3441.

This will be our last newsletter for this school year. I hope that each of you has enjoyed reading about all the activities and events that your students have been involved in this school year. We will be starting the 2013-14 Southern Raider Nation Newsletter in August. We will be combining August and September into our August newsletter. I want to recognize Becky Sullivan for all her excellent work and special attention to details when preparing the Raider Nation News for Southern Public Schools! I also want to thank all the staff members that contributed articles and pictures for our newsletter!

I am looking forward to a very positive and productive 2013-14 school year at Southern Public Schools. Thank you to everyone in the Southern School District for making this another enjoyable school year.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun-filled summer! See you in the fall! Go Raiders!

Mr. Haddix

From the desk of Mr. Jeff Murphy Secondary Principal



WOW! Where has the school year gone! It is hard to believe that we are into our last few weeks of the 2012-2013 school year. Our staff and students have had a very busy year, but I believe that the months of March, April and May are the busiest months of the school year. With the arrival of Spring comes many activities. Our students are involved in track, golf and quiz bowls. Choir and band students spend many hours preparing for district competition where both groups had great performances. We have Fine Arts night and the Instrumental Concert and Awards Night coming up. The Instrumental Concert will be May 2nd and Fine Arts Night will take place on May 7th. The Junior class spent countless hours preparing for the Junior/Senior Prom which was held April 20th and was a huge success. Thank you to the Juniors and their sponsors for your hard work. Southern honored many students for their hard work in and out of the classroom during our Honors Night Program that was held on April 26th. Student athletes were recognized during the Athletic Banquet that was organized by the Southern Sports Boosters. The very important state testing has been completed and we are confident that our students performed well on all of them. I was very impressed with the seriousness that was displayed by our students during the state testing time. On May 11th, we will be saying goodbye to 29 graduating seniors as they will be starting the next journey in their lives. As you can see, the students and staff at Southern have been extremely busy and we are proud of all the accomplishments of our students. If you have not had the opportunity to watch our students compete or perform, we encourage you to do so. You will be proud of them as well.

Elementary Principal's Update by Mr. Jerry Rempe



As the school year winds down and we start to see that end date draw near, we have just a few reminders for parents and students. We need to stress that our doors do not open for students who do not ride the bus until 7:45 a.m. Please do not drop your students off prior to this time. We have several field trips coming up in the near future, so please make sure to check your children's backpacks for information regarding their trips. Finally, a reminder that our last day of school is May 22nd and we will be dismissing Elementary students at 1:50. I hope that you have a great summer and look forward to seeing all of you in the next school year.



The Rock-In Prevention program was presented to Southern Elementary and Jr. High School Students in March. It was given in 3 separate programs geared to each age group. Students learned through music and art how to make healthy life-style choices when it come to life skills, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, & bullying.



Rock-In Prevention!

BOGO BOOK FAIR AT THE ELEMENTARY LIBRARY

Come to the elementary school library for a "buy one, get one free" book fair! The fair will be open on May 12 - 17 from 7:55 a.m. to 8:15 am. It will also be open each day after school until 4 p.m. for parents, grandparents, etc. accompanying their students. In addition, the book fair will be open before and after the awards ceremonies on May 17th.

The book fair will offer a wide variety of books, from exciting fiction stories to books with amazing facts and figures. The books will range from picture books and easy readers to chapter books and reference materials, including favorite authors at every level. Posters, pens, pencils and erasers will also be available for sale. A preschool division will be included for families with preschoolers. (All free items must be of equal or lesser value than the one(s) purchased.)

Students, parents, grandparents, teachers and friends are all invited to browse the book fair and stock up for summer reading enjoyment. Research has proven that students who read during the summer are better prepared for school in the fall.

8th Graders visit Peru State College

All 8th graders had the opportunity to experience a group college visit to Peru State College on March 26th.

They met in the newly remodeled Black Box Room which is a sound proof, acoustically designed room for music and drama performances. A

campus tour was given to all students ending with a meal in the college cafeteria. A question and answer session with prizes ended the college visit. This activity was part of the Education Quest grant to encourage 8th graders to "Know How to Go" to college. They also take a one semester careers class taught by Mr. Day to explore the many options open to young people today. (picture at left)



Junior High Quiz Bowl

The Southern JH Quiz bowl teams recently competed at the Marysville Quiz Bowl Tournament. The team consisting of Kyra Maguire, Ethan Zvolanek, Sam Hookstra and Luke Creek (pictured at right, top) received 2nd place in the A Division. The team of Alexis Benson, Taylor Vanover and Zach Borzekofski (pictured at right, bottom) earned 4th place in the B Division. Their sponsor is Jennifer Dunekacke.



Eighth & Ninth Grade English Classes Read About the Holocaust

Mrs. Cordry's 8th grade classes finished reading the book "Night" by Elie Weisel, a firsthand account of the Holocaust from a survivor. Mrs. Cordry's 9th grade classes finished the book "Gentlehands" by M. E. Kerr, a fictional story of an SS officer rebuilding his life in the US in the '70's. He is discovered by a journalist whose cousin was tortured and killed during the Holocaust by this officer.

(Pictured below are 9th graders playing with dreidels as young people would have had for entertainment in the period of the Holocaust.)

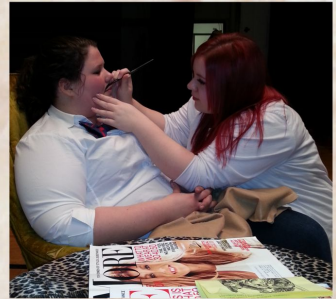


FCA Hears Tom Osborne

The Southern Fellowship of Christian Athletes took a trip to Deshler, NE, to hear Tom Osborne speak on April 10th. The event was sponsored by Deshler FCA and other area groups with a meal also being provided. 11 students from Southern attended this event to hear Coach Osborne speak about his personal faith and how the Fellowship of Christian Athletes had a large part in shaping it.

"Romeo & Julie" is set in Verona & Mantua, Italy. "Romeo & Julie" is a modern English play set in the disco era. A spoof from Shakespeare's famous "Romeo & Juliet", Romeo & Julie brings an easier understanding of the play with many laughs.

Southern's All-School Play "Romeo & Julie"



Dates to Remember:

May 2 - 5th - 12th Grade Instrumental Music Concert and Awards Night
May 7 - Fine Arts Night
May 9 - Last Day for Seniors
May 11 - Graduation
May 12 - Mother's Day
May 13 - Board of Education Meeting
May 16 - JH Pops Concert
May 22 - Last day of school - Early Dismissal
May 27 - Memorial Day Band Performance at Wymore Cemetery

HOOPS FOR HEART

Southern Elementary students raised \$2375.00 for the American Heart Association!! Well done!!

WOW!!



News from Mrs. B's Kindergarten!

April has been busy! We are working on telling time, addition and subtraction. We are reading, reading, reading! We are learning the names of the states! We are learning about volcanoes. Then we will study insects. All five butterflies came out of their chrysalises and we set them free! Now we are watching our three tadpoles - Larry, Curly & Moe. Our plants are growing. We love kindergarten! (See pictures below!)



Media Center News

The Golden Sower is Nebraska children's choice literary award. The award is sponsored by the Nebraska Library Association. The purpose of the program is to:

- stimulate children's thinking
- introduce different types of literature
- encourage independent reading
- increase library skills
- foster an appreciation for excellence in writing and illustrating.

The Jr. and Sr. High book clubs took part in the Golden Sower awards voting. They read at least four of the books on the Golden Sower Nominees list and then voted for their favorite book. The book clubs meet regularly and discuss the book that they have chosen for that month.

April is School Library Month and students are taking part in activities to enhance and encourage reading. Students can do online activities relating to the book they have read. They are also keeping track of the number of books they are reading during April and May and completing book review forms. All participants receive a small prize for their efforts in this reading program. Thanks for supporting your school library!



Jr. High Book Club Members: I to r - Devehn Moore, Luke Creek. Samantha Funderburk, Tabitha Parde, Shelby Smith, Blake Jackson, Jac Allington, Ethan Zvolanek, and Zach Borzekofski. (not pictured: Alexis Benson)



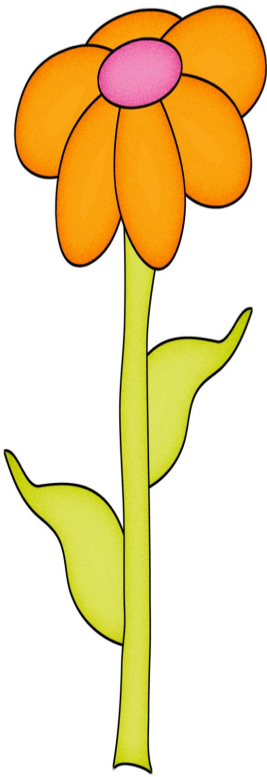
Thank You Southern Staff!!!

For 2 years now I have been charged with the task of putting together the Raider Nation News for Southern Public Schools. I would never be able to complete this task without all of the great articles and pictures sent to me from members of the Southern Public Schools staff. I am excited every month to see what new things our students are working on and involved in. We have a terrific bunch of young people in our district and also a pretty terrific bunch of teachers, paras and support staff. I hope you are enjoying the newsletter. I am always open to ideas for articles and would like to hear any likes or dislikes, article ideas or questions. My email is bsulliva@southernschools.org or you can call me any school day at 402-645-3326. I would appreciate any comments. Thanks again, Southern Staff, you help make my job so much more enjoyable! Becky Sullivan

"Summermelt"

by Mrs. Goes

Summermelt is a new program at Southern Public Schools. This program has been designed to provide focused support to targeted newly-graduated seniors who may not matriculate to college, despite their best laid plans. This program is supported by College Access. Summer support staff will be available in the month of June to meet with graduated seniors who need the support to enroll in college and understand the financial aid process. If you know of a senior from Southern Public Schools who could use this support, please contact Mrs. Patty Goes and 645-3326.



District Vocal Music Results

Concert Choir, Excellent

Vocal Solos

Renee Jackson - Superior
Tejai Turek - Excellent
Alexis Thrasher - Excellent
Rozlyn Cole - Excellent
Mariah Canfield - Good

Jordan Harding - Excellent
J.T. Lonnborg - Excellent
Christen Fralin - Excellent
Jacob Harding - Excellent
Austin Boyer - Good

Mixed Duet - Superior, (Tejai Turek and Jordan Harding)

Girls Sextet - Excellent (Renee Jackson, Madison Bennett, Rozlyn Cole, Alexis Thrasher, Tejai Turek, and Mariah Canfield.)

Mixed Duet - Excellent (Jacob Harding & Alexis Thrasher)