

THE RAIDER NATION NEWS

OCTOBER 1, 2013



Raiders Against Alcohol & Drugs - RAAD

Twenty-one Southern students who are members of RAAD attended June Jam 2013, a three day youth driven retreat for southeast Nebraska students at SCC in Milford. The theme was "BE the Light in the Dark". These youth have made a commitment to being leaders in their community and being drug free. The participants included: Jake Harding, Preston Zvolanek, Sarah Garrels, Sami Anderson, Nolan Zimmerman, Ethan Zvolanek, Sam Hookstra, Corrin Kapustka, Kristin Thomas, Taylor Vanover, Tara Riensche, Justin Meints, Kenny Ames, Luke Creek, Hanna Keedy, Emily Zvolanek, Madeline Heard, Abbee Buss, & Kaylee Ames. Youth Staff - Dana Keedy, Youth Action Board - Chaysen Bednar, Adult Staff - Tricia Goes and Kenzie Inderlied, Parent sponsor - Rae Oblinger, RAAD Sponsor - Dee Bednar.





The Superintendent's Corner by Mr. Gene Haddix

Dear Students, Parents, Patrons and Staff,

Parent Teacher Conferences; Homecoming; what an exciting time of the year! Add to those activities volleyball, softball, football games, and music activities, what a busy and fun time we are having! How fortunate we are at Southern Public Schools to have students and staff that will dedicate their time and energy to keep these programs competitive. A big thank you to Parents and Patrons for your support! I know the students and staff really appreciate all you do for them!

Southern Public Schools will be using the following procedure in case of bad weather. The Superintendent will occasionally announce an emergency early school dismissal, late start, or cancellation of school due to extreme heat, snow, or ice. School closings will be publicly announced on KWBE and KNDY radio, KOLN/KGIN-TV channel 10 or 11, KLKN-TV channel 8, THE SOUTHERN PUBLIC SCHOOL'S IRIS ALERT SYSTEM and the DISTRICT WEB SITE. Parents should assume that school is open and a regular schedule is being followed if there is no announcement concerning the District. Please do not call the school or individual staff members to find out whether school is being canceled. Parents who do not believe it is safe to transport their students to school may keep their students home after contacting the district office.

Thanks to everyone for getting the school year off to a great start. I appreciate your patience, cooperation, and understanding as we have worked through some difficult issues. I know we will emerge stronger because of these challenges. Have a safe Halloween! Go Raiders!

Mr. Haddix



From the desk of Mr. Jeff Murphy Secondary Principal

WOW!! It seems like school has just started and we are already six weeks into the first quarter. Everything is in full swing and our students and staff have been extremely busy in the classroom and with activities. I have been extremely pleased with our students and how they have come into the year ready to learn and how responsible they have been when it comes to showing up to class prepared and getting work completed. Also, the respect they have shown towards fellow students and staff has been outstanding. During our assembly on the first day of school, we talked about the three things that students needed to do in order to have a fun and successful school year. Those three things were: to be respectful, be responsible, and be safe. Because our students have chosen to follow these guidelines, we have had a great start to the 2013-2014 school year. Please communicate with your child's teacher and check Powerschool regularly to see your child's progress throughout the year. I encourage you to come out and support our extracurricular activities. Our students and coaches put in a lot of time and they appreciate your support. GO RAIDERS!



Elementary Principal's Update by Mr. Jerry Rempe

The school year has gotten off to a quick start again and the students are finally getting into the groove of school. I would like to remind parents that the front doors will not open until 7:45 a.m. for those students who are either walking or being dropped off in the mornings. Also, the end of the quarter will be coming up on October 11th and we will not have school on October 14th.

The fall sports season has started on a positive note and I just want to make sure that parents and students understand that students need to be seated during activities. We have made announcements during school as to the expectations of the students at activities. So far this season, students have behaved very well and we want to continue to improve on this throughout the year.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

OCT. 3 - SPORTS BOOSTER TAILGATER

OCT. 11 - END OF THE 1ST QUARTER

OCT. 14 - FALL BREAK - NO SCHOOL

OCT. 14 - BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING

OCT. 18 - MUSIC BOOSTER TAILGATER

OCT. 23 - PICTURE RETAKE DAY

OCT. 31 - HALLOWEEN



Mrs. B's Kindergarten

We are off to a great start this year! Everyone is working hard in reading. We are working on recognizing and writing numbers. We are studying the wind, clouds, seasons, and day and night.

Counselor's Corner

Pictured at right:
Mrs. Bednar
is working
with the first
graders on
Respect,
Responsibility
and Safety
and what it
means to be a
"Raider"!



The school year is in full swing and everyone is working hard. This year at the elementary school, we will again be describing our behaviors in terms of showing **respect, responsibility** and being **safe**. We feel it is very important to develop pride in our school and being a "RAIDER". It is believed the more you hear and say something, the easier it becomes a part of you. Therefore, I have created a phrase that all students recite each time they come in from recess and various times throughout the day. The phrase is:

**I don't know what you've been told,
Raiders are made of gold.
We respect everyone.
Be responsible everywhere.
Safe, respectful, and we care.
Sound off 1,2. Sound off 3, 4.
Bring it on down now, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2.
Go Raiders!**

If you haven't heard your child recite the verse, ask them to do so. In addition, I would also encourage all parents to stop in or give me a call if you have any questions or if I can be a support to you and your family.

Mrs. Bednar, Counselor

Get your Flu Immunization!!!

Public Health Solutions will be at Southern Schools on Oct. 9th to give flu vaccinations. Forms may be picked up in the office and must be completely filled out by a parent and returned when receiving the immunization. They will begin at the Jr. Sr. High School at 8 a.m. and will then go to the elementary.



Choir Students Attend Workshop in Wisconsin



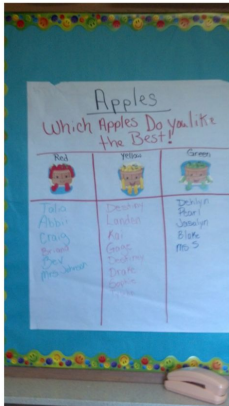
In July, Tejai Turek & Rozlyn Cole accompanied Miss Mendyk to Milwaukee, WI for a music & choreography workshop. The girls sight-read new music, danced with other teachers & students to choreography created by John Jacobsen and Ryan Moldendauer, and spent time at a gigantic water park located within the hotel where they stayed. The girls then visited replicas of the Nina & Pinta ships docked in Winona, MN, the Memorial Veteran's Park and giant band shell, and Marine Art Museum also in Winona. They observed the lock and dam process on the Mississippi River, visited Lake City, the home of water skiing and the widest place in the Mississippi River, followed by a trip to the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, MN.



Shining Stars Preschool



The afternoon class at the Shining Stars Preschool in Wymore has been having a lot of fun making new friends. We have been having fun creating art projects and playing with toys related to our themes. The children really enjoyed our unit on families. They were able to bring items that were important to their families and tell their new friends all about the items they brought. (see above)



The morning class at the Shining Stars Preschool in Wymore has been learning all about apples. They tasted red, green and yellow apples and made a chart of what color they liked best. They read a book called "Ten Apples on Top" by Dr. Seuss and then guessed how many apples they could stack on their heads. They also cut out apple shapes to work on their cutting skills. See above.



The morning and afternoon classes at the Shining Stars Preschool in Blue Springs have also been learning about apples. They practiced patterns and made apple crowns. See left and right.



MR. DAY'S CAREERS CLASS

On September 18th, Nebraska Public Power Representative Kimberly Liebig spoke with Mr. Day's 8th grade Careers class. She spoke on ways to get to college and how important it was to get advanced schooling above high school. She showed comparisons of salaries of high school graduates (\$15,000) compared to those with two to four year college degrees (\$35,000 to \$60,000+). In management positions, the salaries were considerably higher. She talked about how important it was to choose a career the student liked. She said when hiring, it was not just the experience each interviewee had, but the degrees they have achieved. The person with the higher degree most likely would get the better paying job. She talked about the many ways Nebraska Public Power supplied electricity to the state of Nebraska. Nuclear power plants, hydro power plants, wind energy, and coal fired power plants are just a few of the ways the state gets electricity generated and sent to suppliers such as Norris Public Power in our area. Mrs. Liebig also showed the many different jobs that NPPD could offer and explained that most of their workforce is near retirement and they want to replace them with younger qualified individuals. Jobs she talked about were: workers on the wind powered generators; engineers who provide the company with new interests; secretaries; management; and common laborers. The students asked many questions about electricity and jobs at the Nebraska Public Power District. Mrs. Liebig has presented to our Careers class for the last three years.

Counselor's Corner by Mrs. Goes

The College Access Grant Advisory Board, which includes Rhonda Epp, Mary Grabowski, Sheri Yockel, Dee Bednar and Patty Goes, has been busy planning group college visits, senior family information night, financial aid information night, etc. The purpose of this grant is to assist students and their families to make informative decisions about college. The grant includes activities for students in grades 9-12. On Sept. 17th, forty-one Juniors and Seniors traveled to Southeast Community College in Beatrice to attend the college fair. The students were given time to visit with thirty-seven different colleges from the Midwest. On Sept. 18th, seventeen Juniors and Seniors traveled to Kearney for a group college visit of the University of Nebraska-Kearney campus. The next group college visit is planned for Nov. 12th for two campus visits: Hastings College and Central Community College. Jan. 29th, the group college visit will be with Wesleyan University In Lincoln & Doane College in Crete. Grades 10-12 will be invited to attend these events with Seniors & Juniors getting priority seating if the bus is full. All sophomores will be traveling to Milford to take a tour of the SCC campus in March. Watch the school announcements for more events and details about these events.

Juniors, Seniors and their parents are invited to attend Financial Aid Night at Southern Jr. Sr. High School on Nov. 4 at 6 p.m. If the Volleyball team is playing in the district tournament that night, there might be a schedule change. Please watch the announcements for this event. A representative from Education Quest is the presenter. Many helpful hints about the financial aid process will be shared with the families in attendance.

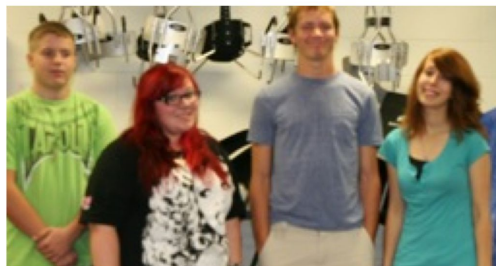
Freshmen will be taking interest inventories and researching college choices throughout their freshman year. This information helps students make informed decisions when they are seniors.

All Sophomores will be taking the PLAN test on Nov. 13th which gives a prediction of the ACT score in the future as well as an interest inventory component.

All Juniors are scheduled to take the ASVAB on Nov. 6th. The military provides a proctor for this test and will interpret the results for our students a few weeks after the test is given. The interpretative session has a career interest inventory included.

All 8th graders will be taking the EXPLORE test on Nov. 13th which gives a prediction of the PLAN test they take as a sophomore.

These tests given at Southern are paid for by the district and we should be very thankful as not all school districts have this built into their budget. Students at Southern have many opportunities to help them make well-informed decisions about life after high school. However, nothing can take the place of a family's input in these decisions. The family still has the largest impact on this decision making process.



2013/2014 Choir Officers
L to R: Christen Fralin, Secretary; Renee Jackson, Treasurer; Jacob Harding, Vice-President; Tejai Turek, President.



Senior High Band News

On Sept. 13th, the high school band marched in the Richardson County Parade at Humboldt. It was a great parade because it was a beautiful day and the crowd was big at the parade. The people there were super receptive to all the bands. The band also performed a concert of pep band music at 1:00 p.m. in the town square. That performance also had a nice crowd. The band played at the Homecoming football game on Sept. 27th.

Then on Sept. 29th, most of the high school band attended THE BLUE MAN GROUP at the Lied Center in Lincoln. Southern Music Boosters covered half of the cost of a student ticket which made it very affordable for the students to attend a professional concert.



Swing Choir Practice



Jr. High Choir



Jr. High Choir

