

NEW ART ROOM

Southern Elementary's brand new art room is in full swing! Students went from having no art, to teaching it in their classrooms, to having their very own space where they come to paint, make pottery, and more! The students are thriving in this new space, learning about materials that they have never seen before in a setting that they have never experienced before. The art students at Southern Elementary will use this space to create personal artwork and learn basic artistic techniques and foundational knowledge!



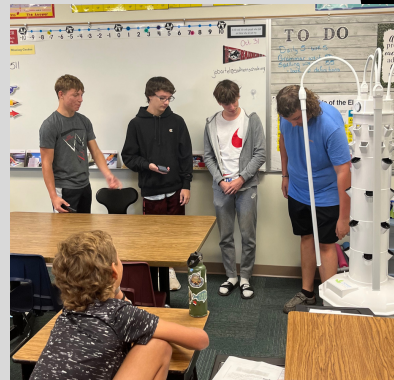
Along with a new art room, Southern welcomes its new therapy dog, Rue to accompany Miss Hulse for art classes at both the high school and elementary. The students have done a great job learning how to interact with a therapy dog on a daily basis. Rue is a border-collie mix and certified AKC Canine Good citizen.

SPROUTING AGRICULTURE

With the growing season of 2022 coming to an end and harvest right around the corner, the Ag students at Southern High are continuing the growing season by growing crops in grow towers that were provided to us by the Margaret and Martha Thomas Foundation. Each of the Ag students has to take on certain responsibilities and tasks to make sure that the crop that is being grown in the Grow Room is healthy and will be able to provide full and healthy crops that will be fed to our students of Southern High.



These grow towers will help students to learn responsibility, plant caretaking, and the general knowledge of how to grow healthy plants. Our grow towers are now growing lettuce, herbs, kale, and spinach. With FFA Advisor Brady Meyer leading the charge to grow crops to feed our hungry students, the attending students at Southern High will have the ability to eat fresh, school grown crops that will feed all of the hungry students.



ESPORTS

The district started a 9-12 eSports team during the 2022-2023 school year. eSports or electronic sports, is a multiplayer video game that is played competitively by high school students and it remains one of the best vehicles to reach high school students that are not typically involved in other school activities.



Currently, there are 3 districts in the ESU 5 area that are implementing eSports with a lot of success. Research has shown that students that participate in eSports have better attendance and see their grade point averages improve throughout a given school year. In addition, eSports open doors to new and interesting career paths in shout-casting, digital arts, and coding.