

Inside

Inside is published for residents of the Seymour Community School District

JANUARY 2021

**Commitment for All =
Success for Each**



Connect with Us!

Facebook
Seymour Community School
District

Website
<https://www.seymour.k12.wi.us>

Phone
920-833-2304

Seymour Community School Board Members

Greg Leisgang, President
Laurie Bowers, Vice President
Jill Karweick, Treasurer
Paula Rohm, Clerk

Trustees
Mike Cottrell
Tom Heins
Kurt Peterson

Link to [Annual Notices](#)

**Please refer to the Annual
Notices to view Education
options provided by the district**

January 2021

I hope that everyone enjoyed a great winter break and beginning of 2021. This is a time of year for reflecting on our past and setting goals for the future. When I reflect on 2020, it is one I could never have imagined. These past 10 months have been exhausting, stressful and challenging. It has allowed us to prioritize and focus on what matters most: keeping one another safe and healthy, building strong relationships, and adapting. I am proud that through all this change we have been able to keep teaching and learning at the forefront of all we do.



As I reflect on the past year, I know I won't forget how our staff and students demonstrated perseverance and resilience with the changes we have had to put into place. I am so thankful for them as well as the support of our families and communities. I continue to look forward to the second half of this school year in anticipation of great things continuing to happen. We still have lots to do and many challenges but I know as a district we will meet them head on.

On January 13th, the Seymour Community School District School Board adopted a resolution to place a referendum question on the April 6, 2021 election ballot. The resolution follows months of evaluating our existing high school facility, working closely with community partners and conducting a community-wide survey to gather feedback. 73% of all residents who responded to our community-wide survey stated they would support a \$6.5 million dollar referendum.

This process helped the district to develop a plan that would include an updated and expanded space for our technology education program as well as site updates for the middle and high school campus. 73% of all residents who responded to our community-wide survey stated they would support a \$6.5 million dollar referendum in support of this plan.

There is more information included in this newsletter and also on our website about the referendum. We will also be having some upcoming information meetings that will have options to attend virtually or in-person to learn more. I encourage you to either visit our website or attend one of the information meetings!

Please continue to keep your families, our communities and school safe. Please continue to use good hand hygiene, mask, social distance and stay home when you are safe.

Laurie Asher
Superintendent

The Seymour Community School District was established in 1963 as a result of the consolidation of numerous rural schools. The district encompasses 175 square miles of land adjacent to the Fox River Valley Cities of Green Bay and Appleton. The district's 4K through twelfth grade student population is approximately 2,250.

Our district has five schools and also includes an Athletic Center as part of Seymour High School. The Athletic Center includes an Aquatic Center and Fitness Center. These areas are also open to the public for use during the school year and summer months.

District News



Amy Wachewicz,
Pupil Service Director

The SCSD Pupil Services staff would like to take this opportunity to remind our community of the support we have in place to help our homeless student population. We continue to encourage our families and/or our students to contact the district if they are experiencing homelessness and need assistance. Please take a moment to review the District's brochure and contact us if we can be of assistance.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Community Resources

Salvation Army
*Open only on Mondays
Food Pantry, Rental Assistance,
Emergency services:
920-984-9305

Community 2000
Rental/Emergency Assistance,
clothing:
920-833-0277

Mission of Hope House
520 N Shawano Street
New London, WI 54961
920-249-4553

Freedom House
2997 St. Anthony Dr.
Green Bay, WI
920-432-4646

Micah Center
700 E. Walnut
Green Bay, WI
920-617-8700



How to Access Services

Students new to
Seymour Community
School District contact
school registrar:

Lisa Schultz
920-833-2304
Ext. 501

Current students contact
district social worker:

Jeanna Zuelke
920-833-5155
Ext. 715

Seymour
Community
School
District

McKinney-Vento
Program

Support for families experiencing
homelessness



Who is eligible?

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines people experiencing homelessness as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, such as living:

- In an emergency or transitional shelter with friends or family due to loss of housing or hardship (double up)
- In a motel, hotel or campground
- In a car, bus or other public place
- In an abandoned building or some other inadequate accommodations
- A youth not living with a parent or legal guardian and staying with others temporarily, including runaway
- A child of a migrant worker

Student Rights

Immediate School Enrollment

Even without proof of residency, guardianship, immunizations, or school records.

School Choice

Students may choose to stay at the school attended when permanently housed or to enroll in the school where currently living for the remainder of the academic year.

Free Breakfast and Lunch

Students are automatically eligible to receive free meals for the remainder of the school year.

School Fee Waivers

Students have the right to equal access to education and full participation.

Transportation

Transportation is provided for students residing outside of their school's attendance area.



Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and Seymour Community School District share the vision that all students experiencing homelessness are provided the opportunity and supports needed to achieve their goals and own their future.

Did you know?

- This Act is a part of the No Child Left Behind Federal Legislation which protects homeless students from discrimination and mandates equal access to educational programs and services. Students who are identified as homeless must have barriers to their education removed.
- Every school district must designate a homeless liaison to help students and their families who lack housing.
- Once stable housing is acquired, families are still eligible for services for the remaining of the school year.



Jenny Pierre,
Director of Teaching and Learning



Did you know that computing jobs are the #1 source of new wages in the United States? These jobs are in every industry, in every state, and they are expected to grow at twice the rate of other jobs. A computer science major can earn 40% more than the college average.

In order to provide our students with valuable opportunities for their future,

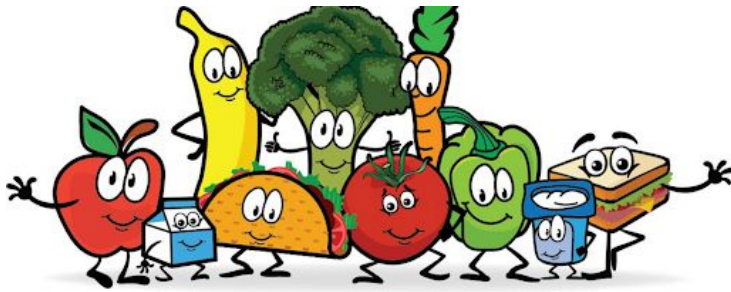
Seymour Community School District is excited to be a member of the Computer Science Talent Ecosystem Youth (CSTEY) Brown County pilot with the goal of teaching and offering Computer Science experiences to all students K-12. This initiative includes community partners such as CESA 7, Microsoft and area businesses, such as Schneider, American Family Insurance, Sargento, Humana, Thrivent, KI, and more. Post-secondary institution partners for this pilot include Fox Valley and Northeast Wisconsin Technical Colleges, UW-Green Bay, UW-Oshkosh, and St. Norbert College.

Within this consortium, our district is participating in a SCRIPT (Strategic CSforALL) Workshop, which involves creating an implementation plan guided by the CSforALL values of rigor, inclusion, and sustainability. We have a district committee with representatives from each school in our district that will develop and help work towards these goals.

Our district has also applied for a TEALS (Technology Education and Literacy in Schools) grant that provides training and support to high school teaching staff interested in learning Computer Science. Through this grant, our teachers will be partnered with industry volunteers to assist in teaching Computer Science content to students. This partnership allows for the teacher to grow in their Computer Science content knowledge and develop their ability to teach the course independently in the future.

Want your child to learn more and try computer science activities at home? The website code.org/athome includes several free and engaging resources, such as one-hour introductory tutorials, 3-5 minute educational videos, self-paced courses for ages 4-18, App Lab, smartphone apps, and unplugged activities. This link can also be found on the "Parents & Students" page of our district website.

Sources: Code.org and US Bureau of Labor Statistics



Food Services

Currently our school is continuing to offer meals at no charge through the USDA program, however we still need families to fill out a current free/reduced meal application to continue to receive other benefits that they could be receiving based on their lunch status. Households must be certified annually to continue benefits, so having a student's meal eligibility established now will be helpful for a smooth transition when or if the regular National School Lunch Program (NSLP) meal charges apply.



APRIL 6, 2021 REFERENDUM

On January 13, 2021, the Board of Education adopted a resolution to place a referendum question on the April 6, 2021 ballot. The resolution follows months of evaluating our existing high school facility, working closely with community partners, and conducting a community-wide survey to gather feedback.

If approved, the referendum question will allow the District to update the high school tech ed department and improve site traffic.

THE NEED

Demand is growing in our region for employees in the trades, including construction and fabrication. At the same time, we have seen a large increase in the number of students interested in careers in these areas and enrolling in technical education (shop) courses. Enrollment for these courses is up 52 percent in just five years. In response, the District has also added several new course offerings in construction and computer-aided design. While the District has invested in new tech ed equipment over the last few years, our classrooms and labs have not been updated in over 20 years.

An expansion of the tech ed department also gives the District an opportunity to review and improve our middle/high school site. Our middle school lacks parking, making parent visits and hosting events challenging. At the high school, student drop-off, traffic, and bus patterns need to be redesigned to better separate vehicles and pedestrians and to improve safety.

THE SOLUTION

- Build separate and expanded spaces for woods and metals/welding subjects to improve workflow and safety.
- Provide areas for a design lab, a fabrication lab, and robotics that would be accessible by students from both the middle and high school levels.
- Make space for a home construction class, which will allow the District to build and auction a tiny home.
- Create a flexible automotive and technology lab that would allow for vehicle service training and instruction in Sport/Power and small-engine repair.
- Improve site safety by changing traffic configurations, creating drop-off areas, and expanding parking.

THE INVESTMENT | not to exceed \$6,550,000

The District has worked hard to provide the best educational experience while operating within our budget. In fact, the District:

- Has not held a debt referendum since 2007.
- Took the opportunity to pre-pay that debt when possible to save interest expenses.
- Will soon be paying off a loan that funded past building projects.

These efforts significantly reduce the tax impact.

✓ If voters approve the referendum, the tax impact will be **\$2.00 per \$100,000 of property value.**

More information regarding the upcoming April 6 referendum will be forthcoming. Watch your mailbox in the coming month for additional details. Informational meetings will be held in the high school library on February 22 & March 9 from 7:00-8:00PM.

LEARN MORE | call 920.833.2304 • email referendum@seymour.k12.wi.us • visit www.seymour.k12.wi.us/referendum

Pete Kempen
Business Manager

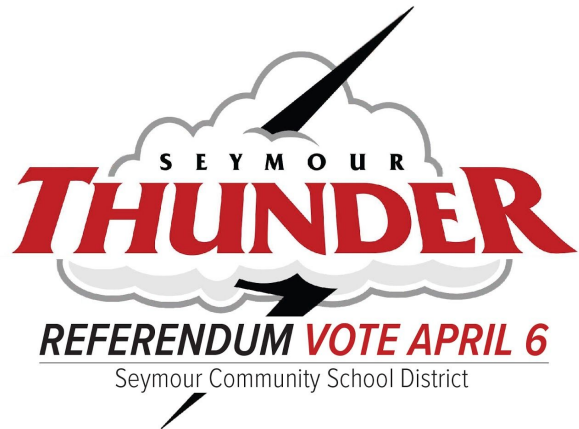


In the Business Department, we are already looking forward to the summer and fall of 2021. We will present a proposed budget to the Board of Education in June, with our Annual Meeting scheduled for July 26th, 2021.

One of the biggest topics will be the referendum that occurs this April 6th! The Seymour Community School District is looking to provide space for the Technology Education classes, which have grown 52% over the past four years. With the equipment that the Board has already purchased to update the machines and tools, space is needed to effectively use them and have students experience the success that comes with learning. The project will cost \$6.55 million and will include remodeling the current space and expanding to the south towards Highway 54. Parking and traffic flow will also be addressed so we can safely drop and pick-up students at both the middle school and high school front entrances.

Informational meetings will happen in February and March, and if you have any questions, feel free to email at referendum@seymour.k12.wi.us, or call the District Office at 920-833-2304.

Please remember to vote on April 6th!



Informational meetings will be held at the high school library on

February 22 and March 9 from 7:00-8:00PM.

Seymour High School News

Tom Mueller, Seymour High School Principal



Esports competed this winter in Super Smash as part of Wisconsin High School Esports Association. Seymour had four students earn all state or conference awards for the first year of this activity.

All State Awards

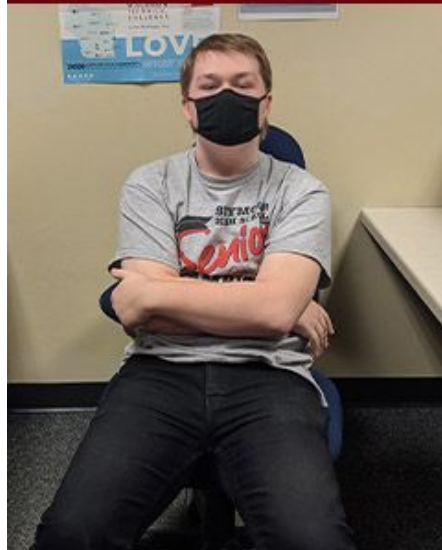
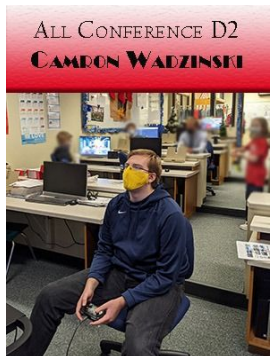
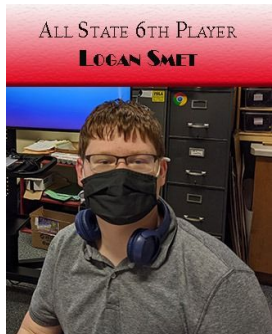
Devan Giese-Leadership

Ally Klose-Most Improved

Logan Smet-6th Player

Division 2 Conference Awards

Cameron Wadzinski-All Conference



Seymour High School students taking US History or AP US History had the opportunity to zoom with local Vietnam Veterans who presented "Reflections of Vietnam." This was presented by Vietnam Veterans of America-Chapter 351 out of Appleton. The students were able to ask questions, hear their stories and learn what it was like to be in the war as well as what it was like for them to come home. Thank you to the veterans that shared with us today!





Seymour Middle School News

Collette Wilichowski, Seymour Middle School Principal

Service Learning Update

Our service learning projects are off to a great start! All home-rooms have chosen a project and are beginning to gather supplies needed to complete these projects. The projects will be completed by Christmas break and will benefit several groups of people in our communities.

Now for some exciting news! About a month ago, Mrs. Delvaux wrote a grant to the Packers community outreach project called "The Character Playbook Community Impact Grant" in order to get some money for our service learning projects. On Monday, November 16th, Mrs. Delvaux received a call saying that Seymour Middle School was a finalist and would need to create a presentation by Wednesday to present to the board of judges. Three 8th Grade students (Tyler Nowak, Bella Burton, and Andrew Felty) helped create the presentation and present it to the board. They did a fabulous job, despite technical difficulties. On Friday November 20th, Mrs. Delvaux received an email from the organization. See the message below.

The Character Playbook Community Impact Grant is designed to encourage schools and non profit organizations serving middle school students to utilize the Character Playbook platform to teach students the importance of service and giving back. Numerous applications for this grant were submitted. After review and presentations, it is our pleasure to announce that Service Learning Projects has been selected as one of the recipients for this grant! Because of the selection, Seymour Middle School will receive A \$250 grant. On behalf of the Green Bay Packers, Brown County United Way and EverFi, congratulations and thank you for participating in the Character Playbook Community Impact Grant process!!



Bella Burton



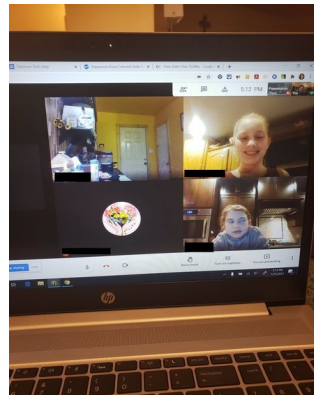
Andrew Felty



Tyler Nowak



Seymour Middle School 7th and 8th grade band students have started rehearsing in small ensembles, socially distanced and using special Music Masks. It was so wonderful to make music together!



Seymour Middle School Foodies Club facilitated by Mrs. Barrington met recently and made Oreo truffles and pizza rolls. In February, they plan to make meatballs, and easy valentine trifle, and berry blast smoothies. What a delicious learning experience for our students!

Black Creek Elem/MS News

Jason Wesenberg, Principal Black Creek Elem/Middle School



Black Creek Elementary/Middle School teamed with Community 2000 again for the Share-Your-Change and Canned-Food Drive events from Monday, November 9th through Friday, November 20th.

We hoped to continue this great tradition that Black Creek Elem/Middle school has established over the years, but it had to look a little differently. Each student in grades 4K-8th grade received two envelopes. One was labeled canned food money and the other was labeled money drive. For the canned food items, every 50 cents donated counted for one can. With the total number of cans collected per homeroom and the money collected from the money drive, we averaged the total amount of money per student.

Our goal for this year was to raise \$1,000 and collect 2,000 cans! Both results were really impressive! The canned food drive collected a total of 2,498 cans (498 cans over our goal!) This year a check to cover the cost of the cans will be donated to our local Community 2000 pantry. The winner of the elementary ice cream party was Mrs. Poch's kindergarten classroom who collected 83 cans averaging 9.8 cans per student. Ms. Welch's homeroom was the winner of the middle school ice cream party who collected a total of 311 cans and averaged 18.2 cans a student!

The money drive results were equally astounding. With the help of staff and students, \$1176.78 was collected (\$176.78 over our goal)! This money was spent to purchase Christmas presents for local families. First place and the winners of the elementary chip party were Mrs. Destiche's elementary homeroom with \$74.50, averaging \$4.38 per student. Ms. Seidl's middle school homeroom won the middle school chip party by collecting \$136.23, with an average of \$7.17.

Since both goals were met, students and staff will celebrate by having an all school-wide pajama day! Even in our unique year, the community of Black Creek and Black Creek School has much to be proud of again this year!



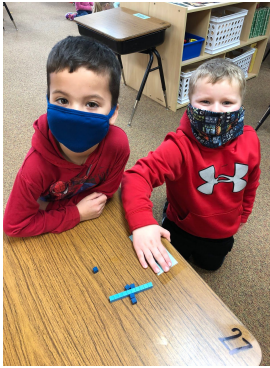
\$1,176 and 2,498 Canned Food Items





Rock Ledge Primary News

Jamie Inman, Principal Rock Ledge Primary School



Students in Mrs. Lee's 5K class are playing the unknown partner game in math. This is a fun game to practice addition and subtraction skills.



Students from Ms. Chris' afternoon 4K class climbing on the giant snowballs!



First grade students from Mrs. Blough's class enjoyed snowshoeing. Fallen Timbers brought the snowshoes to Rock Ledge Primary Center for all of the first grade students to try.



In honor of Martin Luther King Jr., Mrs. Coenen's second grade students described their own dreams to help make the world a better place.

Rock Ledge Intermediate News

Amy McKeefry, Principal Rock Ledge Intermediate School



Fifth grade students in Mrs. Ninham's class utilizing technology during their math lesson. The class is viewing the math journal page on the SmartBoard as Mrs. Ninham explains the lesson.



Mr. Wipperfuth's 5th grade students are able to work independently while he works with small groups.



Students at Rock Ledge Intermediate participate in hockey during physical education class.



Ms. Goeben is conferring with a student during Reader's Workshop. The other fifth graders in her class are working independently.