

Inside

Inside is published for residents of the Seymour Community School District

JUNE 2020

Commitment for All = Success for Each

Important Dates to Remember

August 1 - High School
Graduation

September 1 - First Day of
School



Connect with Us!

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District

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

Phone
920-833-2304



Congratulations to our retirees.
They have dedicated so much
of their lives to helping our
students grow and learn!:

- Greg Plinska
- Diane Weis
- Mary Skinkis
- Pam Huntington
- Laurie Upp
- Jon Murphy
- Mari Reinheimer
- Jill Heacock

Seymour Community,

I hope you and your families are well and continuing to adjust to our way of school and life. The COVID-19 virus has changed our lives in ways we would never have expected last February. We have had to make adjustments to almost every aspect of our daily routines. I am proud of all the families and school staff who have continued to be flexible and continue forward in these challenging times.



In May, we had more than 700 families respond to a survey to help us gather information on digital learning plan, communication or meals. Here are a few of the results that we received:

- 53% of respondents felt their child was engaged and could do most of the work on their own,
- 43% felt their child was engaged but needed family support to complete it.
- 79% felt the workload was appropriate for their child
- 85% felt the communication by the district was beneficial
- 85% felt the meals were high quality
- 99% felt the meal sites were efficient and locations were accessible.

In June we had more than 1000 people respond to a follow up parent survey to gather information related to the opening of next school year. As of this publication we have some initial results. Here is a summary of some of those results:

- About 70% of respondents prefer an in-person school setting with 24% a blended or hybrid setting. About 5% preferred remote or virtual learning only.
- 50% of respondents were comfortable with having their child attend with minimal concerns, while about 45% still had some concerns.
- 80% of respondents said they would be sending their child if an in-person setting was the instructional model, with only 1% saying they would not send their child. 19% were still uncertain.
- If the instructional model needed to be a hybrid design, 49% preferred a partial week; a few days at school and a few days of learning at home. 45% preferred a shortened day.

As we continue to plan this summer, we will use this information in our decision making processes. We will also continue to look for feedback from our staff, parents and this community as we finalize plans for next year. While we understand that many families want to know what the school schedule will look like next year, we want to be flexible so that we can meet whatever our local health departments guidance is.

We will use this information as we continue to plan for the upcoming school year. Over the summer we will be planning for the reopening of schools in September. We have a team that will be working over the summer to plan for a variety of situations that may occur as students come back to school.

I hope everyone has a great summer!

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



Teaching and Learning Department Jenny Pierre

Keep your child engaged with learning this summer! Check out the online resources shown on the left side of the “Students & Parents” page on our district website. These resources include free online books and games to engage your child all summer. Find ways to infuse learning throughout your summer. Ideas include:

1. **Read every day!** Students who read regularly during the summer maintain or increase their reading skills. Along with books, be creative with what you have your child read- joke books, graphic novels, sports statistics, magazines, recipes, movie reviews, and more! Audiobooks are great too as they encourage listening skills and the learning of new vocabulary.
2. **Use Math every day!** Involve your child in cooking with you to learn measurements. Have your child make change. Play online math games. Practice counting out loud together. Make up math word problems for your child to solve. Have your child keep score during a game.
3. **Get outside & play!** Physical activity is good for the body & brain! Find fun ways to get active like family bike rides, creating a home obstacle course, walking the dog, finding a fun exercise or yoga video online.
4. **Write every week!** Ask your child to write a weekly letter to his or her grandparents, relatives, or friends, keep a summer journal, write the family's grocery list. Create a family summer scrapbook with your child writing the labels and descriptions for the pictures.
5. **Do a good deed!** Students learn and feel better when they engage in activities to aid in their social-emotional development, such as community service. Encourage your child to surprise neighbors or friends by helping them with a job. Pick up garbage in your neighborhood. Have your child clean their room or play area and then donate unwanted items to a charity.

Source: Readockets.org

Business Department Pete Kempen

In the Business Department, we made big changes due to the delivery of instruction switching to an online model. We were able to make sure students had Chromebooks to access instruction and that teachers and students had the ability to connect virtually. Our technology department was incredible in ensuring that everything worked as smoothly as could be. Hats off to Andy, Angie, Jessie and Josh for making it work so quickly! With the technology, we are able to move this back into school to continue to prepare students for whatever comes our way!



In Food Service, Tami Kimball and her staff were incredible in switching to deliverable meals that we could serve to families on a weekly basis. They put together meals serving more than 900 families a week starting in Mid-March. They continue to work and will prepare this fall to be able to serve our students and families with good food to keep their bodies going!

In Buildings and Grounds, Tim Diermeier and his crew have cleaned every inch of the buildings to make sure that they are ready to go when we need them! We will have extra steps in place to lower the risk of illness in our staff and students. It will take all of us working together to make this successful leap into the 2020-2021 school year, and the buildings and grounds will be ready for that challenge!



© 2020-2021 School Year



**Pupil Services Department
Amy Wachewicz**

Our Seymour Community School District staff have been very busy not only teaching in a virtual manner, but also learning about how to be most effective while doing so. I took a moment to ask my staff for some feedback regarding their virtual teaching experiences and what I learned was that our Pupil Services/Special Education staff are truly the BEST OF THE BEST!!! Below are some quotes as well as some informational tips from our devoted staff:

"When this began I created 'traveling classrooms' that contained a daily schedule and work for each of my students. I created hands-on activities for each of my students as well as the supplies needed to complete their work. My staff helped me assemble all of the boxes. I dropped off the 'traveling classrooms' at each of my students' homes.

Weekly, I meet with students individually and in small groups by way of google meet. We work on IEP goals, and we spend time sharing our stories.....

I use Screencastify to video record myself reading books to them and then I send them to their email. Parents are saving them to play for their students throughout the summer too. One of my parents video-taped her child watching me read to him....

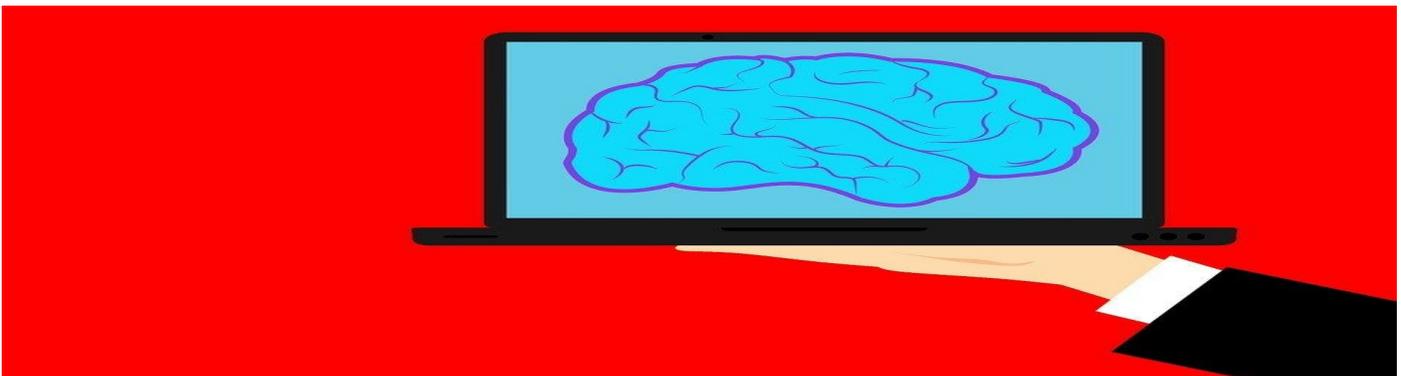
I communicate with parents weekly, some of them daily. Some parents send me photos of their students as well as their student's work....

This week I created a google slideshow telling my students how much I miss them. I added multiple photos of all of my students to the tune of "You've Got a Friend in Me" and shared it with all of them.

The highlight of this week were the signs my students made for teacher appreciation week. They shared them with me virtually while on Google Meet...so sweet".

"Something inspiring that I have witnessed during virtual learning is seeing how the kids have been advocating for themselves. We work to improve advocacy and communication (both written & verbal) skills daily in 8th grade. It has been fun to get emails from students asking for help or simply requesting a Google Hangout to chat. It does my heart good knowing we make a difference helping students become their best selves!"

"I just want to say Thank You to all of my students and their families! Thank you so much for inviting me into your home for virtual meetings and I absolutely love getting to work with your students each week! Together we are all learning in a whole new way".



Seymour High School News



Tom Mueller, Seymour High School Principal

Academic Career Planning replaces Homeroom in the High School

Next year, all high school students will continue to learn how their skills and interests shape their future plans in a class called “Academic Career Planning” (ACP).

In this class, students will:

- Understand their own interests, strengths, values, learning styles
- Understand the variety of post-high school pathways
- Create a vision of their future
- Develop realistic individual goals
- Prepare a personal plan for achieving their vision and goals
- Develop skills relevant to obtaining and maintaining employment

The ACP class will meet the first five days of each quarter in addition to one day the following month during ELT time. This is taking the place of Homeroom. Students will earn .25 credit per year; it is a pass/fail course. All students assigned to an Academic Career Planning class are required to attend school until 3:05 p.m., regardless of Gold Card status. Here are the dates for the 2020-21 School-year:

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
9/1/20, 9/2/20, 9/3/20, 9/4/20	11/3/20, 11/4/20, 11/5/20, 11/6/20	1/18/21, 1/19/21, 1/20/21, 1/21/21, 1/22/21	3/29/21, 3/30/21, 3/31/20, 4/1/21
9/8/20	11/9/20	2/17/21	4/7/21
10/7/2020	12/2/20		4/28/21
			5/26/21

SHS Senior College Night

Seymour Community High School will be holding a “Senior College Night” on **September 14 at 6pm** in the high school auditorium. School counselors will be sharing pertinent information regarding the college and financial aid process. A representative from Oneida Higher Education will be on hand to answer individual questions as well. All seniors and their parents are encouraged to attend!





Seymour Middle School News

Collette Wilichowski, Seymour Middle School Principal

Dear SMS Families,

Thank you for your collaboration as we make our way through Virtual Learning. We really miss the students! The staff has been working hard to keep students engaged and we appreciate all of your help supporting these efforts at home. I am so thankful for technology like Google Classroom and Google Hangouts. These platforms keep us connected and help facilitate continued learning through this unimaginable pandemic. It has been impressive, the amazing learning that staff and students have been sharing with me in the midst of this drastic change in education! Here are a few pictures that capture learning at SMS!

Thank you again for your endless support,
Dr. Wilichowski

Mrs. Barrington holding a Google Hangout learning opportunity.



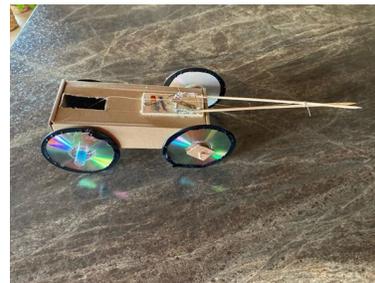
Below Mrs. Schaumberg video recording a bacteria lab for students to watch so they can still feel part of the process.



Mrs. Arneson receives pictures of assigned projects from students to showcase their learning.



Seymour Middle School 6th Grade students in Technology and Engineering class have been working on their Mousetrap Car project virtually. The students have been having fun designing and building their cars at home. Here are a couple examples of some students cars. Great job 6th Graders on your cars during this virtual learning time!



Black Creek Elem/MS News

Jason Wesenberg, Principal Black Creek Elem/Middle School



Black Creek Pushed to the Finish Line Together

March 16th was not something that any of us expected. However, when it came, none of us stopped and none of us even slowed down. The whole Bobcat family pushed harder to the finish line together. The community, the staff, the students all set their eyes on the learning and comradery that needed to take place to make it to June 5th successfully; and they did it.

Groups like the Village police, the Village Fire department, and Black Creek school staff came together to have our wonderful parade. It truly sparked a fire under everyone involved to persist in uncertain times.

Families and students rallied around one another to support each other, find resources to use together, and problem solve ways to make learning, socializing, and school matter.

Everyone in the Seymour Community School District and the whole Black Creek Bobcat community deserves a huge round of applause. The Black Creek staff wants to thank everyone for all the focused and additional time and effort that they all put in which allowed us to push to the "finish line" together.





Rock Ledge Primary News

Jamie Inman, Principal Rock Ledge Primary School

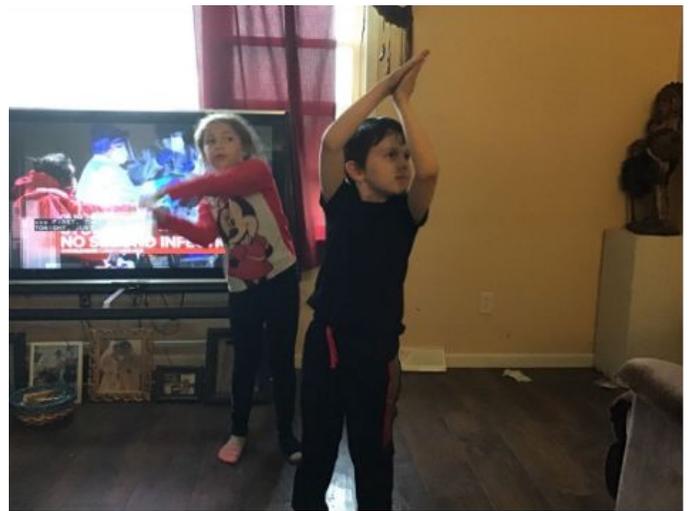
During our Virtual Learning Phase, several students and staff got to see each other during Zoom meetings or Google Hangouts. This is a picture of Mrs. Ball's 2nd grade class.



Hadley, 5K student, having fun at the Rock Ledge Celebration of Learning.



Rock Ledge Primary was filled with student materials to be picked up



Students participated in Virtual Learning on Seesaw. Chase (first grader) and Tiffany (second grader) were engaging in the Music lesson.



Love,
The Rock Ledge 4K Team



Rock Ledge Intermediate News

Amy McKeefry, Principal Rock Ledge Intermediate School



A huge shout out to the families for coming to RLI to pick up student materials. Thank you for helping to make the pick up safe and quick! It was so great to see the students who rode along to pick up their materials!!!



Our Staff sure missed
our students!



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