

Inside

Inside is published for residents of the Seymour Community School District

OCTOBER 2020

**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

October 13, 2020

Seymour Community,

We are off and running with the start of the school year. This is a year like no other and I think we will see many changes as the year progresses. As you know, we started the year in three different learning environments for reopening. PK – 5 students are back in full in person instruction 5 days a week. Students in grades 6-12 students are in a hybrid plan, attending school two days a week and learning from home 3 days a week. Students in PK-12th can attend school in a virtual setting only. We currently have approximately 300 students who are attending virtually only.



Our goal continues to be to provide the safest learning environment we can, based on science and guidance, as timely as we can, to assist you and your child during the school year. We will continue to empathize with all the changes and adjustments we make that impact your daily lives and schedules. However, it is with the fullest intent to provide the best education possible during the current pandemic. The reopening of schools seems to be working very well. We have had to quarantine some full classrooms but at this point our data doesn't show we will need to close any schools. We are hopeful this will continue but have a plan in place if we need to move to virtual learning. We could not do this without all of you!

As part of our desire to continue to assess our current programming, we will be asking for feedback from our students, families and community members. I have included a link here for you to be able to provide feedback related to the 2020-21 school year. [Feedback Link](https://forms.gle/QplwnJXh3KYcU28y9) visit our website to access the link: forms.gle/QplwnJXh3KYcU28y9

Thank you for supporting this great community! Even though we are in trying times, if we work together we get through this. We have a lot to be proud of in the Seymour Community School District! Keep it up! Go Thunder!

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

Tiffany Vogel (School Counselor at Seymour Middle School):

Every week I am doing a counselling tidbit (posted through homeroom). This has been based on an overall theme we are seeing as a need. The themes I have posted on have been: time management, balancing virtual vs. in person, and sleep importance. Also with the teachers I shared self-care plans to use for students and/or themselves. I have also been meeting students virtually using google meet for counseling needs if they are home or we cannot meet face to face.

Meghan Markham (School Counselor at Black Creek Elementary and Middle School):

As the new school counselor here at Black Creek Middle School, I have spent the beginning of the school year introducing myself to our students. Elementary classroom counseling started and it has been great getting to know our students! Middle Schoolers will be receiving social emotional learning lessons virtually, throughout the semester.

Amie Secor and Theresa Van Dyke (School Counselors at Seymour High School):

At the high school level, our students begin each day in ACP/homeroom for 20 minutes to help with the transition. Our TLC room remains open for our students who are struggling with anxiety, depression, frustration and feeling overwhelmed. We also have a large supply of items for students to take with them and keep that can help them cope - stress balls, coloring sheets, brain worksheets, gum..etc. We have created a virtual TLC as well which has been shared with the students and is also on the student services website. In addition, we have been meeting with our freshmen to get to know them and share how to contact us. Lastly, we are using SEL curriculum through Edgenuity to help support our students.

The Seymour Community School District has focused a great deal of effort on Social Emotional Learning amidst the return of our students and staff. District Pupil Services staff, especially school counselors and psychologists, have created an extensive toolkit for staff to utilize with both students and other staff members. According to the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL), "social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions". (CASEL, 2020)

In an effort to address SEL at all levels, listed below, our school counselors share just a sampling of how they are providing optimal supports:

Liz Brittnacher (School Counselor at Rock Ledge Primary):

-I have been meeting weekly with students who are in need of extra SEL support. -I am starting to record myself reading stories related to SEL that teachers can play in their classrooms.-I have a virtual relaxation room that I just finalized for staff. Staff self-care is incredibly important right now!

Jen Siudzinski (School Counselor at Rock Ledge Intermediate):

-I have developed Toolkits for teachers to use with students/resources for students:

[Virtual counseling office:](#)

[Virtual emotions library:](#)



Meet our New School Resource Officers



I'm Deputy Nathan Dahm of the Outagamie County Sheriff's Office. I have been working in law enforcement for over nine years and previously worked for the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. I have experience working in corrections, patrol, and investigations with additional specialized training in accident reconstruction and crisis negotiations. When I'm not at work I enjoy spending time outdoors going camping, hiking, and fishing with my

wife and kids. I also like spending time working on home projects or in our garden. I look forward to becoming part of the Seymour school community and am excited to serve as your school resource officer.

My name is Roderick Narvaez. I was born and raised in the Fox Cities. I'm bilingual, I speak English and Spanish. I attended FVTC and got an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. I started with the Outagamie County Sheriff's Department in 2015 in their Corrections Division. In 2019, I attended the Law Enforcement Academy and obtained a position within the Patrol Division. When I am not working, I enjoy spending time outside with my two dogs (Husky & German Shepard/Husky mix). I also like to play basketball and workout.



Teaching and Learning Department Jenny Pierre



We hope your family is off to a great year of learning! We are trying to find ways to support and connect with families during this unique year. One place to look for helpful resources is on the "Students & Parents" page of our district website. Check it out for resources about using our online learning platforms Seesaw and Google Classroom, including video tutorials and PDF instruction sheets for families to learn more. On the left hand side of the "Students & Parents" page, there are also online books linked for students in 4K through high school along with weekly "Tech Tuesday Tips". Check back regularly as this is the online space that we will post information and resources for families.

Our district also has an app that you can add on your iPhone or Android phone to have easy access to announcements and our district webpage; search for "Seymour Community School District" in the app store. Also, if you'd like to see our students in action and learn about their accomplishments, "like" our district's Facebook page "Seymour Community School District" where we highlight students and their learning throughout the year. We look forward to connecting with you this year!

Business Manager Pete Kempen

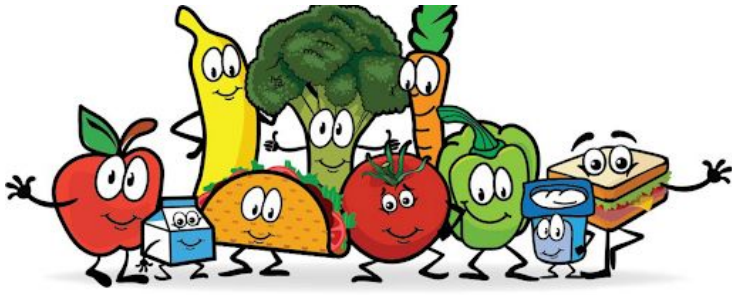


In the Business Department, we made big changes due to the delivery of instruction switching to an online model. We were able to make sure students had Chromebooks to access instruction and that teachers and students had the ability to connect virtually. Our technology department was incredible in ensuring 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 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 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 what the 2020-2021 school year and the buildings and grounds will be ready for that challenge!



Food Services

Important information for any family that qualified for free/reduced meals in the 2019-20 school year-

Currently our school is offering 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.

Reminder for families that qualified last year and were on the 30 day carryover period for free/reduced lunches and K-5 milk break, this carryover period ended October 13, 2020. Letters and applications were mailed out at the end of September to families who needed a current application on file. Families that did not apply or qualify will now be on a pay status for their child's K-5 milk break as this is not covered under USDA program. The free meals being offered through this program will end June 30th, 2021, or when federal funding runs out. Please submit a new application to determine eligibility for future meals and/or milk break.

FFA members took an hour out of their day to pick trash along highway 55 for our Adopt A Highway program.



Seymour Lumber made a donation to the Seymour High School Tech Ed department for the third year in a row. The money was raised from their annual golf outing. Thank you Seymour Lumber for being a strong supporter of the Thunder Tech Ed department!

**Thanks for
Donating!**

Seymour High School News

Tom Mueller, Seymour High School Principal



Seymour Leaders Aspire to Do More. . . Even During a Pandemic

Written by: Ethan Armstrong, WI FBLA Region III Vice President

Welcome back to school and welcome back to Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)! Despite our 2019-2020 school year being cut short, FBLA continued to persist and remain active during the quarantine. We look forward to a brand new adventure with all of our members and staff this year as we take on the new, hybrid-taught school year. We have already hosted one virtual meeting this year and we have several great activities planned for this school year. Anyone part of the high school can join, please reach out to the Adviser Mrs. Katie Grassel for more information.

During this summer several Seymour FBLA members had the opportunity to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference on their laptops and mobile devices at home. We also had 2 Seymour FBLA members who competed on the national level virtually during the conference. **Congratulations** to Kiara Lamb, who placed 4th in the entire nation for the Help Desk event. Another big round of applause for Reghan Paulick who competed in 3-D Animation. Alongside competing in events and interacting with guest speaker Kat Perkins, all attending FBLA members and advisers were given access to a program called 100X Officer training. These exercises taught you to be aware of your surroundings, voice, differences between generations in the workforce, and how to make every second of your day worth something.



This year Ethan Armstrong is carrying on the torch for a list of 9 Wisconsin FBLA State positions we have had filled by Seymour FBLA members. Ethan will be proudly hosting the Regional Leadership Conference this winter in February, and needs as many people as possible to be judges for events, if you are interested in being a judge, or have any questions, please contact him at region3vp@wifbla.org. The list of all the officers that Seymour has had is located below.



1. Katie Rohm - Region III Vice President (2004-2005)
2. Kalyn Seifer - Secretary (2007-2008)
3. Jenny Stingle - Treasurer (2010-2011)
4. Taylor Noeller - Treasurer (2011-2012)
5. Sydney Wilcox - Secretary/Treasurer (2015-2016)
6. Sydney Wilcox - President (2016-2017)
7. Keelie Murphy - Reporter (2017-2018)
8. Holly Frank - Region III Vice President (2019-2020)
9. Ethan Armstrong - Region III Vice President (2020-2021)

Usually, during the summer all of the newly elected State Officers for Wisconsin FBLA meet up for several days and get to bond, learn the basics of their position, and how to carry themselves in a professional manner on video, documents, email, and most importantly in person. As COVID moved through the country it became clear that getting together in person was not a good idea, a plan was then formed to have officer training completely online. The Wisconsin State officers and Ethan had a blast getting to know one another and putting together the blueprints for the upcoming, challenging school year.



Seymour Middle School News

Collette Wilichowski, Seymour Middle School Principal

We are excited to see students again! The staff at SMS have been very busy preparing their classrooms and creating lessons to ensure that all students are learning both while at school and virtually. As you can see by the following pictures, students are safely engaged and committed to their learning. The students are to be commended for their great start to the school year, especially given all of the changes happening around them.

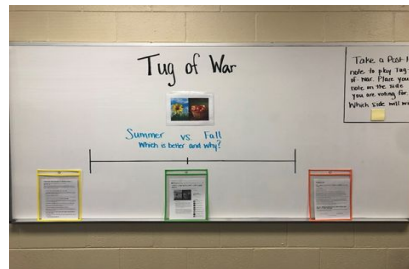
Here are a few pictures that capture learning at SMS!

7th Grade students participate in a Science Lab.



Two 7th Grade students are practicing their instruments with Mrs. Tupper.

Speech-language students participate in a friendly game of "Tug of War." Students read articles to support their choice of which season is better. Who will win?



Mrs. Arneson is helping students learn how to use the drill press.



Foodies Club meets virtually and they made Chocolate Chip Banana Bread!



Black Creek Elem/MS News

Jason Wesenberg, Principal Black Creek Elem/Middle School



Transitioning to Virtual Learning This School Year

Mrs. Poch's class had a smooth transition into virtual learning during a short quarantine this school year.

That Thursday, Mrs. Poch grabbed her morning math materials, all of her teacher manuals, her computer and document camera, and anything else she could think of that would set her students and herself up for a successful virtual experience.

The kids brought home their seesaw sign in sheet, worksheets, a whiteboard & marker, and other materials they would need for learning at home also.

As the students left Mrs. Poch's class that Thursday she reassured them the learning they would see on the computer and ipad would be similar to what they were learning in classroom. They would even get to see Mrs. Poch and learn with her live! 😊

The next day the School District and Mrs. Poch called homes to see who was in need of a device for learning and they were delivered to families right away to ensure they could get set up for the virtual classroom.

The following day, all the students followed the schedule Mrs. Poch sent out and logged in for a live morning meeting. Then, following the live morning meeting they completed Seesaw activities to enhance the morning learning time. It was a fun time learning and growing in the virtual classroom setting as a class!



Black Creek LMC

We are working to make sure all students get a library experience. Our library time might be a little different. However, it will still be exciting for the Black Creek students.

The 4K through 2nd grade classes will be choosing a book from a basket of possibilities that have been chosen specifically for them and delivered to their rooms by the library. While 3rd grade through 8th grade will be using our District's Destiny Discover website to choose books that interest them. Then those books will be delivered to their rooms.

It has been exciting to see students back in the schools and books in students' hands.





Rock Ledge Primary News

Jamie Inman, Principal Rock Ledge Primary School



Second graders have begun the year working with the Chromebooks. Students are learning how to access their Seesaw accounts on the Chromebooks. Above is a picture of Mrs. Coenen's 2nd grade class.

5 year old kindergarten students enjoying lunch in their classrooms. Students rotate with their cohorts by eating together in their classrooms and in the lunchroom every two weeks. Students in Mrs. Schulz's class eat their lunch and then work at their desks while waiting to go out for recess.



First graders are playing cups in music class. Cups is a method for students to learn how to play a steady beat and to read rhythms.



4 year old kindergarten students are busy building and creating. Students in Mrs. Hausers class love being in school!



We're back..... And it feels so great!

4 year old kindergarten students love playing outside. Students in Mrs. Potter's class enjoy playing in the sandbox.



Rock Ledge Intermediate News

Amy McKeefry, Principal Rock Ledge Intermediate School



As Rock Ledge Intermediate began the 2020-21 school year, teachers were focused on getting students excited about learning and making personal connections to one another, to their school, and to their learning. As a unifying whole school activity, the school counselor invited every classroom teacher, staff member, and student to name their learning goals (also known as their "Hopes and Dreams"). Groups were encouraged to create a picture that best represented their Hopes and Dreams so they could be proudly showcased in the RLI main entrance. Working on these Hopes and Dreams allows all members of our learning community to know that school is a safe place, that everyone is an important member of our school, and that they can look forward to an engaging, challenging, and fun year of learning. The results are nothing short of amazing. The unprecedented times won't stand in our way...Rock Ledge staff and students have some high hopes and dreams!



5th graders at Rock Ledge Intermediate are learning about architecture in art. They are creating pop-up Victorian houses which will have gables, gingerbread details, decorative shingles, and turrets (rounded towers).



Be good friends & a class family

Be kind to everyone



NOTICE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES ON SEX DISCRIMINATION, THE DISTRICT'S TITLE IX COORDINATOR(S), AND PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING OR FILING A COMPLAINT OF SEX DISCRIMINATION

Title IX Nondiscrimination Policy Statement – As mandated by the current provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and under the regulations set forth in Chapter 106 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations (“the federal Title IX regulations”), the District does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that the District operates. Title IX’s requirement not to discriminate in any education program or activity extends to cover, but is not limited to, District students, certain admissions processes, and District employment. Inquiries regarding how Title IX and the federal Title IX regulations apply to the District may be referred to a District Title IX Coordinator (as designated below), to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, or to both.

The District’s commitment to nondiscrimination under Title IX and under other state and federal laws is further defined in the following policies of the School Board: Policy 113, Policy 411, Policy 411.1, Policy 511, and Policy 512.

District Title IX Coordinators – The District employees who hold each of the positions identified below serve as Title IX Coordinators for the District:

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>Director of Pupil Services</i> <i>10 Circle Drive, Seymour, WI 54165</i> <i>920-833-5159</i> <i>awachewicz@seymour.k12.wi.us</i> | <i>Superintendent</i> <i>10 Circle Drive, Seymour, WI 54165</i> <i>920-833-5159</i> <i>lasher@seymour.k12.wi.us</i> |
|--|--|

Reporting Sex Discrimination – Any person (including a person who is not claiming to have been personally harmed/victimized by the alleged discrimination) may report a concern or allegation regarding prohibited sex discrimination (including sexual harassment) to the District. Such reports may be submitted as follows:

1. To a District Title IX Coordinator, either in person, by U.S. mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed above. In person reports should be made when the Title IX Coordinator is reasonably available during regular working hours. Reports submitted by telephone, mail, or electronic mail may be made at any time.
2. By any other means that results in a Title IX Coordinator actually receiving the person's verbal or written report.

Filing Formal Complaints of Title IX Sexual Harassment – As required by the federal Title IX regulations, the District has established a formal grievance process for investigating and resolving “formal complaints” of “sexual harassment,” as those terms are defined in the regulations.

An individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment under the federal Title IX regulations (i.e., a Title IX “complainant”), or a parent or guardian who has a legal right to act on behalf of such an individual, may file a formal complaint of sexual harassment. No Title IX complainant is obligated to file a formal complaint, but a qualifying formal complaint is necessary for the District to start an investigation using the District’s formal Title IX grievance process.

Complainants are expected to file formal complaints of sexual harassment with a District Title IX Coordinator by submitting a document or electronic submission in person, by U.S. mail, or by electronic mail, using the contact information specified above.

Additional requirements for formal complaints of Title IX sexual harassment, including a description of the required content for a formal complaint, are set forth in Policy 113 within the School Board’s policies.

District Response to Reports and Complaints of Sex Discrimination and to Formal Complaints of Sexual Harassment under Title IX – The District has established grievance procedures through which the District structures its response to reports that allege unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity of the District. Those procedures are set forth in 411-Rule 1 and 511-Rule 1, as published on the District’s website. The purpose of such procedures is to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of any report or complaint of alleged sex discrimination, excluding formal complaints of sexual harassment under Title IX (which are subject to a different process).

Any time that the District has actual knowledge of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment that could constitute a violation of Title IX, the District has obligations to respond to such knowledge in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent and in a manner that treats the alleged victim(s) of sexual harassment and the alleged perpetrator(s) of sexual harassment equitably. Such a response includes, but is not limited to, offering supportive measures to a complainant and investigating and resolving any formal complaint that presents allegations of Title IX sexual harassment using the formal grievance process that the District has adopted for such formal complaints. District procedures for responding to alleged sexual harassment under Title IX, including the formal grievance process, are set forth in 113-Rule 1, as published on the District’s website.

THE SEYMOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN WHO RESIDE IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- i. **Seymour Community School District offers students a variety of educational options to children who reside in the District. It is our mission to create a cooperative community of people committed to constantly improving learning environments which enable students to demonstrate their uniqueness as persons who are active learners, caring members of society, creative artists, ethical stewards, involved citizens, and productive workers.**

The District’s primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade, leading to a high school diploma.

The District’s schools are listed below:

| Elementary Schools | Middle Schools | High Schools |
|--|---|--|
| (grades 4K* - 5): | (grades 6 - 8): | (grades 9-12): |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rock Ledge Primary (5K-2)● Rock Ledge Intermediate (3-5)● Black Creek Elementary (4K-5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Black Creek Middle School● Seymour Middle School | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Seymour High School● Seymour Alternative HS |

Some of the specific education programs offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attending the District’s schools include the following:

- **Early childhood special education (for students who are at least 3 years old but not yet school-age)**
- **Special education for students with disabilities**
- **English language learner/education**
- **Gifted and talented education**
- **Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs**
- **Individualized program and curriculum modifications**
- **Alternative High School education program**
- **Fallen Timbers Environmental Classroom**
- **Summer school programming**
- **Post-secondary course options**
- **Articulated classes offering dual credit with area Universities and Colleges**

The full version of the District’s most recent school and school district accountability report, as issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction under section 115.385 of the state statutes, can be accessed via the following page on the District’s website (if the report has been issued by DPI):

Educational options for students who are enrolled in the Seymour Community School District that involve part-time attendance at an educational institution other than a school of the Seymour Community School District include the following:

- **The Start College Now, which**
 - **provides opportunities to apply for approval to take up to 2 courses at a time at another educational institution;**
 - **is subject to state and local eligibility requirements, including the limitation that the courses must satisfy a high school graduation requirement; and**
 - **includes certain District-approved dual credit opportunities that the District offers in conjunction with a partner institution of higher education.**
- **The Early College Credit Program, which**
 - **provides opportunities to apply for approval to take courses at certain institutions of higher education.**

Additional educational options for children who reside in the District that involve full-time enrollment/attendance at a school, program, or other educational institution that is not a school or instrumentality of the Seymour Community School District include the following:

- **High school students meeting certain age and other eligibility requirements may be permitted to attend a technical college or certain other programs for the purpose of completing a program leading to the student's high school graduation or to a high school equivalency diploma.**
- **Full-time Open Enrollment involving physical attendance in a public school of a nonresident school district or attendance through a virtual charter school that is associated with a nonresident school district.**
- **Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, a child with a disability who meets the program's specific eligibility requirements may apply to attend an eligible, participating private school under a scholarship awarded through the state's "Special Needs Scholarship Program," as established under section 115.7915 of the state statutes.**
- **Enrollment in a private school of the family's choosing (at the family's own cost, as applicable).**
- **Enrollment in a home-based private educational program as provided under state law.**
- **Enrollment in a tribal school.**

Educational options for children who reside in the Seymour Community School District but who are enrolled in and attending a private school, tribal school, or home-based private educational program include the following:

- **Such students have the opportunity to attend summer school classes/programs offered in the District.**
- **Private school and tribal school students in the high school grades have the opportunity to apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in a District school, pursuant to section 118.145(4) of the state statutes.**
- **Students who are enrolled in a home-based private educational program have the opportunity to:**
 - **Apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in public schools as provided under section 118.53.**
 - **Participate in District interscholastic athletics and other District extracurricular activities as provided under section 118.133.**

For more information about any of the educational options listed in this notice, please contact the District's main administrative office at 920-833-2304 or the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.