

Southwood Newsletter

September & October 2017



Welcome to the 2017-18 school year!

Hello Southwood Families!

As I enter my second year, I am so proud of the students, families and staff members of Southwood Elementary School. The whole Panther family is committed to developing a learning community where all students:

- Feel physically and emotionally safe;
- Develop a sense of belonging in a caring learning community; and,
- Experience academic success, maximizing their learning potential.

I have been thoroughly impressed how Southwood staff continually goes above and beyond by devoting time during the summer to prepare for our kids. They are dedicated to the collaborative and reflective work of a professional learning community, continually refining their craft knowledge in order to maximize the learning of each student with whom we are entrusted. I am blessed to get to serve with a staff that truly loves each of their students and prioritizes their needs.

In the year ahead, the Southwood family will take further strides to develop a sense of safety and belonging as we unpack what it means to be **safe**, **respectful** and **responsible** in all settings. I encourage you to open up conversation with your children about what these three words mean to them. As we develop this common language and value set, we support each student in feeling safe and cared for, setting them up for academic and personal growth. Thank you for your part in this learning community. We have a wonderful year ahead of us!

Andy Means

Southwood PTA Fundraiser

Southwood Elementary PTA is sponsoring a fundraiser through Northwest Fundraising and we are asking for your help!

We will be raising money for science kits, assemblies, art supplies, library and classroom books, and other PTA sponsored programs.

Wednesday Sept. 27th students will be bringing home sales packets.
All orders and money will be due **Oct. 11th**.



Students will be eligible for great prizes!!

Open House

Thursday, September 21

6:30 pm

To accommodate families with more than one student we will have two sessions with teachers. Below is a schedule of our open house format.

- 6:00 - 6:25- LAP family meeting in Michelle's Room - Rm 604
- 6:30 - 7:05- Dinner in the gym
- 6:55 - 7:05- Presentation in the gym while people finish eating
- 7:10 - 7:30- Classroom presentations/learning experiences (Round 1)
- 7:35 - 7:55- Classroom presentations/learning experiences (Round 2)

Where do kids go?

During the presentations, *School-aged* students will remain in the gym with Mr. Means (and some other adults) to watch a movie and-or play card/board games. *Pre-school* aged children can stay in gym if parents feel that they can function with support from older siblings and light adult supervision. Parents are asked to keep *toddlers* and infants with them during presentations.

Counselor's Corner



Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year! I am happy to be returning to Southwood as the School Counselor and I am eager to continue creating positive relationships with students and building skills to enhance their learning, friendships, and emotional well-being. I have the joy of teaching all students Panther lessons every other week in all classrooms. Panther Lessons will focus on Social Emotional Learning goals in support of our school wide expectations for success and help staff build a common language in supporting students

We are SAFE
We are RESPECTFUL
We are RESPONSIBLE
We are PANTHERS!

Our first month of lessons reinforce the message of RESPECT and build a common understanding of empathy for grades 3-5 while the younger students learn skills for learning such as focusing attention and listening.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of support to your family or student.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bowen,
School Counselor
Southwood Elementary
360-802-7379
rebecca_bowen@enumclaw.wednet.edu

Helpful Information

Change of Plans: We have many students with multiple ways home this year! It helps all of us if you can decide which way your student usually goes home, i.e. bus or pick up. Then if that plan changes we ask that you send a note for the change. This will help us all make sure your child gets home the way they need to! When you send a note for a change please make sure you include information of where your child is going including the address. This helps the transportation department to deliver your student to the right place!

****In an emergency situation and you need to call the day of to make the change please be sure to call by 2:30 so that we can make sure the information gets to your student.**

School Hours: Our school day is from 9:00-3:30, except every Friday when we release at 2:15. **Students should not be at school before 8:45 as there is no supervision before that time. Also, please be prompt to pick your children up after school as no supervision is available after school. (M-Th.-3:30, Friday-2:15)**

School Notes: (i.e. bus, lunch money) Please be sure to put your student's first and last name and teacher or room number on all correspondence to the office. We have many duplicate first names and this makes it easier to get the right child!

Attendance: If your child is going to be absent please call the office at 360-802-7371. The office recorder is on at all times and you may call before or after hours. If your child is tardy for the day, please make sure he or she checks in at the office for a tardy slip. If you do not accompany them into the school, be sure they have a note from you with them.

Lunch Money: Lunch prices this year are:

Regular lunch - \$3:00 - Regular Breakfast - \$1.50

Milk \$.50 -Reduced lunch - \$.40

All students have their own accounts and may put in money for a day or multiple days.

****We have free/reduced lunch forms here at the office at all times. Please feel free to fill out the application to see if you qualify!**

Medication Policy

Prescribed or over-the counter oral medication may be dispensed to students on a scheduled basis upon written authorization from a parent and written authorization by a licensed health care professional. This includes cough drops or sore throat lozenges. Parents need to be the one to bring in the medications. If you have any questions, please contact our nurse Sherry Cole at 802-7383

Student Checkout Procedures

In order to keep student safe, we have a student checkout system that all staff are expected to follow. If you need to take your child (or if you are sending someone else to do so), please plan for the following.

1. Anyone who takes a child from school must be listed on the student's emergency form.
2. All students must be checked out through the office. Teachers are instructed not to release students at the classroom door. This ensures that (1 the office knows that the student is leaving, and leaving with an approved person, and (2 the person in charge of the classroom (who may be a guest teacher or specialist) is not put in the position of having to make a decision about release.

Please remember to send a note if your child has an appointment and will be leaving early. Students are then given a reminder note to put on their desk so that they can leave quietly at the appointed time and meet you in the office.

Attendance Awareness

With attendance being a crucial factor in keeping kids on the right path to graduation *Attendance Works*, has substantial information on attendance and the impact on student achievement. Please see below:

Start Strong – Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict frequent absences later in the school year. Nearly half of all students that missed more than two day of school in September went on to miss almost a month of school.

Chronic Absences – An estimated 5 to 7.5 million students in the United States miss almost a month of school a year. This adds up to over a year missed by the time of graduation.

Early Absences Lead to Attendance Issues in Later Grades – Absenteeism starts early. One in 10 kindergartners and first graders are considered to be “chronically absent.”

Chronic Absence= Missing two or more day per month – Research shows students who miss 10 percent of school, or two days per month show negative academic progress. In some schools, that adds up to 18 days a school year and is considered to be chronic absence.

Third Grade Reading Level – Poor attendance can keep children from reading proficiently by the end of third grade, which is shown to negatively affect their chances of graduating in time.

Dropout Indicator – By sixth grade, a chronically absent student is shown to have a significantly higher chance of dropping out of high school.

Excused Absences Hurt Too – Excused absence are just as negative as unexcused ones.

At Risk Students are at Risk of Absence – Students from low-income families are four times more likely to be chronically absent. Reasons for this are often out of the student’s control, such as unreliable transportation, unstable housing, and a lack of access to quality health care.

Every Minute Matters – If a student is 10 minutes late to school each day, this adds up to missing more than 33 hours of class time. A student with a 90 percent attendance average for Kindergarten through 12th grade will miss over a year of accumulated time in the classroom.

Adapted with permission from materials proved by Attendance Works (www.attendanceworks.org)

Safe Student Drop Off

If you are dropping your student off for school and you do not use the car drop off/pick up line, we would like to ask you to please park in the gravel area next to the soccer field.

It is unsafe for you and your child to cross McDougall Ave. and walk through the parking lot unless you use the crosswalk. The main road is used by school busses and people travelling to and from other schools. By using the gravel area your child can use the sidewalk all the way to the school grounds.



Picture Day Wednesday October 4



Forms will come home at the end of the week.

Committed to Safe and Civil Schools

Enumclaw School District is dedicated to creating positive and safe environments that support learning and teaching for all. If an individual or group sees or experiences harassment, intimidation or bullying, the District has a form available to report an incident (3207F) or reports can be made to staff members. Please visit our website to learn more about harassment, intimidation and bullying.

PTA Spirit Wear
Orders Due -Friday, Sept. 29th

(Order forms went home with the PTA
newsletter)



Kindergarten Field Trip
Thomasson Family Farm
Thursday, Oct. 5th



Newsletter Delivery

Southwood will be continuing our online and email only newsletter this year (except for our 1st edition). We have always posted our newsletter on our web page, which can be accessed by going to enumclaw.wednet.edu, then go to the "Schools" tab, and click on "Southwood." We will also be emailing the newsletter via our School Messenger system. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email please make sure we have your correct email! Our newsletter is usually published every two months.

If your family does not have internet access, and you would like to continue to receive the newsletter in the paper version, please fill out the tear-off below and return it to school. We will be sure a paper copy comes to you when the newsletter is published. If you have more than one child at Southwood, please indicate which child you would like to bring home the newsletter. Thank you for helping us conserve our resources!

Newsletter Needs

** Please return to the school office.

**Please send a paper copy home with my child _____,

Room _____ (Please choose one child if you have more than one child).

Parent _____

**Please email the newsletter to me:

My email is: _____

Southwood Phone List

Office 802-7370

Principal	Andy Means -802-7369
Office Manager	Christy Capps- 802-7373
Asst. Secretary	Kathy Corella -802-7371
Counselor	Becca Bowen -802-7379
Nurse	Sherry Cole – 802-7383

<u>Kindergarten</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
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Mrs. Beals	Room 605	7386
Mrs. Markquart	Room 606	7385
Mrs. Carnino	Room 606	7385
Mrs. Miller	Room 104	7408

1st

Ms. Wierenga	Room 601	7390
Mrs. Luke	Room 402	7406

Grade 2

Mrs. Hughes	Room 505	7394
Mrs. Cole	Room 403	7405

Grade 3

Ms. Thomson	Room 405	7399
Mrs. Haney	Room 501	7398

Grade 4

Ms. Johnson	Room 406	7402
Mrs. Emerson	Room 503	7396

Grade 5

Mrs. Stuenkel	Room 502	7397
Mrs. Stangland	Room 502	7397
Mrs. Stockwell	Room 405	7403

Highly Capable

Mrs. Drake	Room 602	7389
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Music

Ms. Steves	Room 101	7407
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P.E.

Mrs. Carlson		7412
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Schedule Note

Early Release Every Friday

2:15 pm



No School

October 6th

Teacher Planning Day

READ

Parent Pickup Alert

We would like to clarify the protocols for parent pickup at Southwood. If you are picking up a child in the parent pickup area on the curb, you must not leave your car. Students are assisted into vehicles as parents pull up to the curb, and it is important to keep the line moving to avoid congestion and to enforce safety. If you need more time or have special loading circumstances, please park in the lot, and come across to get your child.

The curb is actually zoned for emergency vehicles by the Fire Department, and is only to be used as a temporary place to load students. Thank you for your help in this matter.

No Parking

September



					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 PTA Fundraiser Assembly 2:30	21 Open House 6:30	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 PTA Spirit Wear orders due	30

October



1	2	3	4 Picture Day	5 Kindergarten to Thomasson Farms	6 No School Teacher Planning	7
8	9	10 PTA Meeting 4:30 Library	11 PTA Fundraiser orders and money due	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween 				