

Volume 23

Number 2

October 2007

South Western Welcomes New Faces! Meet the Latest Additions to the Mustang Family



PICTURED (Left to Right): FIRST ROW, SEATED: Tammy Fritz, Claire Eaton, Erin Trone, Tracey Bupp, Andrea King, Jessica Oleska, Kari Weaver, Melissa Wilson, Sharon Harris, Kristy Schrum, Stephanie Naymick. FIRST ROW, STANDING: Emily Dittrick, Amy Tarbell, Rachel Koenig, Jennifer Curry, Alison Maurer, Erin Dickensheets, Stacy McBride, Lindsey Masenheimer, Douglas Fuhrman, Warren Henrie. SECOND ROW, STANDING: Christopher Conover, Zane Grindle, Ning Chu, Charles Baumgardner. THIRD ROW, STANDING: Christopher Bowman, Zachary Toomey, Timothy Knapp, Kyle Wildasin, Tyler Sieg. NOT PICTURED: Kevin Duckworth, Lisa Neiderer and Eric Toomey.

South Western welcomed 33 new Mustangs to the faculty and staff for the 2007-2008 school year. This summer, they all took a moment from orientation for this great first year photo. Best wishes for a long and happy career at South Western!

Tammy Fritz joins the High School as a learning support teacher. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Tammy holds her Bachelors Degree in English and a Masters Degree in Special Education.

Recently graduating from Millersville University with a Bachelors Degree in Elementary and Special Education, **Claire Eaton** is a new face to Park Hills

Elementary as a learning support teacher.

Erin Trone joins the faculty at Park Hills Elementary as the school's guidance counselor. A graduate of Millersville University, Erin holds both a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Psychology and a Masters Degree in School Counseling.

After teaching for three years in Camden, Delaware, **Tracey Anne Bupp** joins the biology department at the High School. A graduate of Shippensburg University and Delaware State University, Tracey holds a Bachelors Degree in Biology and a

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A Note From the Superintendent

Dr. Barbara Rupp

Please accept our sincere thank you for your patience as we transition to the **New Student Information System**. This has been and continues to be a huge change for us. As with any major conversion, there are bumps in the road along the way. We have taken extra time in order for our teachers and staff to become more familiar with the new system and to work out any minor problems. We were with our previous vendor for over 15 years, and our old online gradebook for nearly five years. Our old vendor was not moving forward with their product that met our changing needs, and the old gradebook (Letter-Grade) was sold to another company two years ago. That company had stopped supporting the product, which led us to where we are today.



Please understand that we are not making excuses for our system not fully functioning, but I feel a necessity to explain to you, our parents, what we have been doing to accomplish our conversion to a new system. So far, we have taken the following steps:

- Staff and teachers were trained in various aspects of the new system
- Initial data conversions were performed to allow us to verify that the data was successfully transferred
- Demographic data was

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Inside

- Elementary Students Design for Boyds Bears
- Weather Closings
- Special District-Wide @ Your Library Section

"A Good Place to Be" Working to make it better, striving to make it best.

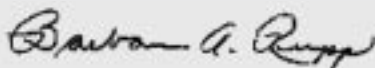
A Note From the Superintendent Continued from Cover

converted from our old system into the new

- Last spring, kindergarten registration was entered in the new system
- In July, new servers were installed and set up for the new system
- In August, student schedules were converted from the old system into the new system
- In late August, the data was migrated from their servers in Allentown, to our servers at SWSD
- On the first day of school, attendance was taken using the new system, and teachers began to enter assignments in the new gradebook
- Historical data, such as attendance, transcripts, and health history will be converted later in the year.

We are taking the steps necessary to ensure that when it is all completed, it will be right. We apologize for the inconvenience in your accessibility. Your discontent with our system not fully functioning assures us that you want to be a vital part of your child's education. By the time you receive this newsletter, all parents should have access to the parent portal.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding.



Equipping Our Students for the Future 2007 PA System of School Assessment Scores

By
Dr. Barbara Kehr
Assistant
Superintendent



In the spring of 2007, all students in grades 3-8 and 11 were assessed in reading and mathematics through the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 were also assessed in writing. This yearly assessment helps us to monitor student progress and to ensure that students graduate from high school with the skills they need to be successful in college

and in the workplace.

We are pleased to report that South Western School District made adequate yearly progress (AYP), both at the district level and in each of our six schools, with the exception of the IEP sub-group at the middle school. The chart below indicates the percentage of students who were either proficient or advanced in reading, math, and writing at each grade level.

We are pleased that our students continue to show strong performance in most grade levels and we are working hard to make changes in curriculum and remediation opportunities to help all students achieve proficiency prior to their graduation from South Western High School.

Percentage of Proficient Students

Grade	Reading	State Average	Math	State Average	Writing	State Average
3	75%	73%	81%	78%		
4	73%	70%	77%	78%		
5	53%	60%	77%	71%	70%	57%
6	62%	63%	70%	70%		
7	71%	67%	68%	67%		
8	80%	75%	75%	68%	88%	72%
11	70%	65%	54%	54%	89%	88%

WE NEED YOU For Strategic Planning!

To guide the work of schools in helping every child succeed in meeting the Pennsylvania Academic Standards, the Regulations of the State Board of Education require that each school district develop a strategic plan. Although strategic planning is a continuous process, Pennsylvania school districts are required to submit to the state a new comprehensive plan every six years. The 2007-08 school year is our year to engage in the strategic planning process for our district.

Research has shown that there is no single thing that districts can do to ensure high student performance. However, high performing school systems most often exhibit the following characteristics:

- Clear and shared focus
- High standards and expectations
- Effective district leadership
- High levels of collaboration and communication
- Curriculum, instruction, and assessment aligned with standards
- Frequent monitoring of teaching and learning
- Focused professional development
- A supportive learning environment
- High levels of community and parent involvement

Through our strategic planning process we will be collecting data, analyzing a district data portfolio, setting and prioritizing goals, and developing action plans. As part of our work, we will be looking not only at our instructional program within the district, but also at our teacher induction plan, our continuing professional education plan, our special education plan, and our district technology plan.

In order to increase the likelihood of our plan being successful, we would like the development process to include members of our South Western community. It is our goal to have the total community - parents, community leaders, business leaders, and students, as well as teachers and administrators - involved in the important work of developing our strategic plan.

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Welcome!

to South Western



New Teachers *Continued from cover*

Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

New to the High School as the school nurse, we welcome **Andrea King**. Andrea hails from East Stroudsburg University with a Bachelors Degree in Nursing. She most recently worked locally at the Hanover Hospital as a RN in critical care.

A graduate of Temple University with a Bachelors Degree in Education and Social Studies, **Jessica Oleksa** is the new instructional support teacher at EHMIS.

New to EHMIS as a seventh grade language arts teacher, we welcome **Kari Weaver**. Kari hails from Shippensburg University with a Bachelors Degree in English Education.

After seven years home with her family, **Melissa Wilson** is the new gifted support teacher serving dually at EHMIS and the High School. Melissa graduated from Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana, with a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education.

Sharon Harris joins the Baresville faculty as a reading specialist. She holds both Bachelors and Masters Degrees from Frostburg State University, Towson State University, the University of Maryland, Western Maryland College (since renamed McDaniel College), and Trinity.

With previous experience at Conewago Valley School District, **Kristy Schrum** joins Baresville as a first grade teacher. Kristy earned her Bachelors Degree in Behavioral Science and certifications in Elementary Education and Special Education from York College and Immaculata University.

Formerly employed by LIU #12, **Stephanie Naymick** joins EHMIS as a learning support teacher. She is a graduate of West Virginia University and Immaculata University and holds Bachelors Degrees in Recreation Therapy and Secondary Special Education.

Emily Dittrick joins the EHMIS faculty as the seventh and eighth grade German and Latin teacher. A graduate of Millersville University, Emily has a Bachelors Degree in German.

Amy Tarbell joins West Manheim Elementary as a fifth grade teacher. Amy has a Bachelors Degree in Health and Physical Education and Elementary Education from Gettysburg College.

After teaching special education in the Philadelphia Public Schools, **Rachael Koenig** joins the Park Hills Elementary faculty as a learning support teacher. Rachel holds both a Bachelors and Mas-

ters Degree from Eastern University.

New to the High School as a mathematics teacher, **Jennifer Curry** hails from Penn State University with a Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education: Math and in Film and Video.

Alison Maurer joins the faculty at both EHMIS and Manheim Elementary as an art teacher. Alison graduated from Kutztown University with a Bachelors Degree in Art Education.

Erin Dickensheets joins the Manheim Elementary faculty as a fifth grade teacher. Erin holds a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education and graduated from Shippensburg University.

Stacy McBride joins the Baresville Elementary faculty as a kindergarten teacher. Stacy has earned a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education from Penn State University and a Masters Degree in Reading from Shippensburg University.

Lindsay Masenheimer joins the Park Hills and Baresville Elementary faculty as a learning support teacher for grades three and five. Lindsay hails from Millersville University with a Bachelors Degree in Elementary and Special Education.

Previously employed at LIU #12, **Douglas Fuhrman** joins South Western as the new staff accountant in central admin. He holds a Bachelors of Science in Accounting from York College.

Warren Henrie joins the EHMIS faculty as the new STEEDS teacher. "Manny's" Bachelors Degrees from Bloomsburg University include Political Science, Secondary Education and Citizenship.

New to the EHMIS mathematics team is **Chris Conover**. He recently graduated from Shippensburg University with a Bachelors Degree in Mathematics.

A graduate of Penn State University, **Zane Grindle** is the newest member of the science department at EHMIS teaching seventh grade environmental science. Zane earned his Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education.

Ning Chu joins the High School as a teacher in the English department. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education: English from Penn State University and a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Bloomsburg University.

Previously employed at Littlestown Area School District, **Charles Baumgardner** joins South Western as the new director of transportation. "Chuck" attended Ohio Diesel Tech trade school.

Previously employed at the Gettysburg Area School District, **Christopher Bowman** is the new

New Bus Drivers

The Transportation Department has added six new drivers for the 2007-08 school year:

Donald Althouse

Judy Bankert

Janel Edwards

Valerie Gatz

Claudia Jones

Kim Smith

assistant principal at the High School. Chris has earned a Bachelors Degree of Science in Music Education from Gettysburg College and a Master of Science in Educational Administration from McDaniel College.

Joining the EHMIS and High School faculty as a physical education and aquatics teacher, **Zachary Toomey** hails from East Stroudsburg University with a Bachelors Degree in Physical Education and Health.

A recent graduate of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with a Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education: Social Studies and History, **Tim Knapp** is the new seventh grade world geography teacher at EHMIS.

Kyle Wildasin joins the High School faculty in the social studies department. Kyle holds a Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education as a History Major from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Tyler Sieg is new this year to the High School where he will be teaching power technology, photography and electronics. Tyler is a graduate of Millersville University with a Bachelors Degree in Technology Education.

Not pictured:

Previously employed as principal at Danville Middle School, **Kevin Duckworth** is the new principal at EHMIS. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education and a Masters Degree in Educational Administration. He attended York College, McDaniel College and Immaculata University.

Previously employed in the Littlestown Area School District, **Lisa Neiderer** joins Park Hills Elementary as a reading specialist. Lisa earned her Bachelors Degree in Elementary and Special Education from Millersville University and a Masters Degree in Reading from McDaniel College.

Eric Toomey is the new guidance counselor at EHMIS. Eric graduated from Elizabethtown College with a Bachelors Degree in Psychology and also from Western Maryland College (since renamed McDaniel College) with a Masters Degree in Counselor Education.

Helping Families Help Their Children

Raising kids and keeping our families healthy can be a difficult, and sometimes overwhelming, job. That's why Park Hills is excited to announce the organization of a Family Resource Library. Thanks to a generous grant from the South



**Family Resource Library
@PARK HILLS ELEMENTARY**

Western Center for Professional Development and continued funding from the Park Hills PTA, resources dealing with a variety of family needs will be made available to all Park Hills families.

The Family Resource Library is located within the Park Hills School library. Parents can visit to find books, CDs, videotapes and DVDs about a variety of topics, such as:

- *Sibling Relationships*
- *Coping with Grief & Crisis*
- *Family Dynamics, Including Divorce & Separation*
- *Human Development & Sexuality*
- *Parenting Strategies for Behavior Management*
- *Personal & Online Safety*
- *Support for Families with Special Needs Children*
- *Learning Styles & Differences*

All materials will be checked out using the student's school identification number and may be kept for as long as needed. Materials in high demand may be requested to be returned in a timely manner. Additionally, all materials should be returned prior to the end of the school year for inventory purposes. Summer access to materials may be granted at the discretion of the principal.

Learn more about this wonderful resource from the program coordinators, Mrs. Christina Owens, instructional support teacher or Mrs. Shannon Resh, librarian, or by visiting the school library web site at www.swsd.k12.pa.us/~shannon_resh.

Read! Read! Read!

The West Manheim Elementary students, staff, and community are working together this year on the district elementary focus of reading. At West Manheim, reading is being emphasized from the moment the children walk in the door. When the children arrive each day, they go into the cafeteria for a school-wide Sustained Silent Reading (SSR). They then head-off to class where they learn more about literary and grammatical terms through our daily announcements. During language arts instruction, students work with their classroom teacher on reading instruction via anthology and guided reading lessons. Teachers

are meeting each day with their most tangled readers for a dose of guided reading instruction. In addition, these students are being given extra support by our reading Specialists, Mrs. Hartlaub and Mrs. Holtzapple on a daily basis.

Integration of reading into the math and content areas is also occurring at West Manheim. Students have the opportunity to use the Success Maker computer program to support their reading instruction in the classroom. Teachers are using nonfiction texts and internet resources to support content instruction. Even art, music, library, and physical education are getting involved by including a word wall in each of their areas and referencing it throughout their day.

Students are also being encouraged to read at home. All students have required at-home

"PIZZAZZ " In The Library



(above) Emily Feeser, Library Aide, and Kim Porter, librarian, give their best ARRR!



(right) Students paint their "treasures."

were the words heard often from the energetic staff to the many who succeeded in labeling many of the pictures correctly. "These type of things bring the pizzazz back to the library," says Chris, eighth grader.

The activities reached a climax with the "Book Chat." Many who

Over 140 students from sixth to eighth grade participated in a fun, week long treasure hunt that was hosted by the MMC Staff. The hunt reflected the Readers Club book selection for the month of September, *Pirate Curse*. The students followed the map to different locations within the MMC and identified hidden photographs of teachers from their "younger days" here at EHMIS. It encouraged the sixth graders to get to know many of the teachers that they didn't know, and evoked much laughter and reminiscing of good times with favorite past teachers. The hunt ended with finding the delicious treasure. "ARR, Great job to ya!!"

attended expressed their likes and dislikes of the happenings in the book, favorite characters, and even things that they would like to see happen in a sequel. Then, with paintbrushes in hand, they created a treasure chest of their own, which they filled with glass gems and candy. When asked this question, "What is your greatest treasure?" Chris answered, "My Uncle Mike." Our families and friends are our greatest treasures!

What a great month of reading and activities @ the library. Just imagine what next month will hold!

reading assignments and teachers are encouraging students to read across the curriculum. Programs like Book-It and Classrooms That Care will be used throughout the year to encourage student reading for a cause. Other incentive programs including the library's own reading program (Reader's Club) and a fifth grade reading incentive program will also be used to encourage students to develop the life-long habit of reading at home.

The teachers and staff at West Manheim are also hoping to sponsor a few other exciting reading programs throughout the upcoming year. Read Aloud Nights, Guest/Se-



cret Readers, Drop Everything and Read Times, the Read with Freedom program, Reading Buddies program, all are initiatives we hope to implement throughout this year.

To all of you who support our students here at South Western, we ask your continued support in these and in other reading initiatives occurring throughout the district. Encourage your children to read and set a good example by taking the time to read with them each day. Remember reading, like any other skill, takes practice. So, help all our students and... Read! Read! Read!

Students Enjoy Reading at Baresville!



Baresville librarian Barb Schumacher pictured with some very enthusiastic Bookaroos.

"Saddle Up and Read, Bookaroo!" is this year's theme for all the elementary libraries. Baresville readers have visited the school library and are excited about this year's theme, since it relates so well to our district's name. After all WE ARE - SOUTH WEST!

At their first library class, all district elementary students received a packet of materials to help them care for books which included a "Saddle Up and Read, Bookaroo!" book bag and bookmark.

All district elementary students visit the school library once every four day cycle to have a library lesson and to check out books. Kindergarten students select one book, first and second grade students select two and third through fifth grade students may select up to three. Third through fifth grade students also have the opportunity for quiet reading time following their regular library class time every other cycle. When you enter the library on those days, you can hear a pin drop!

Library instruction features lessons on library citizenship, literature appreciation, author/illustrator studies, the Dewey Decimal System, technology, internet safety, reference and research skills and use of the computer catalog to locate books.

The librarians are planning the annual district-wide elementary Readers' Club to begin January 14, 2008, and extend until "Read Across America Day" on March 2nd. Each year, our students meet and exceed the school goal of minutes to be read at home. This year's theme will feature phrases such as "Wanted: Mustang Readers" and "Lasso a Good Book at your Library".

Our libraries are better places because of the commitment of our administration, teachers, parents and our students to reading, reading and more reading!

LOL @ Teen Read Week @ SWHS Library

Since 1998, Teen Read Week has been celebrated during the third week in October. Teens are encouraged to make time to read for the fun of it. This year's slogan is "LOL@your library" reminding us that teens love to use the internet to communicate and "Laugh out Loud."

To celebrate Teen Read Week the library offered a book club discussion group to students interested in reading The Gospel According to Larry by Janet Tashjian. The library received 15 hard copies of the book from a contest offered by the authors of The Kids Book Club. In The Gospel According to Larry, Josh, a seventeen-year-old is trying to make a difference in the world. Through a web site he creates, he reveals his passion against consumerism, and other materialistic attitudes. Josh assumes the name "Larry" and while trying to maintain his secret identity his popularity rises and "Larry" receives national attention creating a media frenzy. When his friends and family find out he is Larry, his life will never be the same.

Students who signed up for the book club were introduced to the book during an advisory period, given time to read it during Teen Read Week, and then took part in a follow up discussion of the book. Of course, snacks were included! Anyone who checked out a book during Teen Read Week was eligible to sign up to win a "basket of goodies" which included a gift certificate to Walden Books.



High school students dig into the book club selection.

16 Retire from South Western in '06-'07

Pamela Myers

Baresville, 1st Grade

Cindy Christensen

Park Hills, Guidance Counselor

Judy Porowski

Park Hills, Reading Specialist

Belinda Sabaka

West Manheim, Reading Specialist

Coleen Lilley

EHMIS, Language Arts

Edward Ahrens

EHMIS, Physical Education

Dave Zimmerman

High School, Assistant Principal

Nancy Jones

Elementary Building Aide

Chuck Seidenstricker

High School, Mathematics

Marcia Peters

High School, Social Studies

Richard McKim

EHMIS, Technology Education

Patricia Trone

Park Hills, 2nd Grade

Regina Krysaik

*Director of
Transportation*

Nancy Garrett

Attendance Secretary

Joyce Wentz

Guidance Secretary

James Ernst

Maintenance

**with a
combined
422
years of
service
to the
district**

Bears Win Big at Boyds Birthday Bash!

Our South Western elementary schools were invited by Boyds Bears in Gettysburg to help celebrate their 5th Anniversary. Boyds donated a three foot tall canvas bear to each building to be decorated and entered into a contest. Students were encouraged to decorate their bear however they chose under the direction of their art teachers.

The art teachers at the elementary schools got the children involved. The bear from Manheim was painted head to toe with scenes of the four seasons. Park Hills students created a spirit bear wearing a unique pair of thumbprint polka dotted overalls. The theme for the Baresville bear was inspired by artist Jim Dine whose iconic hearts and checkers adorned the bear's painted on clothing. West Manheim students covered their bear with fur and gave him a paint smock and art supplies, all ready for class!

Sixteen different area elementary schools entered the contest and were judged in three categories: Best Theme, Most Creative, and Most "Boysie." Voting was done by folks visiting Boyds Bear country during their Anniversary Event. Once completed, South Western came away with two honors: Park Hills won Best Theme with their bear, and West Manheim earned an Honorable Mention for Most Creative.

For more on Boyds Bears and the Anniversary contest, visit www.boydsbearcountry.com/newz/.



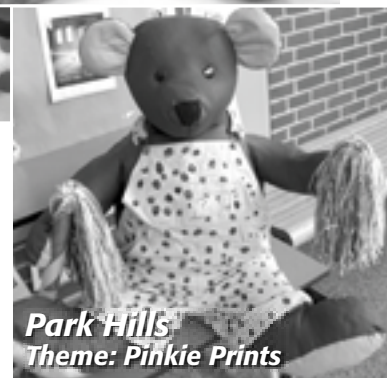
Manheim
Theme: Seasons



Baresville
Theme: Jim



West Manheim
Theme: Patches



Park Hills
Theme: Pinkie Prints

Employees Help During 2007 United Way Day of Caring

Several employees of the district volunteered their time for the recent United Way Day of Caring on September 18th. This nationwide program is a day of service when hundreds of volunteers from local companies and organizations make a difference in the lives of students and clients by completing much-needed projects at local agencies and schools.

The group from South Western spent the day at the Hanover Area YWCA and helped by painting the main gymnasium!

Throughout York County communities, more than 600 volunteers from 51 workplaces participated in the Day of Caring.

A special "Thanks!" goes to these folks who gave of their time for our community on this important day!



PICTURED: (Front Row, L to R) Jill Shirey, Eric Klanssek, Casi Hodum, Deb Smith (Back Row, L to R) Erica Zinn, Dr. Barb Rupp, Claudia Simmons, Jay Fuller, Julie Fuller

community *info*

Weather Closings

In the event that weather forces school delays or closings, announcements will appear on the following media outlets:

Radio

WHP 580AM	WGET 1320AM	WYCR 98.5FM
WSBA 910AM	WPOC 93.1FM	KISS 99.3FM
WBAL 1090AM	BOB 94.9FM	WARM 103FM
WHVR 1280AM	WRVV 97.3FM	WGTY 107.7FM

Television

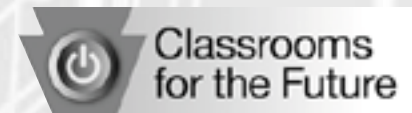
WGAL TV 8	WHP-CBS 21	WPMT FOX 43
WLYH TV 15	WHTM TV 27	

Internet

www.cancellations.com www.wgal.com/closings

Back to the Future

Today's students have grown up in a world filled with technology. Thanks to a Classrooms for the Future grant, South Western High School students will soon find that technology is an integral part of their learning as well. Governor Rendell, in proposing this innovative grant stated, "If we are to adequately prepare our students to effectively compete in the global marketplace, we must transform how they learn and how teachers teach."



Through the creation of "smart classrooms," Classrooms for the Future schools will transform learning. Using laptop computers for students, multimedia tools, and professional development for educators, the goal of "smart classrooms" is to enhance the teaching process and prepare students to compete in an increasingly high-tech global marketplace. Laptops, projection devices, and Smart Boards will be purchased for 13 of our science, English, math, and social studies classrooms with the \$423,577 that South Western will receive. The funding also provides teachers and school leaders with extensive training on how to best use technology to increase student achievement and to ensure students are ready for college and careers.

Governor Rendell stresses that Classrooms for the Future is not so much a grant about technology as it is about reforming the way teachers teach and students learn in our high schools. Through the grant we at South Western will have the opportunity to create a learning environment for students promoting higher level thinking skills through inquiry, project-based learning, and differentiated instruction. For students, the infusion of technology into classrooms will mean a change from being a passive listener to becoming an active learner. Meanwhile teachers will become facilitators, guides, and co-investigators as part of the instructional process.

We are excited to have been selected as a Classrooms for the Future grant recipient and look forward to the many opportunities the grant will provide for us to help our students achieve.

South Western Dollars for Scholars Make A Difference Week '07

South Western Dollars for Scholars provided \$23,750 in scholarships for our students in 2007. In order to provide scholarship opportunities, South Western Dollars for Scholars conducts several fund-raising activities throughout the year. Make a Difference Week is just one such event. The 2007 "Make a Difference Week" was held in April and was very successful raising \$3,714.07. Several local restaurants participated in "Make a Difference Week" including McDonalds, Subway, Pizza Hut, Bill Bateman's, Friendly's Ice Cream, Big Mike's Crabhouse and Grill and Isaac's Restaurant. Students and staff in all district buildings also participated in "Make a Difference Week" fund-raising activities. Thank you to all who helped make the 2007 "Make a Difference Week" such a success.

You can help us to provide educational opportunities for our students. Tax deductible contributions can be made to South Western Dollars for Scholars and mailed to:

**South Western School District
Attn: Sherry Meckley
225 Bowman Road
Hanover, PA 17331**

Strategic Planning Continued from page 2

If you are interested in becoming a part of our strategic planning team, either as a member of the steering committee or as part of an action planning team, we hope you will consider joining us. Most meetings will be held in the evening on a night that accommodates the largest number of the committee members. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to be a part of our strategic planning process, please call Barbara Kehr, Assistant Superintendent at 632-2548 ex. 20001 or e-mail at barbara_kehr@swsd.k12.pa.us.

Community Swim



The pool at EHMIS is open to the public **Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:45 PM** for a minimal fee. Lifeguards and access to locker rooms are provided.

Dates to Note

November 9
Report Cards Distributed

November 12 & 13
EHMIS Parent Visitation
8:35 AM - 3:13 PM

November 13
Parent Conferences:
EHMIS 6 - 9 PM

November 14
School Board Meeting
7 PM

November 15
Parent Conferences:
All Elementary Schools
5 - 8 PM
EHMIS 3:30 - 6:30 PM

November 16
K-8 SCHOOLS CLOSED
Parent Conferences:
All Elementary Schools
7:30 AM - 3:15 PM
EHMIS All Day

November 21-26
School Closed
THANKSGIVING BREAK

December 5
School Board
Reorganization Meeting
6:30 PM

December 19
School Board Meeting
7 PM

December 24 - January 2
School Closed
HOLIDAY BREAK

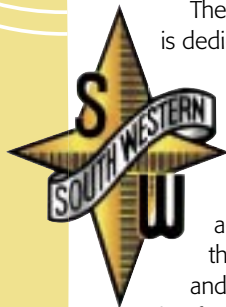
January 3, 2008
Return to School

South Western School District
225 Bowman Road
HANOVER, PA 17331

Non Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT NO. 12
Hanover, PA

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

Mission Statement



The South Western School District is dedicated to providing a continually improving educational environment, through a cooperative effort with the family and the entire community, in which all students are encouraged and expected to achieve their full potential, to express themselves clearly, to think reflectively, and to interact responsibly in preparation for lifelong personal growth.

*Adopted by the Board of School Directors
October 24, 1990; Revised March 25, 2002*

Learning to Surf Safe!

Parents throughout the district attended an Internet Safety Night held on October 18th at EHMIS. South Western and Comcast partnered to welcome Chuck Favata to share information about protecting our children while online. Mr. Favata was a classroom teacher for 35 years before retiring to do this type of presentation full time.



Through a simulation of internet activity, parents and families became aware of the tactics and tools pedophiles use to search and elicit information from online conversations or postings and how they use this information to entrap prospective targets. Knowledge of these tactics will enable families to better understand the dangers faced by children while online.

The intent of the presentation was to go beyond the typical list of "Do's" and "Don'ts" for students on the internet. More information is available about online safety at www.chuckfavata.com.



FOR MORE
USEFUL INFO
VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.SWSD.K12.PA.US



School Board Meetings

School Board meetings are conducted at 7:00 PM on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the Administrative Conference Room, unless otherwise announced. Residents are invited to attend. Requests to formally address the Board should be made in writing to the Superintendent's office ten days in advance of public meetings.

The South Western School District complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Public Law 90-202 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or physical handicap.

Any questions concerning South Western School District's programs and policies should be addressed to: Administration Office, 225 Bowman Road, Hanover, PA 17331, 717-632-2500.