

Volume 23

Number 4

May 2008

'07-'08 Teachers of the Year

In this issue, we are excited to announce the individuals who have been selected by their peers as Teachers of the Year for the 2007-08 school year.

Faculty throughout the district nominated 15 teachers at the elementary schools, 18 teachers at the intermediate school, and 22 teachers at the high school. High school students also nominated 93 teachers. As we have consistently said here at South Western, these teachers are representative of the many outstanding, dedicated, and caring teachers with whom we interact daily. Please take time to congratulate our selected representatives.



Elementary Schools

Barbara Schumacher, Librarian - Baresville

(Finalist) *Jessie Gobrecht, 5th Grade - Baresville*

(Finalist) *David Ryer, Kindergarten - Park Hills*

(Finalist) *Sara Staub, 5th Grade - West Manheim*

Intermediate School

Carol Myers, 6th Grade

(2nd Time Finalist) *Tom Clark, Social Studies*

(Finalist) *Mack Warner, 6th Grade*

High School

Paul Zeroth, Technology Education

(Finalist) *Judy Martin, Business Education*

(Finalist) *Bob Glover, Art*

Barbara Schumacher Librarian - Baresville

Barb Schumacher has been an educator for 27 years. She first began her career as a fifth grade teacher in the Waynesboro School District. Barb was hired by the Spring Grove School District in the fall of 1986 and was employed by South Western in the fall of 1990. She has served students at three of our elementary schools and is currently the librarian for Baresville Elementary. Barb describes herself as happy, friendly, approachable, helpful, fun and caring. She

Continued on pg. 4 ➡

A Note From the Superintendent

Dr. Barbara Rupp

Excitement Begins for Manheim Elementary

Renovations and additions are designed for Manheim Elementary School, and recently a meeting was held at EHMIS to inform the public about our plans for the building and its students. At the meeting, the need for the project and the options the board considered were explained. The architect from Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates outlined the project and shared the site and floor plan. The district also explained the financing needed for this building.



Manheim Elementary School is the last of the district buildings to be updated so that the educational opportunities at Manheim are consistent with what is available in all of our other schools. A team of administrators and architects has been working to address the educational program and student capacity deficiencies at Manheim. When completed, Manheim Elementary will hold 325 students.

The board recently approved a bid to remove all asbestos from Manheim Elementary School. Asbestos removal will occur this

Continued on pg. 2 ➡

Inside

- Strategic Planning Committee
- Students Win Big At The PA-TSA Conference
- Summer Reading Club

A Note From the Superintendent

Continued from cover

summer. Based on the discussion at the public hearing, construction will begin during the summer of 2009. At the present time, we are planning on putting the Manheim students and staff in the Emory H. Markle Intermediate School using a "school within a school" concept during the 2009-2010 school year. The students and staff will be in a specific area of the middle school, separate from the intermediate school students. While this will be a temporary inconvenience for the Manheim students and the intermediate school students, it will enable us to complete the building of Manheim by August 2010.

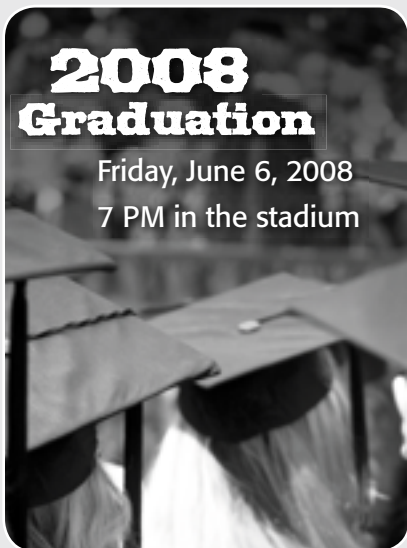
At the time of completion, we are planning on changing enrollment boundaries for Manheim and West Manheim, so that approximately 100 students from West Manheim will then be reassigned to Manheim. This redistricting will provide us with space for growth at each of the elementary buildings.

Plans for Manheim are available at our district office for you to preview. Our many thanks to those who joined us on May 21 and took advantage of the opportunity for input.

Barbara A. Rupp

2008 Graduation

Friday, June 6, 2008
7 PM in the stadium



Planning Six Years Ahead of Time

Our strategic planning committee works for the future

By
Dr. Barbara Kehr
Assistant
Superintendent



For the past five months a dedicated group of teachers, parents, students, community members and administrators have been meeting to develop the strategic plan which will help guide our district's direction for the next six years. The committee began by reviewing the goals and accomplishments of our previous strategic plan, our district mission statement, and the characteristics of high performing education systems. We spent our next two meetings reviewing a variety of achievement, demographic, perception, and contextual data as a way to analyze our strengths and areas of need. Some areas of strength identified by the committee include the following:

- *Advances in reading and math proficiency, as measured by the PSSA at some grade levels*
- *Strong writing scores at the middle and high schools*
- *Parent support for school activities*
- *High participation at elementary and middle school parent-teacher conferences*
- *A variety of connections between the schools and the community*
- *Many professional development opportunities for teachers*
- *Increased diversity in our student population*

Areas of need revealed through data analysis included a drop in reading and math achievement at the beginning of each school year and when students transition from one level to the next within the district; a lower graduation rate than some other districts in York County; and an increase in the number of students needing remedial services.

When setting goals for the strategic plan, the committee tried to look at ways to build upon our strengths while also finding ways to address areas of weakness. Through data analysis and our discussions, the following four goal areas were identified for the district's plan:

1. *Meeting the needs of 21st century learners*
Ensuring that students have the life and career skills needed to be successful in the 21st century, including exposure to world languages.
2. *Creating a vision for student success*
Having higher percentages of students proficient in reading, math, and writing as measured by PSSA, and increasing district SAT scores.
3. *Increasing the graduation rate by 1.5% each year over the next six years*
4. *Increasing parent involvement*



annual progress is made toward our goals. Many thanks to the following individuals who worked with the members of our administrative team developing the plan:

- *Board members: Ann Rinker, Ann Dietz*
- *Students: Ben Shultz, Brianna D'Agata, Mason Brady*
- *Parents: Harald Maas, Sharon Warrington*
- *Community Members: Tina McCole, Nils Parr, Jim Sigler*
- *Teachers: Bill Flaherty, Susan Glover, Andrea Halter, David Janusz, Amy Kauffman, Kyle Kauffman, Shannon Resh, Kyle Simon, Bryan Tayman, Molly Wiles, Jennifer Wilson*

Technology Education Going Strong at South Western

The Technology Student Association (TSA) from SW High School and EHMIS recently attended the PA State TSA Conference held at Seven Springs Resort April 9 through 12. Over 1500 high school and middle school students from across the state attended the 4-day leadership conference and competed in a variety of technology-related events.

Twenty-five 7th and 8th grade students from EHMIS competed against 47 other middle schools chapters and performed quite well with outstanding results. The team of Andi Duran-Dean and Courtney Helt won the state championship in Technology Problem Solving, in which they engineered an on-site prototype of a pet parrot feeding device. Three second place trophies were awarded - one to the team of Jacob Biddle and Kaleb Gatz for their Agriculture and Biotechnology solution called "Underground Farming." Jasmine Null won 2nd place for her computer-generated safety poster design. And Andi Duran-Dean won 2nd place for her t-shirt stencil logo design "TSA - Shaping the Future."

Two 3rd place trophies were awarded - Josh Hughes for his presentation as a Software Designer in Career Challenge, and Ryan Hertzog for his unique prototype of a glider in Flight Challenge. Several other students from the EHMIS were top-ten finalists in their events.



Several students from South Western High School and EHMIS recently competed and placed in their events at the 2008 Pennsylvania Technology Students Association (TSA) State Leadership Conference held at Seven Springs Resort. Front row: David Zinn, advisor, Jacob Biddle, Matthew Hoke, Alex Rhone, Courtney Helt, Kennedy Bahlow, Garrett Kolmer, Kaleb Gatz, Joshua Hughes, Ryan Hertzog, Jennifer Reasin, and Melissa Wilson, advisor. Middle row: Joey Sheldon, Mackenzie Bortner, Jasmine Null, Laken Bull, Andi Duran-Dean, Sean Bathgate, Jody Slagle, Alex Moore, Alyx May, Hannah Myers, Sydney Szparaga, and Lindsay Harrison. Back row: Connor Dell, Chae Jubb, David Stevens, Matt Myers, and Ryan Dotson.

Congratulations to all the students from South Western on a job well done! The TSA advisors for South Western High School and EHMIS are Melissa Wilson and David Zinn.

now have the opportunity to move on to compete at the National TSA Conference in Orlando, Florida at the end of June.

The top students and teams in the state will

For more information in regards to TSA visit www.PATSA.org

St. Jude's Math-A-Thon



Wow! Our Park Hills students did it again! By solving math problems for St. Jude's, the students earned \$3417.60!! What an amazing amount of money for such an important cause. Thanks to everyone for participating, and a special thank you to Mrs. Daniel for coordinating the Math-a-thon!

Step Up! National Student Leadership Week

This year was the first year for the high school to participate in National Student Leadership Week. The goals of the week were to recognize student leaders for all that they do for South Western, encourage other students to step up and take initiative, and help the students and faculty of the high school realize the impact student leadership can have.

To accomplish all of these goals Alyssa Rommel, a senior of South Western, decided to organize a type of spirit week. The week began with a breakfast for all of the officers and advisors of the different service organizations of the high school. A total of 48 students and 17 advisors were present at the breakfast where they had the opportunity to hear from Mr. Kyle Kauffman, high school Student Council advisor, and from Mr.



John Quashnoc, former high school principal. These two very inspiring individuals, both with a strong passion for student leadership, left the students with words of wisdom focusing on the importance of student leadership in today's world. Mr. Quashnoc also spoke about the legacy we will leave behind on South Western after we all graduate. The students were then presented with certificates commending them for their hard work and dedication.

The remainder of the week focused on encouraging others to get involved. Information on ways for students to get involved was displayed on all lunch

Continued on pg. 6 ➡

feels that the most rewarding aspect of her job is her contact with all students of Baresville. She also values her time and interaction with the staff and the elementary library team.

Mrs. Schumacher exhibits excellence in the classroom as she uses cooperative learning settings and games to reinforce reference and book retrieval skills. She emphasizes a positive classroom environment and clearly stated rules. In the library program, Barb teaches about plagiarism, cyber bullying and Internet safety through programs such as I Keep Safe, NetSMARTZ and Stranger Danger.



Mrs. Barbara Schumacher

Barb has earned 39 graduate credits beyond her master's degree and attends workshops provided by the district. She attends the Pennsylvania School Librarians' Association conference each year in Hershey.

Mrs. Schumacher developed the Baresville Parent Resource Library in conjunction with the Baresville PTA and attends PTA functions. She exhibits a willingness to aid former and current students who have shared interest in a career in library science. Barb communicates with parents through e-mails, phone calls, and library correspondences.

Barb has served as a mentor to three teachers new to the district and works very closely with all regular educators to meet their curricular needs with books and materials. She supplies new teachers with a small tour of the library and an informational packet about the library and allows prospective educators to shadow her. Barb coordinates the culminating activity to the Readers' Club incentive program.

Mrs. Schumacher is passionate about children's literature and stays current of new titles. Barb says she aligns herself to the main character in the book *Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo who is able to forgive and free others. She has also served as the Sunday School Superintendent at her church.

Carol Myers EHMIS 6th Grade Teacher

Carol Myers eats, sleeps, and breathes teaching. For Carol, achievement is the bottom line. She believes creating an atmosphere where the students can excel and achieve their fullest potential is essential. One of her goals is to instill the love of lifelong learning by addressing their needs. Her passion for teaching is evident to the students, thereby fostering their passion for learning. Mrs. Myers' instructional design goes in depth rather than just skimming the surface. Her teaching takes students from where they are and moves them forward by showing them what they can accomplish. Making the students feel capable and showing them all they can achieve, fosters their own learning. To Carol, hearing the comment, "What, class is over already?" is success.



'07-'08 Teachers of the Year

Since completing her master's degree from McDaniel College in counseling in 2004, Carol has earned an additional 45 credits. Carol will be a presenter for a graduate class at Penn State York this summer called "Institute for Diverse Literacy/Stone Soup" where she will share information on the success of the PA Young Reader's Award program in the middle school with other professionals.

Mrs. Myers attends the Pennsylvania School Librarian's Association Conference in Hershey each year, and this spring she was asked to select and accompany two of her students to attend the awards breakfast at Hershey to present Ridley Pearson, the winner of the PA Young Reader's Award Program, with his award.

When it comes to delivering content in the classroom, some may call it "hamming" it up, but Carol chooses to call it making history come alive! Donning costumes and adding props to her presentations makes history coming alive, piques students' interests, and gains their attention. Students are encouraged to take risks while extending their comfort zones and feeling empowered. Gizmos, gadgets, fly swatters, and "Easy Buttons," provide interactive actions and high interest from the students as they prepare and review for a test. Music, excerpts from books, and dancing motive and engage Mrs. Myers' students. Differentiation using the multiple intelligences provides opportunities for all types of learners.

Carol has developed an activity involving the burying of "I Can't" which made students aware of what they can do. Not being able to use "I Can't" anymore forces them to take ownership of their thoughts and actions. The RIP tombstone that rests on the wall serves as a constant reminder to all students.

She makes home visits and feels that they have played an integral part in making connections with her students. She can view them as a whole person, not just a student. By understanding and knowing the family, she can help in the overall development of the student. She does a follow-up letter to the student thanking them and highlighting positive information from the home visit.



Mrs. Carol Myers & Student

school's Peer Helper program.

She is a member of the Athletic Booster Club and the Band Booster Club. Carol trained and participated in the YWCA Moms and Mentors Program. She found mentoring pregnant teens and teens that already had a baby to be challenging but gratifying. Being a positive role model for these teens provided them with support and hope.

Mrs. Myers' passions, goals, and initiatives within her teaching journey led her to become the middle school's Teacher of the Year for the 2007-2008 school year.

Paul Zeroth High School Technology Education Teacher

Mr. Zeroth's teaching style is one that is sincere, challenging, and authentic. He creates a rigorous classroom environment that motivates and engages his students in real learning. He makes it a point to have his students claim ownership of their education, demonstrate responsibility, make competent decisions, become intrinsically motivated, and seek

excellence in all their classroom tasks. Mr. Zeroth creates interesting assignments that "hook" students with technology thus requiring them to think outside the box in a personalized and meaningful manner.

Paul is truly a life-long learner and strongly encourages his students to become life-long learners as well. He has developed into an effective classroom teacher partly because of his extensive course work beyond his Master's Degree. His commitment to personal development is reflected in his teaching, coaching, and other duties outside the classroom. He continues to challenge himself by enrolling in graduate courses, writing grants, and serving as Curriculum Leader and Department Chairperson for the Technology Education Department.

Upon entering Mr. Zeroth's student-centered classroom one will encounter students who are "actively engaged in creating". He recognizes the importance that technology plays in our 21st century society. He makes it a priority to incorporate hands-on activities that require his students to use technology skills, creativity, and critical thinking to solve real world problems. In addition, he balances "non-traditional" instructional techniques [such as guest speakers, field trips, and oral multi-media presentations] with "traditional" strategies in his performance-based labs.

Paul's concern for students and his ability to "adapt to kids" allows him to shape his classroom and instruction to meet the needs of his students. He works hard to develop a positive rapport with those in his class. He

takes the time to know each student on a more personal level through one on one interaction. He demonstrates his expectation of academic excellence by displaying exemplary student work throughout the school, entering into contests, and posting student portfolios on his webpage.

Mr. Zeroth's involvement with development of a Pre-Engineering course at South Western provides students with the opportunity to pursue their interests in industrial design, engineering, and related occupations. This rigorous course enables students to demonstrate creativity by creating innovative projects to show their understanding of the course's objectives. In addition, the course connects with other disciplines by reinforcing speaking and writing skills.

"From the moment I am in front of my students life is good."

This quote from Mr. Zeroth is very descriptive of his love of students and passion for teaching.

The countless hours he spends at school and his willingness to complete tasks beyond his regular teaching schedule serve as a reminder of his commitment to academic excellence and this school district. In addition, he encourages students to recognize teachers and staff by applauding when they enter the classroom. One of the most rewarding personal achievements for Paul was having an article he had written published in *The Technology Teacher*. He uses it in his classroom to encourage students to believe in themselves by stating, "If I can do it... they certainly can do it".



Mr. Paul Zeroth

Environmental Science Teacher Awarded Student Leadership *Continued from Page 3*



Retired Environmental Science teacher Mr. Tom Clough (on right) presents Mr. Ryan Heist with the Conservation Teacher of the Year Award from the York County Federation of Sportsmen. Ryan became the current Environmental Science teacher at EHMIS when Mr. Clough retired several years ago.

tables. This material ranged from taking part in a walk in Washington D.C. for breast cancer awareness to becoming a volunteer for the Red Cross. Allyssa wanted to allow as much choice as possible for the students to decide how they wanted to give back.

Wednesday of that week, the social studies department put together a civic engagement activity for all of the students to take part in. This activity focused on the upcoming election and focused on promoting active citizen involvement.

To bring student leadership to life, Mr. Graves offered a forum on Thursday for the student leaders to attend and discuss areas of concern they had about the high school. It turned out

to be a big success and was a positive experience for all who attended.

Finally, on Friday a video was displayed for the entire school to view. This video captured student leaders expressing what leadership means to them. It was a nice culminating activity displaying just what the week was all about, student leaders taking initiative and letting their voices be heard.

Allyssa hopes that celebrating National Student Leadership Week will become part of her legacy as a mustang, and be carried on as part of a South Western tradition for the years to come so that students will continue to embrace the importance of leadership.

Baresville Kids Put Tech Skills To Work

Teachers are using the technology skills they learn in technology professional development classes along with the available hardware and software to enhance their instruction. At Baresville, they are using technology to help students practice taught reading skills. Mr. Henning, fifth grade teacher, used an internet web site to create a matching game to have his group of readers practice word skills. They were most intrigued with this activity and follow-up assessment. Also, Mr. Janusz, first grade teacher, used the Turning Point program to check his students' recognition of sight words. Again, the students were most involved responding to the prompts.

With both of these activities, the teachers were able to access students' responses from a web site to evaluate their progress. Using more technology activities is definitely motivating for the students and saves on the consumption of paper.

Kindergarten teachers found that using Photo Story software enabled their children



Students in Mr. David Janusz's first grade class use clickers as part of the Turning Point Program to mark their answers to a sight vocabulary assessment.

to learn their letters and the sounds in a timely manner. Early in the school year, Mrs. Gould, Mrs. McBride, Mrs. Small, and Mrs. Neiderer, took digital pictures of students in each of their classes holding an alphabet letter. These pictures were assembled into a program each student could access on the computer and review periodically. The teachers were delighted that in a short amount of time, most students were able to have the letter and sound recognition mastered. Baresville is fortunate to have the technology resources available for students to utilize.

McLaughlin Is Merit Scholarship Award Winner

Michael J. McLaughlin, a senior at South Western High School, has been named a Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Mike earned this award by participating in the PSAT during his junior year, as well as displaying an outstanding academic record throughout high school, being endorsed and recommended by the high school principal, and achieving SAT scores that confirm his qualifying PSAT test performance. There were over 1,400,000 entrants from across the country, with only 15,000 being named a finalist.



Michael will now compete for one of three different scholarships that are awarded by the National Merit Program. These scholarships include National Merit Scholarships, corporate - sponsored scholarships, and college-sponsored scholarships.

We want to extend to Mike and his parents our congratulations for this outstanding academic achievement.

community *info*

District Dedication!

At South Western, we're proud of our teaching and support staff and the devotion shown to students every day. Recently the following support employees were recognized for their years of achievement:

Catch the Reading Bug!

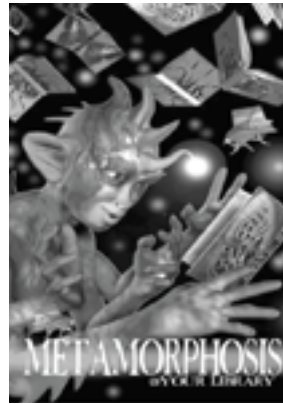
Fast bug, slow bug, red bug, blue bug. Big bug, little bug, good bug, bad bug. Try saying all that ten times really quickly. Chances are your tongue will get so tied you'll want to bug out. Luckily, there is no need for such speed. This summer, you will be able to take your time to *Catch the Reading Bug!* at Guthrie Memorial Library – Hanover's Public Library. Children can explore the amazing world of bugs and enjoy other activities during the library's summer reading program.

The 2008 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through young adult with programs, reading incentives, prize drawings, and much more. Programs scheduled for this summer include: The Mountain Women, an award-winning storytelling duo from West Virginia; Magician Dave Rojahn; "The Bug Man", Ryan Bridge; the AOK Players; Storyteller Beth Rebert; Patty Hegberg with Treasured Times; and much more. Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins Monday, June 9th. For more information, call the library at 632-5183, or visit the website www.guthrielibrary.org. Then fly on over and see what the buzz is all about. All programs are free of charge.



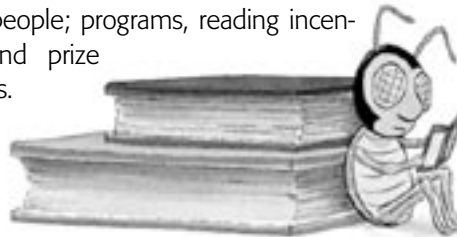
Metamorphosis!

Teens can rid themselves of pesky other-agers by participating in their own reading program, *Metamorphosis!* Programs and incentives designed specifically for teens will be offered. On the schedule are programs such as: Food Fear Factor; DDR Tournament; Designing with Duct Tape; Graphic Artist Bob McLeod (Marvel, DC, and more); and much more.

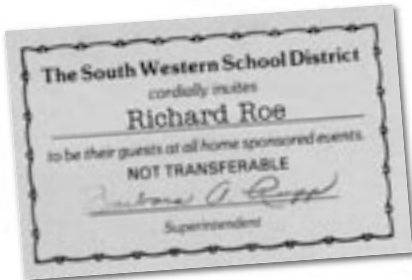


Registration for the Teen Reading Program begins on Monday, June 9th. For more information, call the library at 632-5183, or visit the website www.guthrielibrary.org.

And for all adults, there is an adult Summer Reading Program. It too begins on June 9th, and offers the same elements as for young people; programs, reading incentives, and prize drawings.



Be A South Western VIP With Our Senior Citizen/Retiree Card



South Western School District now offers a Senior Citizen/Retiree Pass card to all qualified applicants. This card allows its holder free admission to all activities conducted by schools of the district where general admission tickets are sold. As long as seats are available, you're in! Our pass is also honored at Hanover School District events. Contact the district office at [717-632-2500](tel:717-632-2500) for your own card.

Have you thought about substitute teaching?

South Western is always looking for people with a valid Pennsylvania Teacher Certificate to serve as substitute teachers. If you have a bachelor's degree in any discipline, you may also qualify. For more information, please contact the District Administration Office at 632-2500.

30+ Years

Carolyn Miller
Judy Marsh

25-29 Years

Richard Angel
Edna Markle
Jane Siegel
Joyce Wheeler
Daniel Feeser
Lee Houser
Janice Peck
Lenny Gobrecht
Scott Krenzer
Donna Shue

20-24 Years

Donna Jayne
Carol Timmins
Sherry Meckley
Sharon Forney
Amy Debnam
Patricia Klinedinst
Jean Timmins
Barbara Auchey
Linda Rebert
Linda Weaver
Penny Miller
Donna McGee

15-19 Years

Barbara Williams
Deborah McDannell
Sharon Koslosky
Patricia McGeeney
Yvonne Myers
Ruth Meckley
Mary Crumling
Cheryl Kavanaugh
Linda Knapp
Michael Stevens
Jacquelyn Niederer
Donna Smith

James Ernst
Penny Rutters
David Leppo
Elaine Albin
Joann Kline
Virginia Rager
Susan Garvick

Congrats Grads!



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*

South Western School District
225 Bowman Road
HANOVER, PA 17331

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Dates to Note

May 26
Schools Closed
Memorial Day Holiday

May 28
School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

June 6
Last Day of School
Commencement

June 11
School Board
Planning Meeting
7:00 PM

June 25
School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

July 16
School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

August 27
First Day of 2008-2009
School Year



FOR MORE
USEFUL INFO
VISIT US ONLINE AT
[WWW.SWSD.K12.PA.US](http://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.

Join us "Fore" the 13th Annual Alumni Association Golf Tournament

The South Western Alumni Association's 13th Annual Golf Tournament will be held Monday, June 23rd at The Hanover Country Club. The event features a 4-Person Scramble Format.

Shotgun start for the Tournament is at 1 PM. The \$80 per person fee includes greens fee, cart, free range balls, tournament gift, on-course contests, beverages, snacks, after-tournament meal, fun and lots of prizes!

Proceeds from the event benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund. This fund awards two \$1,000 scholarships every year.

Anyone interested in participating should register as soon as possible with Pat Loss at 717-637-0528.

Sponsors and volunteers are needed as well. A \$60 sponsorship provides advertising at the tee or green and an ad in the Tournament program. Volunteers can spend the day in the sun (or shade) helping the tournament run smoothly. For more information, contact Pat Loss at 717-637-0528, or e-mail:

ploss@legacycaps.com



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.