

Volume 25

Number 2

November 2009

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



PICTURED (Left to Right): FIRST ROW, SEATED: Michelle Arnold, Tracey Coppersmith, Jennifer Warner, Maria Conover, Sharon Warrington, Lisa Detweiler, Jennifer Fink, Ashlee Peternel, Katelyn Boyer. **FIRST ROW, STANDING:** Holly Matthews, Judy Berryman, Kim Staub, Karen Cataldo, Jill Masenheimer. **SECOND ROW, STANDING:** Beth Rebert, Richard Grinole, William Kirsch, Katie McMaster, Dan Hartman. **NOT PICTURED:** Jeffrey Smale.

South Western welcomes 20 new Mustangs to the faculty and staff for the 2009-2010 school year. This summer, they all took a moment from orientation for this first year photo. Best wishes for a long and happy career at South Western!

Tracey Coppersmith joins the faculty at Park Hills Elementary as a learning support teacher for grades kindergarten, one

and two. A graduate of Penn State university, Tracey holds her bachelor's degree in special education and a master's degree in education. Tracey brings eleven years of experience with her from teaching experiences at the Lincoln Intermediate Unit.

Recently graduating from Millersville University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education, **Jennifer Warner** is a

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A Note From the Superintendent

Dr. Barbara Rupp



As many of you know, the school board adopted a policy on having mandatory meetings for parents of students entering elementary, middle and high school. I am very pleased and proud to report that our attendance at the mandatory meetings was fantastic! These meetings and the back-to-school meetings that so many of our parents attended got our school year off to a fantastic start. A very sincere thank you is extended to our parents from the administration and the board for your positive cooperation. Thanks, too, for realizing that we are a team. We need you and you need us. That is one of the many things that make South Western a great place to be.

Another factor in making our district a great place to be is the spirit of cooperation and dedication that is exhibited by the community, teachers, administration, and school board. We are finding out from the many 50th anniversary celebrations that this has been a critical factor in cultivating the success of our district. At several of our events, retired teachers, past administrators, and past board members have shared that the spirit that was evident when our district was founded is still here and blossoming. They are proud of what our students are achieving.

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Inside

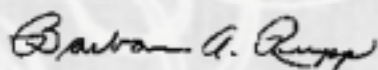
- Upward & Onward Special Edition
- New Support Staff
- A Day Without Shoes



A Note From the Superintendent

Dr. Barbara Rupp

We continue to be proud and to do all we can to find ways to make certain that all students are successful. A series of steps has been developed at each of our educational levels to ensure student success. I encourage you to ask your level administrator to share what those steps are. For the past 50 years, the students have been our priority. I can assure you that this same focus on student success will be the district's priority for the future. The best is yet to come!



7 Retire from South Western in '08-'09

Christine Blevins

Baresville, Principal

Bradley Arnold

EHMIS, Assistant Principal

Judith Feather

Park Hills, 1st Grade

Kimm Cooper

Baresville, Music Teacher

Donna Jayne

Reading Secretary/Bus Driver

Joyce Wheeler

Park Hills, Food Service

Irene Horwedel

EHMIS, Custodian

with a combined **217** years of service to the district

PSSA Update

By
Dr. Barbara Kehr
Assistant
Superintendent



In the spring of 2009, 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. Students in grade 4, 8, and 11 were tested in science. 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.

Our AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) status is determined from our scores on the PSSA reading and math assessments as well as on our graduation and attendance rates. For 2009, schools were required to have at least 63% of their students proficient or advanced in reading and at least 56% of students

proficient in math. 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 West Manheim Elementary.

The first chart below labelled **2009 Scores** indicates the percentage of students who were either proficient or advanced in reading, math, writing, and science at each grade level.

In addition to looking at our scores for a single year, we also like to look at our progress over time. A **three-year history** of our reading and math scores with the percentage of proficient students is summarized below.

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.

2009 Scores

Grade	Reading	Math	Writing	Science
3	78.13	86.90		
4	71.11	79.26		85.93
5	67.11	77.96	63.73	
6	73.91	84.78		
7	73.85	86.77		
8	83.33	77.47	79.57	49.08
11	74.3	59.4	86	44.7
ALL	74.08	78.13	74.66	57.41

Three-Year History

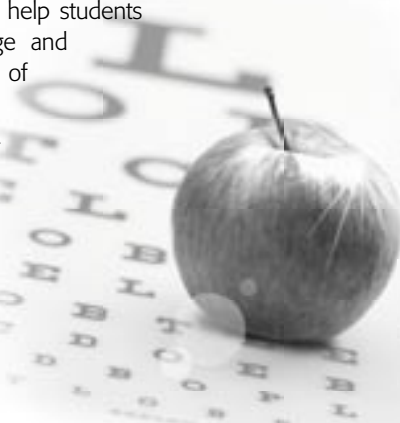
School Year	Math Advanced & Proficient				Reading Advanced & Proficient			
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2009	2008	2007	2006
Baresville	88.4	82.6	77.1	78.8	75.5	68.5	63.6	67.9
Manheim	89.1	90.2	86.5	85.7	85.4	80.2	85.4	77.4
Park Hills	78.3	79.4	76.8	74.3	72.9	64.5	67.3	60.2
West Manheim	80.2	84	79.8	82.4	70.6	75.5	66.2	66.5
EHMIS	83.2	78.9	71.2	64.5	77.7	77	73.7	78.2
SWHS	59.4	59.4	54.2	54.2	74.3	74.3	73.1	76.0

Learning-Focused Schools at Baresville

The Learning-Focused Schools model is soaring at Baresville. The Learning-Focused Schools Model is a "model designed to assist systems, schools, and teachers in using exemplary practices to increase learning and achievement."

Across the grade levels teachers and students are engaged in activities that are extending their thinking and providing opportunities for continuous improvement. For example, kindergarten teachers are engaging their students by accelerating them through multi-sensory learning activities. This gives struggling students opportunities to pre-view vocabulary and content prior to the whole-group instruction, in the same way that a movie trailer previews the content of a film for moviegoers. In the upper elementary grades, students are using extending thinking strategies to make connections and deepen understanding of new content and skills. Strategies such as error analysis and comparing and contrasting help students move beyond basic knowledge and skills and toward a greater use of higher-order thinking.

It is our goal to have all students learn the knowledge and skills necessary to lead successful lives in the 21st century. By using the Learning-Focused Schools model, Baresville students and teachers are moving upward and onward in the pursuit of excellence.



Two Heads Are Better...

When walking into classrooms at Park Hills Elementary School, it is evident that students are busy learning throughout the school day. What may be slightly different is that in many classrooms, there may be two teachers teaching. This is known as co-teaching. Co-teaching has become an exciting part of the classroom setting at Park Hills Elementary School.



What is co-teaching? Dr. Richard Villa, author of *A Guide to Co-Teaching*, explains that it is two people sharing the responsibilities for teaching students who are assigned to that classroom. What is exciting about this teaching philosophy is that students have the benefit of learning from two teachers who may have different ways of thinking or teaching. The benefits to our students include seeing teachers modeling cooperative and collaborative skills with each other. In addition, co-teachers with varied teaching backgrounds are able to work together to solve problems and individualize student instruction within the classroom setting. The teacher-to-student ratio is improved, and there is a greater sense of community that is established within the classroom.

Throughout Park Hills, co-teaching is occurring in various classrooms from first through fifth grade. Teachers involved in this teaching approach include various classroom teachers, learning support teachers, and reading specialists. Paraeducators are also a critical part of the co-teaching success by providing supports to students within these co-taught classrooms. To date, we are pleased with the students' sense of belonging in the classrooms. Each child feels that he/she belongs to a specific classroom team. Our co-teachers continue to monitor and adjust to a variety of situations to ensure that the academic and emotional needs of the students are met on a daily basis. Our goal is to continue to increase student achievement at all grade levels, and by monitoring student progress, we believe that the students' academic growth will continue to improve by using the co-teaching approach at Park Hills Elementary School.



Acceleration - It Works at EHMIS

With the implementation of Learning Focused Schools (LFS) in our school district, many new and exiting ideas have been presented and implemented to help improve student achievement. One of the most exciting methods that LFS has brought to our district is "Acceleration." For the layman, "Acceleration" may be confused with the idea of enrichment or extension, where we expand our curriculum and challenge our top level students with extremely rigorous and challenging curriculum. In actuality, "Acceleration" is a method that provides students with a preview of essential skills and knowledge three to five days before it is taught in their regular class. The intermediate school has developed an important period known as COLT, which stands for Creating Opportunities for Learning and Thinking. COLT provides a time in every students' day to have "Acceleration" if their teachers deem it necessary. "Acceleration" has made a difference in the lives of many of the students in our school. Besides having a positive impact on grades and classroom performance, "Acceleration" has given students more confidence in the classroom and teachers are reporting drastic increases in student participation and information retention. "Acceleration", it works at EHMIS!



new face to West Manheim Elementary as a fourth grade teacher.

A graduate of Shippensburg University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education, **Maria Conover** joins the faculty at West Manheim Elementary as a third grade teacher.

After a hiatus at home to be with her family and previous teaching experience in Baltimore County, **Sharon Warrington** joins the elementary faculty as West Manheim Elementary's newest reading specialist.

A graduate of Clarion University and Loyola College, Sharon holds a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in administration and supervision.

Lisa Detweiler joins the South Western High



Welcome! to South Western

School faculty as a mathematics teacher. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Kutztown University in physics and mathematics.

A graduate of the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and special education, **Jennifer Fink** joins the faculty at West Manheim Elementary as a fifth grade teacher.

New to West Manheim Elementary as second grade teacher, we welcome **Ashlee Peternel**. Ashlee hails from Shippensburg University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education, with a early childhood minor.

A graduate of Shippensburg University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and reading, **Katie Boyers** joins the faculty at Baresville Elementary as a kindergarten teacher.

After ten years experience in Baltimore County, **Michelle Arnold** joins the faculty at Emory H. Markle Intermediate School as a learning support teacher for grades six and seven. A graduate of Cal Poly San Luis

Obispo and Towson University, Kelly holds a bachelor's degree in liberal studies and a master's degree in special education.

After a hiatus at home to be with her family and previous teaching experience in Baltimore County, **Holly Matthews** joins the high school staff as a learning support teacher. A graduate of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland and Loyola College, Holly holds a bachelor's degree in elementary and special education and a master's degree in special education.

Formerly employed by Central York High School as the Dean of Students, **Judy Berryman** joins South Western High School as an assistant principal. She is a graduate of York College and McDaniel College and has a bachelor's degree in secondary education (social studies) and a master's degree in school administration.

Kim Staub joins the Park Hills Elementary faculty as a kindergarten teacher. She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Shippensburg University.

After serving as a learning support teacher in neighboring Hanover Public School District, **Karen Cataldo** joins South Western as a special education learning coach for all schools in the district. A graduate of Bowie State University and the University of Southern Mississippi, Karen holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in education.

A graduate of Lock Haven University with a bachelor's degree in health and physical education, **Jill Masenheimer** joins the faculty at South Western High School as a physical education teacher.

New to Emory H. Markle Intermediate School as a seventh grade social studies teacher, we welcome **Richard Sgrinoli**. Richard hails from Penn State University, Behrend Campus, with a bachelor's degree in political science and from Shippensburg University for a secondary social studies teaching certificate.

A graduate of Millersville University with a bachelor's degree in music education, **William Kirsch** joins the faculty at Baresville Elementary as a music teacher.

Katie McMaster joins the South Western High School faculty as a 12th grade English teacher. She holds a bachelor's degree in English education with a minor in theatre from the University of Delaware.

Formerly employed by the Dallastown Area School District as a seventh grade social studies teacher, **Daniel Hartman** joins Emory H. Markle Intermediate School as an assistant principal. He is a graduate of Elizabethtown College and Temple University and has a bachelor's degree in secondary education (social studies) and a master's degree in school administration.

After experience as the assistant principal at Cedar Creek Middle School in Youngsville, North Carolina, **Jeffrey Smale** comes to Emory H. Markle Intermediate School an assistant principal. A graduate of Penn State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Jeffrey holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree school administration.

We also welcome New Support Staff



PICTURED (Left to Right): FIRST ROW, SEATED: Katherine Miller, Angela Mowery, Shari Dusman, Melissa Williams, Karen Eakin. FIRST ROW, STANDING: Kristin Chase, Nancy Costello, Dorren Grap, Debra Smith, Lisa Topper, Kathy King. SECOND ROW, STANDING: Glenda Neiderer, Kelli Mertz, Carolyn Conrad, Mary Lisle, Karyn Thacker. THIRD ROW, STANDING: Kari Norris, Tiffany Arnold, Karen Mundorff, Norbert Mamet.

A Day Without Shoes

On September 25th, West Manheim Elementary School instituted A Day Without Shoes. To continue their celebration of the district's Project Harmony initiative on this day, students were invited to experience what it is like for children in other places in the world who go through their days without the privilege of footwear. West Manheim's students had the opportunity to walk around their school, attend lunch, go to recess and specials in their bare feet. Along with that, students were invited to donate new and gently used shoes that will be passed along to children in other countries, via the Soles4Souls organization. The students' and community's response was overwhelming, as more than 1,400 shoes (700 pairs) were brought to school, and more than \$200 was donated towards shipping costs. West Manheim was so excited and grateful for the community's compassion and generosity!



Pictured: Front row - Jackson Soullaird, 2nd row - Charles Klecker, Shyann Phillips, and Anna Kibler, 3rd row - Allyson Green, Zachary Zalewski, and Collin Currey.

50th Anniversary Coming Events...

December 17, 2009

Wrestling Match: 1960-1979 wrestlers introduced - tours and receptions, 6:15 - 7:15 PM

December 22, 2009

Wrestling Match: 1980-1995 wrestlers introduced - tours and receptions, 6:15 - 7:15 PM

January 12, 2010

Wrestling Match: 1996-2009 wrestlers introduced - tours and receptions, 6:15 - 7:15 PM

January 23, 2010

Basketball Alumni Night: 1959-2009 basketball players introduced - tours and receptions

January 29, 2010

1977 Championship Basketball Team introduced - reception

February & March, 2010

Play/Musical Events: dates and times to be announced

April 10, 2010

ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE: tours and receptions, 11 AM - 4 PM

May 2010

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION for students

June 11, 2010

GRADUATION 2010: celebration of 50 classes

If you'd like to volunteer at these events or be part of the 50th Anniversary committee, please contact Ruth Lawler at ☎ 717-637-3384 or Marcia Peters at ☎ 717-632-2472



UPWARD AND ONWARD

the best is yet to come

High School Students Explore Careers

In an attempt to respond to surveys of previous graduates who said they would have liked more assistance with Career Exploration in High School; SWHS has implemented many initiatives and programs during the past decade. In 2001 a Business Advisory Board was formed. This group of community and business representatives meets three times a year to advise the district on School to Career Initiatives. Faculty members have taken various graduate and professional development courses which assist them with helping students make career decisions. In 2003 the Introduction to Manufacturing Program began and Mrs. Lisa Dennis began splitting duties of being a Guidance Counselor with School to Career Counselor. In 2006 she became School to Career Counselor on a full-time basis and the Career Center was opened. The 2004 school year was the start of an after-school mentoring program ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering). The Graduation Project began to require the completion of career exploration activities in 2005. In 2007 seniors were able to participate in a Certified Nursing Program. Last year all seniors were required to participate in an interview with a business or community member and the Dual Enrollment Program was offered to our seniors. For the 2009-2010 school year mentoring programs are being started in Entrepreneurship and Insurance.

Where do we see the School to Career efforts going in the future? We would like to expand the after-school Mentoring Programs to include the areas of Hospitality, Arts, Green Careers, Accounting/Finance, Human Services and other areas that provide for Career Exploration. We would ultimately like to see a program of career exploration for all of our six Pathways.

- **Agriculture and Natural Resources**
- **Arts and Communication**
- **Business, Information and Marketing**
- **Engineering and Industrial Sciences**
- **Health and Related Services**
- **Social and Human Services**

In addition we would like to expand our Academic Shadowing opportunities that are available for our seniors. Seniors are able to spend one class period each day shadowing someone in a career area of interest. Ultimately we would like to see every student leave SWHS with real-world experiences in career exploration.

Parents and students are invited to learn about the career exploration programs that currently exist for SW students by attending the presentation "Beyond the SWHS Walls" which is held during Curriculum Night scheduled for February 3, 2010 from 7-9 PM. At that program you can hear about advanced skills center, academic shadowing, after school mentoring programs (ACE-architecture, construction and engineering, entrepreneurship and insurance), certified nurse aide training, child development prep program, diversified occupations, dual enrollment, introduction to manufacturing, teacher aide, technology aide, and York Country School of Technology.

Feedback received from interviewers after our recent Senior Interview Day mentioned that many of our seniors were able to speak with real interest and passion about their post-secondary education and career aspirations. To us this is proof that the past decade's STC efforts are having positive results. If you would like to join us in providing shadowing or mentoring programs in your career field please contact Lisa Dennis, at ☎ **632-2548, ext. 21913**.



It's Coming Down!

Progress continues on the district's Manheim building project. In fact, by the time you read this, the original structure will be gone!



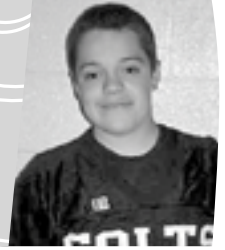
The future Manheim Elementary School

community *info*

Mustang Pride

By
Jordan Keller

8th Grade
EHMIS



The corral is the place where we put everything on the line. It is where we give it all for our school's pride. It is where game nights turn students into warriors. The corral is the home for our school, South Western. The smells of the shack food run across the corral attacking the hunger of the fans. The stadium captures the attention as if it was the NFL. This is our home.

For fifty years, the corral has stood the test of time to feel the let down of loss or the triumph of victory. It is like the coliseum as we go to war, head to head, within South Western's gates. The fans crowd the bleachers ready to watch the unforgiving battle. The warriors wait with sweat dripping down their faces and blood on their arms. We are the mustang warriors ready to fight. We fight for our school's pride and for our families' in the stands. As we take the field, we feel the rumble of the crowd. The ground quakes at every step we make; our cleats marking our territory on the field. We play, we sweat, we fight, and we bleed for the pride of our South Western School. We are the mustangs, and we are here to fight. We are the mustangs... just try and stop us!

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	WRVW 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
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We Need Your Help!

Children across the county are removed from their homes due to issues of child abuse and neglect. Often times, this removal means moving to a new home, with a new foster family. More often than not, the new home is not in the child's school district and they are uprooted from school as well.



York County Children and Youth Services is looking for new foster families in the South Western School District to help keep kids in South Western Schools. Currently, there are only two foster homes in the district. We want to expand that number so that if they need to be removed from their home, children can remain in their school district.

If being a loving environment for a child in need is something you have considered doing, please give us a call. Contact Andrew Hoover at ☎ **717-846-8496, ext 316** or Cheryl Hughes at ☎ **717-846-8496, ext. 277**.

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.

A Collectible Memory

A limited number of custom-designed porous ceramic coaster keepsakes which commemorate the district's 50th anniversary are now available.

They will be sold for \$4.00 each at most 50th anniversary events AND during regular school hours at the district administrative offices receptionist's desk.



50th Band History Book

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the South Western Band Program, a limited number of high-quality, commemorative history booklets have been produced and are available for purchase. This 38 page book includes highlights from all five decades of the band program, as well as complete listings of band honors, trips, shows, student honors, booster and student leadership and award winners. The price of the book is \$15. It can also be purchased with an optional DVD, which includes approximately 1,000 pictures from all 50 years of the instrumental program, for \$20. Simply visit ☎ www.swbandalumni.org or call ☎ **717-632-0863** to order.



Dates to Note

December 2
School Board
Reorganization Meeting
6:30 PM

December 16
School Board Meeting
7 PM

December 24 - January 1
School Closed
HOLIDAY BREAK

January 4, 2010
Return to School

January 13, 2010
School Board Planning
Meeting
7 PM

January 18, 2010
School Closed
Teacher Inservice

January 22, 2010
Early Dismissal
K-12

January 25, 2010
Early Dismissal
K-12

January 26, 2010
School Closed
Grades 9-12 Only

January 27, 2010
School Board Meeting
7 PM

February 10, 2010
School Board Planning
Meeting
7 PM

February 24, 2010
School Board Meeting
7 PM

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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*

Did you see us in the Halloween Parade?

South Western made a grand impression in the Hanover Halloween Parade this year. Our 50th Anniversary alumni band led the way for the district's float featuring members of the original high school faculty. Thanks to our Student Council and Key Club for constructing the float. A huge contingent of staff and family followed on foot.



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.