



# The WARREN PRIDE

June-July 2003

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## FFA News...

The FFA Banquet was a big success. Thank you to all the people that were involved in helping with the banquet. Our new officers are:

President	<b>Dusty Dykstra</b>
Vice President	<b>Garrett Kaldenberg</b>
Secretary	<b>Nathan Meyers</b>
Treasurer	<b>Derek Hommer</b>
Reporter	<b>Tabetha Dollison</b>
Sentinel	<b>Karen Manser</b>



We will miss the leaving seniors. Thank you for making FFA better and getting more people involved.

*Submitted by the FFA reporter,  
Tabetha Dollison*

## Pennies for Scholars

The Southeast Warren Scholarship Foundation would like to thank the Primary and Intermediate students and parents for making our Pennies for Scholars campaign a success. The students raised \$296.85. The Intermediate Center collected \$220.81 and the Primary Center collected \$76.04. Thanks to all who contributed.



A thank you also to the following people and businesses for donating the prizes we gave away: Jeff and Paula Griggs, Community State Bank, and Peoples Bank.

*Submitted by Barb Ripperger*

## Congratulations to... Heather Davis!

Her poem "Your Angel" was selected to  
appear in  
A Celebration of Young Poets,  
a Poetry Anthology  
by Creative Communication Inc.



At the regular May board meeting, the board considered the question of what to do with the old white school house sitting in front of the high school. The topic was tabled, and board members will consider the question again in June, after inviting local contractors to look at the structure and give an opinion on the practicality of repairing the building.

In the fall of 2001, a community survey asked district patrons about the future of the building. The survey had 30 responses, a very small sampling of the entire district. The responses were evenly split between repairing the building and disposing of the building. In the fall of 2002, the *Warren Pride* published a request for information about the school. The article asked district patrons who had memorabilia or memories of the old white school to call the district office. Two people contacted the district.

Bob West, a specialist in the renovation of historic buildings, evaluated the building in the fall of 2002. He recommended disposing of the building, either by finding someone who wanted it for sentimental reasons or by demolishing the building. Before the June meeting, Directors Tom Farley and John Burrell will ask Gene Wadle to evaluate the building. The superintendent will ask other local contractors to do the same. The superintendent will look into asbestos inspection for the building.

Meanwhile, the building has continued to decay. Currently the building is used for miscellaneous storage. The building has no floor, and is not mouse proof. Minimal repairs would include the installation of a floor, new roof, windows, doors, siding, insulation, wiring, walkways, and possibly the removal of ceiling tile with asbestos.

An equally important question for board consideration in June is this: If the board decides to repair the building, what funds are available for this purpose? The answer is a quick one: There are no funds available. The logical source of funds is the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL). The funds now in PPEL are encumbered (obligated) as the district's matching funds for a construction grant of \$65,000 for repair and new siding for the Lacona gym and cafeteria. If the board votes to proceed with repairs for the old white schoolhouse, funding will have to come from the cash reserve. Already the board is very cautious of spending down the cash reserve.

PPEL is the funding designed to maintain or build school buildings. The fund is authorized by Iowa Code 298.2-3. It is a limited-use fund for the following purposes:

- 1) Asbestos projects
- 2) Purchase of grounds
- 3) Acquisition costs (surveys, relocation assistance)
- 4) Improvement of grounds
- 5) Purchase of buildings or purchase of a single piece of equipment
- 6) Payment of debts for construction of buildings, not including interest on bonds
- 7) Procuring or acquisition of library facilities
- 8) Repairing, remodeling, reconstruction, improvement of buildings
- 9) Expenditures for energy conservation
- 10) The rental of facilities under Chapter 28E
- 11) Purchase of transportation equipment for transporting students
- 12) Lease-purchase option agreements for school buildings

The Southeast Warren Board of Education has adopted the regular physical plant and equipment levy, which does not require voter approval. The PPEL levy generates revenue at the rate \$.33 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. This levy generates about \$32,000 income each year for the district. Expenditures from the PPEL fund are reported to the board each month on the monthly balance sheet.

The balance as of January 1, 2002 in the PPEL fund was \$72,288.42. This amount includes \$8,020 from Partners in Education for playground improvement. The \$72,288.42 amount is higher than the annual income of \$32,000 because unspent PPEL funds from prior years were carried over to this year.

During 2002, expenditures from the PPEL fund easily exceeded the \$72,288 balance. The district was catching up on projects not completed during the past

## Art Club News

### New Officer Nominations

Any art club member with one year of experience is qualified to apply for an office. Voting was held on May 20th at the Awards Banquet. Results will be announced at a later date.

### Officers Meeting, May 15th

Officers discussed awards that are to be given out at the Awards Banquet, and discussed ideas on gifts and games to play.

### Awards banquet, May 20th

There was dinner, games, a slide show, and officer nominations and voting. The banquet was held at Rudy's in Lacona.

### Paintball, May 22nd

Art club members had a chance to go have some fun with paint and with each other.

### Spring Barbeque, June 19th

The barbeque will be a chance for every one to say good-bye to the seniors and have some quality time together before every one left for summer.

### Summer Fundraisers

June 22 - Wal-Mart carwash  
July 4 - work at kid's craft booth  
July 23 - work at water booth for Ragbrai in Lacona

*Submitted by Dorie Knight*

## 2003-2004 School Registration

**Monday,  
August 11, 2003  
from Noon to 7 P.M.  
at the  
High School  
in Liberty Center**

## From Your District Superintendent - Continued from page 2

few years, and the new buildings had a number of related projects to be completed. When expenditures exceed the balance in the PPEL fund, there are two options: 1) cover the expenditure from the general fund (spend the cash reserve), or 2) delay the project until funds become available.

The April 30, 2003 cash balance in PPEL was \$44,926. Remember, this balance is obligated as the district's matching funds for the Lacona construction project. Districts that have spent the matching funds for other purposes have forfeited the grants. For this district, the forfeited funds would amount to \$65,000.

If additional PPEL funds become available from the sale of the lagoons, for example, there are two expenditures to be transferred to PPEL from the general fund. These are the new lockers for the high school (about \$14,000) and concrete courtyard in front of the high school (about \$12,000). These expenditures have been charged to the general fund. If PPEL money becomes available before June 30th, the end of the fiscal year, the charges will be moved to PPEL.

All other repairs to buildings and improvements on the grounds at Milo, Lacona, and Liberty Center are expected to be funded from PPEL or the general fund. The spreadsheet included in this report (see page 10) details the repair and maintenance projects identified last year. The board will review this document again this summer in June and July as part of their long range financial and facilities planning. Annual review and approval of the facilities plan is required for the application of construction and fire/safety grants from the state.

The table below lists the expenditures from PPEL for the past six years.

Year	Project	Cost
2002-03	High School Carpet	\$17,243
	Cove Base for New Carpet	\$ 162
	Carpet Installation	\$ 40
	Ivan McCormick – High School Tiling	\$ 900
	Rogers Farms – High School Tiling	\$15,000
	Tom Scheider – High School Walks	\$ 2,797
	Midwest Fence – Milo Repair	\$ 1,407
	Fire Safety not covered by grant	\$ 737
2001-02	Asbestos Removal Lacona & Milo	\$13,750
	Architectural Arts Cabinets Milo	\$ 5,553
	Interiors & More Carpet L.C.	\$ 6,102
	Tom Schneider Sidewalks	\$ 5,445
	Midwest Fence & Gate Milo	\$11,227
	Sign-A-Rama – Elem. Signs	\$ 2,860
2000-01	Karr Tuckpointing Liberty Center	\$56,892
	Iowa Direct Equip. Bleachers	\$59,055
	Everly Elec. Football Lights	\$ 686
	Pro Envir. Asbestos Removal Lacona	\$ 580
	Iowa Direct Equip. Wall Mats Gym	\$ 3,395
1999-00	Dilbert Dittmer Remove Playground Equip.	\$ 542
	SEW Athletic Boosters Baseball Lighting	\$ 922
1998-99	No Expenditures	
1997-98	No Expenditures	

School districts in Iowa may use the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy with the approval of a simple majority of voters in the district. At the current time, the Southeast Warren district does not have the voter approved levy in place. The voter-approved levy is based upon \$1.34 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, and once approved by the voters, the levy stays in place for 10 years. This voter approved levy, in combination with the board approved levy already in place, would generate \$1.67 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

If the state aid for schools continues to decline, the board may want to consider an election for voter approval of this levy. Without the increased PPEL funding, the district's new and old buildings will not be supported with the continuous maintenance necessary to protect the district's investment.

If anyone has questions or comments about this topic, or any other aspect of district functioning, please feel free to contact Susan Garton, 641-466-3510 or scgarton@se-warren.k12.ia.us

Susan Garton, Superintendent

## ECP Establishing Community Pride



The ECP members would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know about ECP's upcoming events.

On June 28<sup>th</sup> the ECP members will be hosting a potluck from 1-5 p.m. at the Milo City Park. All former and current ECP members and their family members are welcome to join in on the fun. The ECP members are in the process of earning \$1,250 to have a speaker, Craig Hillier come down and speak to the high school students for half a day. For the rest of the day he will be meeting with the ECP members for a leadership program.

If you could please save your pop cans and pop-tops we would really appreciate it. The pop-tops will be used to go to the Ronald McDonald house and the pop can money we will save and put forth to this project. We will also be having a rummage sale, bake sale, and a car wash to raise money for our upcoming projects.

Please be looking for the dates of these fundraisers. If you are willing to get grant information for us please contact Julie or Amy Ripperger at 641-534-3161 or Shelby Ware at 515-210-7806 (please leave your name a short message and your phone number and she will get back to you as soon as possible). Thank you for all your effort.

*Submitted by ECP Members  
Danae Weilage and Shelby Ware*

## Superintendent's Budget Report

This budget report covers aspects of the food service program for the district.

On July 1, 2001, when I arrived in Southeast Warren, the food service program was in debt \$49,474. That means that expenses during the past year(s) had exceeded income. The district paid salaries and other food service expenses from the general fund, causing the food service program to owe the general fund.

In my first year as superintendent, I established some control over food service spending by joining the food coop, an organization which prepares competitive bids for food items used by coop member districts. I reduced one part time employee. The board had already decided to eliminate the position of food service director. Consequently, I have supervised the food service program last year and again this year. "Supervised" is probably not the best term, since the other hats I wear take most of my time. There has been little direct supervision provided for food service. Fortunately, the employees are experienced and work diligently without supervision.

On July 1, of 2002, the food service debt had been reduced to \$26,131. Throughout the year, I continued to monitor expenses, and required changes where necessary. During this second year, the food service department paid for its own equipment repair, kitchen repair, staff training, and software for food service accounting. In earlier years, the district had paid these expenses from the general fund.

By March 31, 2003, the food service debt was entirely retired. Salaries for March and April were paid from the general fund, but reimbursed the next month by food service. This is good news, but the debt-free status will not be sustained over the summer months, since employees are paid over 12 months, but food service has no income during the summer months. By September, 2003, the food service department will incur additional expenses for summer repair of equipment, summer training for employees, and software for food service accounting. The amount of debt by September, 2003, could be as much as \$12,000. Or it could be only \$1000, depending upon the summer repairs and training expenses.

The goal for food service is to be self-supporting. To accomplish this goal, the food service program must be operated just like a good business. The district must offer attractive meals to students and adults. The district must be efficient in all aspects of food service operations. This goal is achievable within one year. With the help of food service directors from other districts and consultants from the Department of Education, I have identified what needs to be done to turn our food service department into a fully self-supported operation.

All of the districts in our area have self-supported food service departments. In addition to paying all salaries and benefits associated with food service, the departments buy new equipment, lunch tables, ice cream machines, and other improvements for the kitchen, and still maintain a healthy cash balance for emergencies.

The Department of Education sends an annual report to the district providing the average cost per lunch and breakfast, our total food costs for the last fiscal year, and the total labor costs. According to the Department of Education Report received May 5, 2003, food purchases totaled \$97,515 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002. Total salaries and benefits were \$83,303 for the same period of time.

During the same fiscal year, the district served 83,223 meals. Of these, 78,309 were reimbursable lunches. All student lunches are reimbursable; adult lunches and a la carte sales are NOT reimbursable. That means the district receives no money for the sale of an adult lunch or a la carte item. For any regular student lunch, the district is reimbursed 24 cents.

The total costs per lunch are reported by the DE as follows:

<b>Total costs per lunch</b>	<b>\$1.7782</b>	<b>Current student lunch price:</b>
Food costs	\$0.8317	\$1.40 elementary
Salaries & benefits	\$0.7856	\$1.50 secondary
Equipment	\$0.0774	\$2.00 adult
Other	\$0.0835	

*Continued on Page 5*

## "Class Cash"

**Valley West Mall will be awarding up to \$10,000 to eleven area schools based on purchases made at Valley West Mall from July 19, 2003 through September 14, 2003.**

How does "Class Cash" work? When parents, relatives, teachers, alumni and friends shop at Valley West Mall from July 19th through September 14th, they simply need to present their receipts to the Information Booth and have the amount of their purchases allocated to the school of their choice. Purchase amounts will be totaled at the end of the event and the school with the greatest allocation of purchases will receive \$3,000!

The school with the second highest amount will receive \$2,000, and the third highest will receive \$1,000. The eight schools with the highest amounts will receive \$500 each.

**Receipts dated August 1st and 2nd during the Sales Tax Free Holiday will be worth DOUBLE the dollar amount.**

If you, your family or friend go shopping at Valley West Mall, please try to take your receipts to the Information Booth to ensure Southeast Warren receives credit toward these awards.

## Athletic Boosters



Every little bit helps. Please make sure you contribute your "little bit" when asked to work at the concession stand for your child's athletic events. Our programs will benefit with your help.

We'd like to see you at the next meeting of the Athletic Boosters, August 13th, 7 PM, High School

**Have a fantastic summer!**

Submitted by Kathy Schurman

## Budget Report - Continued from page 4

The total costs per **breakfast** are reported by the DE as follows:

<b>Total costs per breakfast</b>	<b>\$1.0861</b>	<b>Current student breakfast price:</b>
Food costs	\$0.5170	\$1.00 everyone
Salaries & benefits	\$0.4700	
Equipment	\$0.0448	
Other	\$0.0543	

These totals show that our costs per meal exceed the amount paid by the student for both breakfast and lunch.

The most important number in the food service budget is the number of students who qualify for free or reduced meals. This year, 26% of the students in the district qualify. This percentage is used in the calculations for all kinds of state payments to school districts and for the determination of eligibility for grants.

Recently, I prepared to write a proposal for grant funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant, a grant to provide after-school activities for students. The funding source would provide up to \$250,000 a year for each of three years for districts establishing community-based enrichment programs after school. After doing some preliminary research, I learned that only districts with a free and reduced lunch count of over 40% were eligible to apply. This is the second grant this year where our district was NOT eligible to apply.

In the grants we did receive this year, the formula for determining our funding was based in part upon the free and reduced lunch count. In fact, all grants, except those under \$10,000, use the free and reduced lunch count as a standardized indicator of poverty in the district.

Each August during registration, parents are encouraged to fill out the application for free and reduced lunch. Not all parents feel comfortable in doing this. No one wants to be labeled poor or disadvantaged. Not everyone is willing to give confidential information about salaries to the school. For those hesitant parents, we offer reassurance. The guidelines are liberal. Many middle-income families are eligible, even if both parents are employed outside the home. The applications are kept confidential. Only one person reviews the application. One other person maintains the record for food service. Students who receive free or reduced lunch are never identified in the lunch line, or at any other time during the school year.

The state and federal reimbursement for a free or reduced meal brings needed income into the food service department. Compare these reimbursement rates:

Purchased student lunch	\$ .24 Reimbursement
Reduced price lunch	\$1.54 Reimbursement
Free lunch	\$1.94 Reimbursement
Purchased breakfast	\$ .25 Reimbursement
Reduced breakfast	\$ .65 Reimbursement
Free breakfast	\$ .95 Reimbursement

If more families would apply for free or reduced lunches, the district would not need to increase lunch prices. There was no increase in lunch prices last year. Next year, lunch prices will increase by ten cents each for lunch and breakfast. These increases were approved by the board at the May 12th regular meeting.

Elementary lunch:	\$1.50	Adult lunch:	\$2.50
High School lunch:	\$1.60	Adult breakfast:	\$1.25
All breakfasts:	\$1.10	Milk & juice:	\$ .25

The district is investigating other software for managing student accounts next year. Parents have reported that it is difficult to keep track when several students in the same family are using one account. Other parents would appreciate more of a warning when the lunch account is low. By August, we hope to have in place a parent-friendly program for food service!

As always, I welcome questions and input from the community regarding budget reports. Please phone (641 466-3510), e-mail (scgarton@se-warren.k12.ia.us), or write with your questions or comments.

*Susan Garton, Superintendent*

## Here to Help

### Warren County Transition Committee

Do you know a child or adult who is about to graduate or a young adult who is out of school but doesn't have direction for his or her future? Is this person ready for the world after he or she gets out of school?

The Warren County Transition Committee is a group of local professionals who have come together to make the transition from high school to adult world a little easier. There are many backgrounds from which to receive information and/or services. We have individuals from Heartland Area Education Agency, Warren County Case Management, Eyerly-Ball Community Mental Health Services, Des Moines Child & Adolescent Guidance, Christian Opportunity Center, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, to name a few. The Warren County Transition Committee meets quarterly to discuss ways to better reach families and other support people who may be in need of service to assist a child or adult they know in transitioning to adult life.

Some of these services, such as mental health support, are available NOW. For more information about what may be available to children and adults, please contact Kristi Dierking with Warren County Mental Health at (515) 961-1145.

Please look for future articles in this newsletter explaining each of these agencies and activities of the committee.

## Fine Arts Boosters

**Next meeting:**

**Date: June 4, 2003**

**Time: 6:30 PM**

**Location: HS Music Room**

## From your Junior/Senior High Principal... *Terry Gladfelter*

Everyone I have spoken to has said the same thing – “Where has the year gone?” I don’t know the answer, but I do know that I am looking forward to a little down time to work in the garden, to do some yard work, and the ever-growing “honey-do” list.

Graduation went very well with the addition of senior student officers contributing to the program. I know it was a change from the past, but I want to see our students contributing in ways that continually develop their leadership capabilities and responsibilities.

As I reflect on this past year and the changes that have been accomplished, I am pleased with the support from teachers, students, and the community. I sincerely hope the changes will prove to be what is best for our students and their education. There have been five major initiatives for this year that have moved us forward in providing a quality education for the SEW district:

- 1 The implementation of a semester test policy
- 2 The joining of the curriculum consortium so that standards and benchmarks can be aligned grades K-12
- 3 A revision of the Good Conduct Rule
- 4 Reviewing and implementing of new graduation requirements over the next three years
- 5 A new special education plan for the district as a result of the Department of Education visit

All of these could not have been accomplished without the collaboration of all stakeholders of the district. Now that these initiatives are in place, the next step is the continual monitoring of the changes to evaluate their effectiveness. Education today is a process of data collecting, evaluating, reviewing and revising to meet the ever-changing demands from Washington, Iowa, society and our community.

As we finish this year, may I again personally thank you, the community, for your support during my first year. I consider it a real blessing to be part of a community that has accepted and supported both my family and myself. Have a busy and productive summer!

*Terry Gladfelter, Junior-Senior High Principal*



## Congratulations to our 2003 Grads!!

### Meetings

#### Athletic Boosters

Next meeting - Aug 13 - 7:00 PM @ Jr/Sr High ScI

#### Fine Arts Boosters - 1st Wednesday of month

Next meeting - June 4 - 6:30 pm, @ Jr/Sr Music room

#### School Board Meeting

Next Meeting - June 9 - 7:00 PM @ Liberty Center



## Junior High News

### Junior High Open House Monday, August 18, 2003 at 6:30 P.M. in the cafeteria

#### Junior High supply list for the 2003-2004 school year

- Three-inch binder with front and back covers
- Eight dividers and 1 folder or 8 folders - need holes punched out of folders
- Notebook or loose leaf wide rules paper
- Black/Blue pens, pencils, no gel pens, no white-out pens
- For English, a steno notebook (6x9 in.) with the spiral on top
- A red checking pen
- Colored pencils
- Pencil case that fits in binder
- Optional - glue, three hole punch that fits in binder, clear paper protector sheets

**Planners and grade recording sheets will be provided for the students.**

## Band News

Both Jr. High and High School Bands rehearsed very hard in preparation for the final concert of the year that was held on May 15th. The two bands were combined for the graduation ceremony on May 18th, and will continue to practice for the upcoming July 4th parade in Milo. It has been a very busy and rewarding year for all of us.



On May 10th, the High School Band traveled to I-35 schools at Truro to compete in the Iowa State Music Association Large Group Contest. The panel of three adjudicators awarded the band one division I and two division II ratings which averaged a solid division II rating. Not bad for a 25 member band! We are already planning for next year. Thank you Junior High and High School band members for all of your hard work this year!

*Submitted by Willis VanderLinden*

From your **Intermediate Principal...**

**Cindy Butler**

This year we were very lucky to have several dedicated high school students who volunteered to work with students at the Intermediate Center. They came every day or on alternate days as their schedules allowed, and they were all a great influence on our students. The teachers, students and I thank them for giving of their time in such a caring way. They were wonderful role models for our students and a pleasure to work with.

**Jennifer Miller** and **Emily Kimzey** came first semester and helped Ms. Spirek and her students. Second semester Jennifer came again along with **Keisha Fears**. The girls read to students, had students read to them, or worked on other academic activities. With their help, we were able to offer individual attention to students.

**Angie Septer** and **Kelly Hoffman** worked second semester in the two fourth grade classrooms. Both of them have listened to students read and helped them with homework in addition to completing tasks for the teachers. They have been a great help to all the fourth grade students.

Our last high school student was **Tyler Spoon**. Tyler began working one on one with a student and did such a nice job, we asked him to begin working with another student. We really appreciated having Tyler here this year.

We can always use student or adult mentors or tutors for our students. If you have some free time during the day, and would like to share that time with students, please give me a call. We will do our best to put your skills to work to meet the needs of our students.

*Cindy Butler, Intermediate Principal*



## Fifth Grade Fieldtrip



On Tuesday, May 13th, the 5th graders attended a performance of James and the Giant Peach at the Des Moines Playhouse. Everyone enjoyed the show.

After lunch, we drove to Otter Creek and joined Laura Surber. While there, we went on a Scavenger Hunt to look for signs of insects, plants, animals, and reptiles. Yes, one group did find a snake! We also learned about the Peppermint Beetle and played some character building games. It was an exciting day. Thanks to all the moms that were able to attend.

After seeing the play, we were able to spend some time at school discussing the play and comparing it to the book and video. We tried to do a compare/contrast diagram. This was an interesting assignment and a fun way to finish out the year.

*Submitted by  
Tina Schneider and Donna Clay*

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## Summer Reading Program Laugh it up at your Library!!!!

Summer is a great time to visit your local library. This July, the Lacona Library will have its annual summer reading program. Every Monday in July, students in Kindergarten to 4th grade are invited to join the fun. We read books, play games, do crafts, and have snacks. Please stop in and sign up.



The library is full of current books, videos, magazines, and a computer with Internet access, printer, scanner, and games. There is something for everyone. Hope to see all of you there!!!!

*Submitted by Donna Clay*

**The Lacona Public Library will have a used computer for sale for \$100. It will include monitor, speakers, keyboard, printer and modem. Everything is in working order. Please call the library if interested or for more information.  
534-4400, afternoons except Wednesday after 3:00 P.M.**

From your Primary Principal...

## Charlotte Weaklend

A huge thank you to all of our community, parent, and high school volunteers who helped out throughout this school year. Whether they participated in fundraisers, donated funds or materials for our many educational programs, listened to children read, shared a special expertise with our students, helped supervise students on the playground or on field trips, helped clean up the school grounds, or participated in our daily character assemblies. What a great place our school is, thanks to your kindness and generosity.

One example of how our students' classroom experiences were richly extended this year was through additional field trips and assemblies provided through the help of the Partners and Education and generous contributions by community members. Our preschool and kindergarten students took part in educational nature presentations at the Annett Nature Center. Preschoolers as well as second and third graders enjoyed various fine arts opportunities through attendance at professional theatrical presentations in Des Moines.

All of our students were entertained by age appropriate dramas performed by actors from our own high school. The kindergartners studied the animal world by visiting local farms and the Blank Park Zoo. The Third graders learned about our local history at the Warren Count Historical Museum, and the second graders learned about our state's and nation's foundations at the Iowa Historical Building.

Both the first and the second graders visited Pella and learned more about the Scandinavian countries that they had studied about for our Friendship Fair. The third graders expanded their knowledge of scientific principles at the Science Center of Iowa, and some of our preschoolers demonstrated their physical prowess at the special education mini-olympics held in Indianola.

All of the students were entertained and enlightened about the art of yodeling. Our Veteran's Day assembly when we dedicated our new flagpole was very memorable.

This was a year where we really stepped back and held our academic program under strict scrutiny. While we diligently search for areas where we can improve instruction for our children in preschool through twelfth grade, we also work hard at not neglecting the social and emotional aspects of our students' development. Through a renewed emphasis on their character development we provided students with daily reminders of how caring, productive members of society think and act towards one another and how they strive together to make this world a better place.

Have a wonderful summer! I look forward to sharing more about our programs next year with you as we constantly strive to provide the very best educational experience we can for the youngsters of our community.

*Charlotte Weaklend, Primary Principal*

### Primary Super Readers!

The year is winding down, but our students are still reading up a storm. The second and third grade teachers are so proud of the efforts that our students have been making in reading. Almost every child has made it to the Independent Level, and most have gone far above that.

The last celebration of reading for the Accelerated Reading program will be on Thursday, May 29, at 2:15 P.M. Many students have qualified to attend this activity. It promises to be a fun one. Following is a list of the students that have achieved Super Reader and above.

**Congratulations, Super Readers!**

From the Second and Third Grade Teachers

#### Super Reader

Gabe Combs  
Niki Schnathorst  
Dana Martin  
Tyson Herold  
Lauren Wilson  
Brittany Chapman  
Lois Guthrie  
Logan Putz  
Scott Isley  
Kayleigh Chapman  
Ashley Clay  
Harley Dugan  
Torie Hommer  
Alex Sudbrock  
Ryan Putz.

#### Super Reader II

Austin Agan  
Kane Ellenwood  
Colbi Hunter  
Destini Miller  
Amy Williams  
Coltyn Hunter  
Joseph Johnson  
Robert Stickle  
Cassandra Mosher  
Zach Quick  
Dustin Dowell

#### Super Reader III

Bobbi Lawton  
Austin Allen  
Morgan Lawler

#### Super Reader IV

Jordyn Halls  
Cassidy Hembry  
Allysa Spear  
Spencer Williams  
Ryan Putz  
Christina Dittmer

#### Super Reader V

Aaron Coffman  
Collin Judkins  
Dallas Stanger  
Daniel Hagen

#### Super Reader VI

Celeste Welshhons  
Jonie Meling  
Carrie Neer  
Jacob Anders  
Cheyanna Shannon

#### Super Reader VII

Amber Sanders

#### Super Reader VIII

Zach Hart  
Madison Hall

#### Super Reader X

Matthew Davis

#### Advanced Reader V

Alissa Young

Ad [redacted] VI

# Thanks from the After-Prom Committee

The Junior and Senior classes of Southeast Warren would like to extend their appreciation to the following individuals and businesses that contributed to the after-prom. Your donations allowed us to enjoy a hypnotist at the school, bowling at Indian Lanes, and many prizes. We would also like to thank all of the parents for all their hard work and dedication.

*Submitted by Liz Davis*

A&W  
 All Plan Insurance  
 American Institute of Business  
 Blong Chiropractic  
 Buena Vista University  
 Burger King  
 Captured Expressions  
 Casey's  
 Cassady & Co.  
 Central College  
 Charles Brebner American Legion  
 Chumbley & Jones  
 City of Lacona  
 City of Milo  
 CNM Equipment  
 Chariton Safe Coalition  
 Coe College  
 Commercial Federal Bank  
 Community State Bank  
 Country Propane  
 DMACC  
 Dairy Queen  
 Deer Run Golf Course  
 Downing Construction  
 Drake University  
 Ellsworth Community College  
 El Tapitio  
 ENT Clinic of Iowa  
 Fridley Theatres  
 Godfather's Pizza  
 Goode Auction Service  
 J.A. Graham  
 Graceland University  
 Green Plain Methodist Church  
 Doug Hommer Construction  
 Iowa Health Physicians  
 Hardee's Restaurant  
 His & Hers Headquarters  
 Holy Trinity  
 Humeston Livestock Auction

Images by Lynda Richards  
 Indian Hills Community College  
 Inspirations Salon  
 Iowa Realty  
 Iowa State University  
 Knoxville Recreation Department  
 Lacona American Legion  
 Lacona American Legion Auxiliary  
 Lacona Christian Church  
 Lacona Fire Department  
 Lacona Hardware  
 Lacona Methodist Church  
 Liberty Center Methodist Church  
 Living History Farms  
 Lucas C Store  
 Luther College  
 Mercy Medical Clinic  
 Miller Electric  
 Milo Christian Union Church  
 Milo Fire & Rescue  
 Milo American Legion  
 Milo Lions Club  
 Milo Locker  
 Milo United Methodist Women  
 Morningside College  
 Motor Church  
 Nash Well Co.  
 Noble Ford  
 Paul Revere Lodge  
 Peoples Saving Bank  
 Pizza Hut  
 Professional Body Works  
 Professional Touch Salon  
 Rasko Construction  
 Southeast Warren Athletic Boosters  
 Seufferer's Body Shop  
 Shady Oaks Golf Course  
 Southwestern Community College  
 State Farm Insurance  
 Taco Johns

The Tannery  
 Tim McConnell Photography  
 Town & Country Veterinary  
 University of Iowa  
 University of Northern Iowa  
 Vatterot College  
 Visual Impact  
 Warren County Oil  
 Wartburg College  
 White Water University  
 William Penn University  
 Williams Machine Shop

## SEW Scholarship Foundation

The Scholarship Foundation has awarded \$73,600 in scholarships through 2002 plus \$9700 this spring. For the past few years all students who apply have been awarded a scholarship. An application is given to all graduating seniors at the beginning of March. Applications are returned to the Guidance Counselor's office by the end of March. These applications are numbered and read to the Foundation members by the Guidance Counselor, Principals, or other personnel. Foundation members give numerical scores to applications based on work experience, school and community activities, and appraisals included in the applications. These scores are then tabulated by personnel from the local banks. Scholarships are awarded using these final tabulations. Everything remains anonymous until after all selections have been made.

The Scholarship Foundation raises money through the Country Jams held in the Fall and Spring, the Fourth of July Breakfast in Milo, the sale of bricks from the old elementary buildings, payroll deductions from school employees, Pennies for Scholars, and contributions.

*Submitted by Barb Ripperger*

## SEW Scholarship Foundation Awards 2003

### Ernest Bechtel Memorial Award-science field

Ashley Schaefer      Todd Casey

### James L. & Grace S. Butler Award

Philip Nash      Abby Davis  
 Garrett Reynolds      Landon Wright  
 Kelly Hoffman

### Frank Uballe, Jr. Award-wrestling/boys sport

Andy Ohnemus

### Cindy Snuggs Memorial Award—girls track/sport

Alicia Konrad

### Dewey Hommer Memorial Award-math field

Brian Clark

### Dr. A.L. McCormick Memorial Award—medical science

Nycole Hart

### Darla Jo Reynolds Memorial Award

Jerod Fredregill  
 Amanda Heemstra

### F.J. and Norma Greubel Award—education

Tyler Spoon

### Lester Dittmer Memorial Award—agriculture

Danny Scheve

### Foundation Awards

Sydney Schumann	Trista Humble
Chelsei Wadle	Daniel Cox
Chelsea Quinn	Kelly Ripperger
Jennifer Miller	Deidre Eichhorn
Jennifer Manley	Angie Septer

## District-Wide Infrastructure Plan and Facilities Plan, 2003 Revision

PROJECT AND LOCATION	Estimated Costs	Completion Year	Source of Funds**
<b>LACONA</b>			
New "face" for gym and lunch room	\$85,000		Grant & PPEL
Replacement windows - old building	\$8,000	2002	Grant
Gutter & fascia board repair	\$1,000	2002	Grant
Clean-up for grounds in back	<i>In Progress</i> \$2,000	2002	RMS
Water softener - Lacona			
Remodel PE office	<i>Completed</i> \$1,000	2002	RMS
Art room improvements	<i>In Progress</i> \$500	2002	RMS
Storage facilities - new metal building?	\$15,000		2004
Fill dirt in the ditch in back of building	<i>Completed</i> \$500	2002	RMS
Landscaping in back of building			2003
Remodel entry ways to old building			2003
Additional restrooms/with changing area			PPEL
Additional meeting area	\$2,500		
Upgrade lighting in the old building	\$900	2002	
Fire Safety Items in the old building	\$700	2002	
<b>MILO</b>			
Tuckpointing for brick face of bus barn			
Replacement windows day-care facility			2003
Correction for drain problem in front drive		2002	RMS
Clean-up for grounds	<i>Mostly Completed</i>		2003
Haul away concrete in bus barn parking lot	<i>Completed</i>	2002	PPEL
Asbestos Removal in the bus barn			2003
Remodel bus barn interior			PPEL
Roof repair or replacement - bus barn	<i>Repair made</i>		2004
<b>LACONA &amp; MILO</b>			
Flag pole installation	<i>Completed</i>	2002	
Signs & installation	<i>Completed</i> \$2,860	2002	PPEL
Fencing - Milo and Lacona	<i>Completed at Milo</i>	2002	
Improve ventilation for kitchens		2002	Lunch Fund
Bleacher repair (football field)	<i>Completed</i>	2002	
<b>LIBERTY CENTER</b>			
Tiling to correct drainage problems	<i>Completed</i> \$25,000	2002	PPEL
New lockers	<i>Completed</i> \$25,000	2002	General Fund
Carpeting	<i>Completed</i> \$30,000	2002	PPEL
Wiring for Channel I	<i>Completed</i>	2002	RMS
Wiring for Technology Center	<i>Completed</i>	2002	RMS
ICN Wiring updates	<i>Completed</i>	2002	Grant
Updating & improvements for library	<i>In Progress</i> \$20,000	2002	RMS
Repair leak in shop area	<i>Completed</i>	2002	RMS
Replace gym doors, one side	<i>Completed</i>	2003	Grant
Replace doors to wrestling building			
Repair exterior of wrestling building			2004
Replace front sidewalks	<i>Completed</i> \$2,200	2002	PPEL
Tuckpointing-minor repairs	<i>Completed</i> warranty	2002	warranty
Storage solutions -	lutions		2003
Clean up for grounds	<i>In Progress</i>	2002	RMS
Asphalting of parking lot			2004
Repair/restoration to white building			2004
Asbestos removal			2004
Concrete walkway to shop building from back doors			2004
Roof repair/replacement (shop building)			2003
Roof repair/replacement (wrestling building)			2004
Cabinetry repair or replacement- classrooms, offices			2003
Stage floor and front replacement			2003
Floor cover for gym	<i>Completed</i> \$3,000	2003	RMS
Shower & restroom remodeling - wrestlina			2004

**Southeast Warren Board of Education  
Regular Board Meeting  
April 14, 2003**

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met in regular session April 14, 2003, in the media center of the Intermediate building. President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The following board members were present: Tom Farley, John Burrell, Greg Davis and Debbie Miller. Superintendent Susan Garton, Secondary Principal Terry Gladfelter, Intermediate Principal Cindy Butler, Primary Principal Charlotte Weaklend and Board Secretary Julie Wilson were in attendance, along with members of the community.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Farley, seconded by Davis to approve the agenda. Ayes: 5.

**VISITORS:** None

**REPORTS:**

**Secondary Principal's report:**

Terry Gladfelter presented revised graduation requirements for the Board's consideration. Mr. Gladfelter recommended increasing the graduation requirements over the next three years from 48 credits this year to 52 credits for 2006. Compared to other schools in the Pride of Iowa Conference, Southeast Warren is currently at the low end for graduation requirements. By increasing the graduation requirements to 52, Southeast Warren would fall into the mid-range area compared to other schools in the conference. The current graduation requirements are not high enough to keep students busy during their senior year. The increase in graduation requirements will help prepare our students for the next level of education.

The proposed graduation requirement for 2004 would be 50 credits, one additional credit in Language Arts. P.E. would count as 1 credit/year instead of the current ¼ credit/year. The proposed graduation requirement for 2005 would be 51 credits, two additional credits in Math and two additional credits in Fine Arts, but three less elective credits. The proposed graduation requirement for 2006 would be 52 credits, two additional credits in Science, but one less elective credit.

Mr. Gladfelter presented a revised Good Conduct Rule for the Board's consideration. Mr. Gladfelter reviewed Good Conduct Rules from other conference schools and the School Administrators of Iowa sample policy to come up with a revised Good Conduct Rule for Southeast Warren students. Administrative procedures will be established for coaches and teachers to follow when students are ineligible.

**Primary Principal's report:**

Charlotte Weaklend presented information on the ITBS results compared to the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) standards for this year's current

third and fourth graders. The ITBS results fall below the goal of 100% proficiency set by NCLB. A consultant is scheduled to meet with Charlotte to review the results of the ITBS tests and offer suggestions on improving proficiency.

**Intermediate Principal's Report:**

Tuesday, April 1, the teacher members of the district curriculum council and I traveled to Interstate 35 to meet with their curriculum director and a team of teachers on their school improvement committee. They shared information on the benefits they are enjoying from membership in the curriculum consortium. The teachers were very enthusiastic and heartily endorsed membership in the consortium.

Eighty percent of their taught curricula align with the MIALT, the criterion referenced test of the consortium, compared to only 60% alignment with ITBS. Interstate 35 teachers have used the results of the MIALT to identify three weak areas of curricula and teaching. They spent most of their professional development for the year working on strategies to more effectively teach these areas. Since the MIALT's are given twice a year, they will know by spring if their training and practice has made an impact in the targeted areas.

After the visit to Interstate 35, SEW council members presented information during staff meetings and addressed questions and concerns. During the early out on April 9<sup>th</sup>, all our reading and language arts teachers reviewed the consortium's language arts standards and benchmarks comparing them to what we currently teach. We considered changes we might want to make to the benchmarks, but agreed the standards and benchmarks closely align with what we teach. We discussed a few areas of concern but decided to adopt the standards and benchmarks as they are. Teachers not participating in the language arts review on April 9<sup>th</sup> began writing standards and benchmarks in their own areas of concentration, or worked with Mr. Gladfelter reviewing the special education plan.

We will review the mathematics standards and benchmarks at next month's early out. The review process will be completed by the end of the year in math, language arts, and science - establishing uniform standards K-12 as required by the state.

**Transportation report:**

There have been several issues come up this last month regarding the transportation department budget. I am very confident that we will be below our budget at the end of the year, even with the cuts that we've made and the extra students in Special Ed. that we are now transporting.

I would like to respond to a few items that were mentioned in the budget planning session. First of all, several items do get billed directly to the

school, for example tires, Thomas Bus Sales, Freightliner and O'Hallaron International. Second, the oil is billed out cheaper than what it has been in previous years. Third, parts mark-up from NAPA is needed to help offset my cost for handling all the parts, this includes my time locating them and going after them. Fourth, the labor rate per hour is considerably cheaper than anywhere you could have the same work done. If there are any questions on the budget and why I charge what I do, please ask. My door is always open to answer any questions.

The bus inspections went well. We had two buses taken out of service, bus #16 for seat belt buckle and bus #6 for strobe light inoperable. A few 30-day repairs were given; one van had a fire extinguisher that had been emptied, one school bus sign not installed and rust repair on bus #8. We do have bus #8 scheduled to go to Tomin' Towing this Thursday afternoon to be repaired. All other repairs have been made and forms faxed in.

All of our drivers have completed their three-hour training course.

I'm pleased to announce a new van driver, Candy Drone from Lacona. She will be transporting Kenny Doss for us. I'm also training Diane Houghland from Milo as a substitute driver.

**Legislative report** – Tom Farley reported that the Local Option Tax Equity bill (SF 314) is now on the House Calendar. The Senate amendment narrowed the definition of school infrastructure to exclude a PPEL or PERL allowable expense. IASB is convinced that most districts would use the revenue for construction, however, many districts that have already taken care of infrastructure needs or many smaller districts that are looking to reorganize or share would benefit from spending sales tax revenue on a bus or some computers. IASB asks that we let all senators know the importance of this flexibility to use local option revenue for PPEL expenses.

Tom Farley also reported on the Virtual Academies bill (SF 383) that authorizes the use of virtual courses in Iowa high schools. Virtual courses are those taught online. The bill establishes a new position in the DE to oversee the use of virtual courses. The House and IASB have serious concerns about this bill and are working to correct them. The major concern is the DE would have control over local courses, credit and other issues that should remain within control of the local district. Another major concern involves a conflict in licensing requirements for those who qualify to teach a virtual academy course.

**Warren County Conference Board** – John Burrell reported that the Farm Bureau is contesting the Warren County Assessors Office budget, however, that will not be an issue that effects our

school.

**Children First Forum** – Greg Davis thanked the community members who came to the meeting last week to provide input on budget concerns. Following the budget discussion, the Children First Forum discussed the Good Conduct Policy and graduation requirements. Rod Fridley related that given the limited time for meetings and the desire to gather as much input as possible, the core committee has devised a process for establishing agendas for the meetings. The next meeting of the Children First Forum will be held on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the Intermediate Media Center. The agenda topic will be transition between the buildings.

**Athletic Boosters** – Kevin Smith reported that the Boosters have sold several signs for the ball fields. The money will go to baseball, softball and the Boosters.

**Fine Arts Boosters & Non-Certified Negotiations** – The spring play will be held on April 26 and 27<sup>th</sup>. Negotiations have not been completed with the non-certified staff. Mediation has been scheduled for May 7th.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items were on the consent agenda:

1. March 10, March 24, and April 7, 2003 minutes
2. Financial reports

Motion by Miller, seconded by Davis to approve the items on the consent agenda. Ayes: 5.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Garton presented information on the current telephone system. Superintendent Garton has been investigating the costs of telephone and Internet services with a goal of reducing the costs overall while improving services. An E-Rate grant has been applied for which will reduce the phone bill at Liberty Center by \$300+ per month next year. Eliminating private lines for the portable buildings, eliminating inside wire maintenance agreements, eliminating a reserved line and eliminating one premium call plan will generate additional savings. Superintendent Garton has received a quote of \$5,033.88 for a new phone system at Liberty Center. The system would be equipped for 8 phone lines and 24 stations and would include 26 voice mailboxes.

**PERSONNEL CHANGES:** Superintendent Garton recommended approval to hire Sherry Northway, JH Softball Coach, pending completion of her coaching certification requirements; add Assistant JH Track Coaches' salary to Head Coaches' salary for Scott Dirx and Jason Walter; hire Candy Drone and Claire Dittmer as substitute drivers; and add Brenda Chamberlain, Spring Play Director. Motion by Miller, seconded by Davis to approve the personnel changes as pre-

sented. Ayes: 5.

**2003-2004 BUDGET GUARANTEE:** Motion by Miller, seconded by Farley to approve the following resolution: Resolved, that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Warren Community School District, consistent with Iowa Code section 257.14, will levy property tax for the fiscal year in order that the district's 2003-2004 regular program district costs will be 100 percent of the 2002-2003 regular program district cost plus any moneys received under section 257.14 as a budget adjustment for 2002-2003. Ayes: 5.

**2003-2004 BUDGET:** A hearing was held allowing members of the public to ask questions or express concerns about the proposed 2003-2004 budget. Motion by Miller, seconded by Farley to approve the 2003-2004 budget. Ayes: 5. The adopted tax rate is \$17.97641 per \$1,000 taxable valuation.

**2003-2004 SCHOOL CALENDAR:** Motion by Farley, seconded by Davis to approve the 2003-2004 school calendar as presented. Ayes: 5.

**ISCAP PROGRAM:** Superintendent Garton recommended continued participation in the Iowa School Cash Anticipation Program. Motion by Davis, seconded by Burrell to approve the supplemental resolution authorizing and providing for the issuance, and authorizing and directing the final terms and conditions of sale and delivery of warrants evidenced by warrant certificates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, and amending the master resolution. Ayes: 5.

**JOB DESCRIPTIONS:** Motion by Miller, seconded by Davis to approve the job descriptions for certified and non-certified staff. Ayes: 5. A suggestion was made to add CPR or First Aid training requirements for some classifications of employees. A change was requested on the Business Manager/Board Secretary's job description to delete "Superintendent and" from "Reports to & Evaluated by: Superintendent and Board of Directors."

**BOARD POLICY 503.9R:** Motion by Miller, seconded by Farley to approve the revision of Board Policy 503.9R, "Good Conduct Rule Grades 7-12." Ayes: 5.

**BOARD POLICY 505.10:** Motion by Farley, seconded by Miller to approve the revision of Board Policy 505.10, "Graduation Requirements." Ayes: Miller, Farley, Davis and Smith. Nays: Burrell. Motion passed 4:1. Discussion was generated about concerns of the requirements being too high for some students, required Fine Arts credits, only 1 Business Education credit requirement, and the opportunity to take elective courses in areas such as Ag, Family & Consumer Science, and Industrial Technology.

**2001-2002 AUDIT REPORT:** Julie Wilson briefly reviewed the 2001-2002 Audit Report prepared by Nolte, Cornman and Johnson, P.C. Motion by Davis, seconded by Burrell to accept the 2001-2002 Audit Report. Ayes: 5.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ACCREDITATION REPORT:** The Board reviewed the official response from the district to the Department of Education Accreditation Report.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN:** Motion by Farley, seconded by Miller to authorize the revision of the Southeast Warren Community School District Special Education Plan, as recommended in the Special Education Compliance Report and in the Department of Education Accreditation Report. The plan is to be revised through a collaborative effort of administrators, AEA support staff, parents, and/or community representatives. Ayes: 5.

**CLOSED SESSION:** The Board did not hold a closed session.

**BOARD POLICY SECTIONS 406 AND 411:** Motion by Miller, seconded by Davis to approve the review of Board Policy Sections 406, "Part-time Personnel" and 411, "Non-Certified Personnel Related Considerations." Ayes: 5.

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

## Next School Board Meeting

June 9, 2003

Liberty Center - 7:00 p.m.