

The WARREN PRIDE

December 2003

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The WARREN PRIDE is compiled & edited
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Senior Citizens Meal

The Southeast Warren National Honor Society will host the Senior Citizens Meal. The meal is scheduled for Thursday December the 4th. The students look forward to providing this service for the Senior Citizens of the Southeast Warren School District. Come enjoy this local tradition.



Transportation will be provided if needed. Transportation leaves Milo at 10:00 AM and 10:25 AM at Lacona. Transportation will pick-up in Milo at the senior citizens center. Transportation will pick-up from the community center in Lacona. The meal will be served at 11:00 AM. Entertainment will be provided by the Band, Chorus and Dance Team. Reservations may be made by calling the high school at 466-3331.

Submitted by Brenton Tigner

Southeast Warren Scholarship Foundation

The SEW Scholarship Foundation Music Show was held on November 2nd. Thanks to everyone who attended and made this a successful event. We also want to give a big thanks to Pat and Nancy Meade who coordinate this event and to all the wonderful entertainers who performed.

The Scholarship Foundation raises money through the Country Music Shows 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 Southeast Warren employees, Pennies for Scholars, other activities, and contributions. We are also selling clocks made from the slate chalkboards out of the old elementary buildings in Milo and Lacona for \$25.00.

The Scholarship Foundation has awarded \$93,000 in scholarships through the spring of 2003. 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 bank. Scholarships are awarded using these final tabulations. Everything remains anonymous until after all selections have been made. The money is awarded in December after one semester of school has been completed and the student has enrolled for the second semester.

Submitted by Barb Ripperger

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

Annual Yearly Progress Report

Recently we had to submit data to the state in what is called the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) report. This is not to be confused with the APR or Annual Progress Report. The APR reports facts to the public and state. The AYP monitors student progress and improvement. The state takes our data in reading and math in grades 4, 8, and 11 from the past two years, combines it with demographic data, sifts it through their computers and decides if we have made adequate yearly progress with our students. (This is the simplified version of the process!) If we do not make the progress the state feels is adequate, schools are placed on a "watch list" or "school in need of improvement" list.

The data submitted was from two years testing of ITBS. The data showed that we had made adequate progress and we were not placed on any lists. As principals we were very excited about the good news! Now we must improve on the progress from last year in our ITBS testing for this year.

I know that students get tired of seeing these tests every year, but it is so important that each student does their very best on these tests. The high school has completed their testing and the primary buildings will be finished in the coming week. We will wait for the test results and do the AYP process again next fall.

Athletics and Sportsmanship

As we begin our winter sports, I am reminded of our sportsmanship report that came from the state and the Pride of Iowa Conference for last year. Fans, teams, and coaches were all evaluated for their conduct and character during the games. Last year our results were less than "sterling." In fact, SEW was rated as one of the lowest in sportsmanship in the Pride of Iowa Conference.

I appeal to all involved in winter athletics, whether parents, students, fans, team members, or coaches, that we demonstrate more positive support and motivation at all the games whether home or away. As spectators we need to be enthusiastic for our team and players, whether we agree or disagree with coaches or officials. Team players and coaches must exhibit the self-control and role model status their position dictates.

To me, the win/loss column is not the "end all" for sports. The team building, comradery, and individual improvement of our students as athletes and good citizens must be the most important reason our students become involved in the athletic programs.

Terry Gladfelter, Junior-Senior High Principal



After Prom Committee

Seniors will be selling cookie dough through December 10. The choices will be M&M, Chocolate Chip, and Sugar cookie dough. The cost is \$10.00 for a 3lb bucket and we are asking that you pay at the time you order. Checks should be made payable to SEW After Prom Committee. The orders will be available the week of December 22.

On December 12, 2003 & January 9, 2004; we will be having a 50/50 Raffle at the home basketball games.

We will also be having another can drive on January 17, 2004. Seniors need to plan on participating.

Our next meeting will be January 14, 2004 at 7:00 in the high school library.

Happy Holidays to everyone!

Submitted by Marcia Stanley

FCCLA Happenings

SEW FCCLA met on Tuesday, November 4th, for their regular meeting. The following members completed the requirements for **STEP ONE recognition**: Freshmen: **Daylan Eichhorn**; Sophomore: **Jacki Byers, Lacey Goering, Bradi Horton, Chelsie Town**, and **Sara Utley**; and Juniors: **Joe Clay, Korie Downs, Dorie Knight**, and **Gabe Town**.

The FCCLA chapter is excited to send five members to the regional Cluster meeting in Dallas, Texas on November 21-23. Seniors **Liz Lawrence, Angie Van Sickle, Laura Benesh, Sawyer Schumann** and **Jack Miller** will be leaving Thursday, November 20th, on a charter bus with other members of the Iowa delegation. The senior members, along with chapter advisor Ms. Rhodes, will tour the sights in Dallas on Friday afternoon. Saturday will be spent at the regional meeting and students will return home Sunday morning.

From your **Intermediate Principal...**

Cindy Butler

The teachers and staff at Southeast Warren are working very hard to improve instruction and increase student achievement. When students were released early on November 12, all teachers met with their respective principals and reviewed teaching strategies which are shown by research to improve student learning. We discussed the use of these strategies and shared ideas for implementing them in the classroom. This process was a continuation of the training received during the October early out. In addition, teachers and principals reviewed the scores of the MAP tests (Measures of Academic Progress). Teachers will receive more training on how to use these scores during the December early out.

Our school district is part of a central Iowa push to improve math instruction for 6th - 8th grade students. Mr. Dicks, Mrs. Ripperger, and Mr. Jones have attended several days of intensive training in math instruction and meet periodically to support each other and discuss ways to improve. Because of this training, Mrs. Ripperger and Mr. Jones have instituted a Daily Math Review and Mental Math to start each day. When students enter the room every morning there are seven problems on the overhead for them to do. After about 10 minutes, they do Mental Math where students have 10 seconds to mentally compute an answer to a math problem before moving on to the next one. There are usually seven mental math problems. After completion of the two exercises, students check the answers and discuss different ways the problems can be solved. The students really enjoy the challenge of the math activities and the data collected by the teachers show the students are becoming better at solving problems mentally. Studies show that students who do mental math on a daily basis outperform those who don't by at least 15%. Experts also say that 85% of the ITBS math test can be done mentally.

We also have a team of teachers receiving intensive training in improving reading instruction. Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Ripperger, and Ms. Spirek are on an ABC learning team. They received several days of intensive training in reading instruction. They meet periodically with a team from the Primary Center to support each other and discuss ways to improve. Recently they attended an ICN session focused on improving the teaching of reading comprehension. They learned several instructional strategies they can use in their classrooms now.

All first and second year teachers in our district participate in professional development activities designed to improve their teaching skills. They work with an assigned mentor teacher from our own district and attend classes at Norwalk High School.

All of the training mentioned above is designed to improve the skills of the teachers and thereby improve student learning. We want all Southeast Warren students to be successful and are working hard towards that end.

Cindy Butler
Intermediate Principal



First Quarter Honor Roll Intermediate Center 6th Grade

Brad Byers
Branden Counts
Jake DeLay
Jeremy Drake
Dillon King
Rosie Petry
Cody Ripperger
Grant Seuferer
Liz Sowers
Brooke Vasey
Savannah Wright
Brittany Backus
Kelly Blair

Southeast Warren Athletic Boosters

Update on football field crowning

The Athletic Boosters were planning on crowning the football field this fall; however, after receiving the bid it was considerably higher than expected and not enough funds were appropriated for the project. We are one-third of the way toward reaching our goal.

To help us reach this goal:

Get your memberships
Support your athletics
Watch for fundraisers

If you would like to make a donation to the football field project, it can be mailed to: Karen Stanley, 213 S East Ave, Lacona, IA 50139

The Athletic Boosters meet the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting is on December 17th.

Submitted by Marcia Stanley

*From your Primary Principal...
Charlotte Weaklend*

We appreciate the support expressed for our kindergartners through the grandparents who visited the week of October 20th. In all, forty-four grandparents visited the classrooms that week and ate lunch with their kindergartner. Thanks, grandparents!

We celebrated Drug Free Week at the Primary during the week of October 27th. Members of the high school FFA chapter visited the Primary to tell their message of the importance of leading a drug-free life with the students on two separate days during opening assemblies. The FFA sponsored a drug-free poster contest this year, with forty students entering homemade posters that are on display in the hallway adjacent to the main foyer.

All first and second year teachers in the Southeast Warren schools have an assigned mentor, an experienced teacher in the district. These teachers meet regularly with their mentor in the district as well as attend monthly county-wide classes along with their mentors. These classes are taught by other competent teachers and are organized through the Area Education Agency 11. In those classes the teachers review the eight Iowa Teaching Standards and the 42 criteria that define them. They also learn techniques that will enhance their classroom effectiveness as teachers. At the end of their second year of teaching, Iowa teachers are now required to demonstrate their competency in all eight standards through a documented portfolio. Our new teachers are now learning to produce their portfolio electronically. These portfolios are to be completed and presented to the second year teacher's supervising principal in the spring of their second year. Permanent Iowa licensure for teaching now hinges on satisfactory completion of the portfolio, as well as a favorable recommendation for licensure from the teacher's supervising principal.

Partners in Education sponsored a successful Scholastic Book Fair in our building during Parent-Teacher conference week. Attendance at Parent-Teacher conferences was high.

The Primary building celebrated Reading Week during the week of November 10th. Activities included guest readers and a "shut off the television and read" challenge. Many students took up the challenge and were rewarded with free books and food certificates.

November 11th marked our annual Veteran's Day celebration at the Primary with an assembly that featured guest veterans, patriotic songs, poetry recitation by the second graders, and a flag-folding demonstration by third graders. A special thanks to veteran Jerry Hunter and Air Guardsman Daniel Shepherd who shared their thoughts on patriotism.

We are looking forward to participating in the high school art club's Christmas Angel project again this year where youngsters may purchase Christmas gifts for local families in need. We continue our caring theme throughout the year as we discuss the six character traits of respect, responsibility, caring, motivation, integrity, and citizenship.

Charlotte Weaklend, Primary Principal



Super Readers



The children at the Primary Center have really been reading and reading. We have many children who have achieved Independent Reader status, they have read at least 20 or more "picture" books. After Independent Reader the children work towards Super Reader I and above. These children have achieved Super Reader status so far this year.

Super Reader I

Megan Cleveland
Kacey Konrad
Allisa Quick
Preston Carruthers
Hillary Gardner
Kane Ellenwood
Zach Hart
Collin Judkins
Celeste Welshhons
Madison Hall
Carrie Neer

Super Reader II

Jonie Meling
Aaron Coffman
Kaylee Miller

Super Reader V

Dallas Stanger
Robert Stickel
Amy Koenck

Each of these children and any child who was an Independent Reader as of October 31 went to an AR party given in their honor. Thank you to the parents of P.I.E. Encourage your child to get to the next party, just make it to another level, any level.

A SLICE FROM PIE

Partners In Education

We want to let the Community know what PIE has been up to and what we stand for. We are an organization whose sole purpose is to aid the students of Southeast Warren Primary and Southeast Warren Intermediate Schools by providing support for their educational and recreational needs and promoting open communication between the administration, teacher, and parents.

We are selling school apparel. We have sent out the order forms with the children, if you haven't received them or lost one, please contact Wendy Smith (942-6413) or Tami Hall (942-6909). There are three colors in T-shirts this year. Remember that we are ordering only once this year, so don't miss the boat.

Conference time can be a happy or stressful time so PIE organized a dinner for the teachers those evenings and it was a big success. We also held a book fair at both locations for those early Christmas shoppers and all the eager readers. We were able to donate a book to each of the teachers with the profits we gained from the book fair.

Open house was held at the beginning of the school year and we served a free will donation spaghetti dinner for all those who attended. We want to give another big thanks to those families who donated treats for that evening. All the students were very proud to show off their school to their parents and friends.

Accelerated reading programs are a big hit in the schools. The student who reaches their goal gets to attend a party provided by PIE. Last year we focused on the 2nd and 3rd graders, but we would like to integrate this in every grade.

The Cookie Walk has been around for a number of years. PIE has sponsored this event and is asking you for your support and donations of cookies. This year we are giving a prize for the best decorated cookie. If you are interested in participating please call any of the officers. The cookie walk will be held in the Milo Public Library on December 6th from 8am - 12pm. Donated cookies are to be delivered the evening before between 6pm and 8pm. We appreciate all of your help.

This Christmas season we will be conducting an Elf workshop for children of all ages. This will be held at The Milo School Library on December 6th from 1pm - 4pm. The children will be able to make their gifts that will be treasured for years to come. The cost is \$2.00 per gift and this includes a card and wrapping. We could also use volunteers for this project. The children can be making that special gift for mom or dad and the parents can mingle around all the local vendors that will have booths throughout the school. This is a very exciting time for everyone, so please come and enjoy and have fun.

This Spring we are hoping to have another family fun night. Last year was a big success. So look for further details in the future slices from PIE.

The following are officers for 2003-2004:

- President- Tami Hall
- Vice-President - Wendy Smith
- Treasurer- Rachelle Spence
- Secretary- Wendy Smith



COME GET INVOLVED AND TAKE A BITE OUT OF PIE!!

Submitted by Melody Kibbe

Share Your Talents!

The SE Warren Primary Center is having a fun program for our students. We are looking for community volunteers to



help us with this. If you have a hobby, talent or special interest you would like to share/demonstrate, we would like to know.

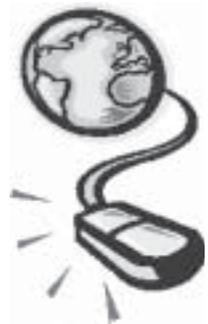
Students will be divided into small groups and be accompanied by teachers as they meet and watch new friends. Each group would visit with you for about 15 minutes, and you would share your talents with four different groups. This will take place in Spring, probably an afternoon in April. More details will follow later.

If you are interested, please call Marcia Williams at 641-942-6216 by December 15, 2003. Please leave a message and she will get back to you.

Submitted by Cynthia Baker

Online Lunch Accounts

Check out your students' meal charges and deposits online from the Southeast Warren website.



You will need an Internet connected computer and a user login (for security purposes).

To receive your login information, select your own password - it can be anything you like. Send it to Misty Jensen via email at mjensen@se-warren.k12.ia.us.

Future Farmer of America

The National Convention was a blast. We would like to send out a special thank you to **Brian Hoffman** and **Genie & Larry Snuggs**, our chaperones. We would also like to thank **Jordan Dittmer** and **Nathan Meyers** for making the trip and all our tours possible. We really appreciate it. We had tours at the Kinze Plant and the Louisville Slugger museum. We really enjoyed the Terry Clark and Darrell Worley concert except for the fact that we could not see very well. We attended three sessions and met a lot of new people.



On October 19th, our chapter sent a team to the district trap shoot at the Izaak Walton League. Our team finished 3rd out of 18 teams. Congratulations to the team. The team members and their scores were as follows: **Derek Hommer**, 39; **Mr. Dirx**, 38; **Jordan Dittmer**, 37; **Dusty Dykstra**, 32; and **Brad Ball**, 26. The scores were out of 50 possible. Good job guys.

On November 13th, we sent chapter members to the Primary school to speak to the second graders about *Food for America*, an annual FFA event. We talked about the parts of a cheeseburger and where they all came from. There was also a coloring contest. Congratulations to the winners. Thank you to **Karen Manser**, **Tabetha Dollison**, **Derek Hommer**, **Danny Moser**, and **Michael Bird** for helping out.

The trees came in and Project Green Tree is winding down until Spring when we will be planting the pines and spruces. Thank you to all members who have helped plant all of them.

Our next FFA meeting is December 9th. Don't forget fruit and cheese will be coming in December 10th. Thank you to all who helped out.

Submitted by the chapter reporter, Tabetha Dollison



SEW FFA members at the National Convention

Band News



Both the Junior High and Senior High School bands are beginning a very busy season. Junior High band is preparing to perform at Merle Hay Mall on December 8th, 11:00 A.M. and our own Christmas concert December 15th. On November 14th we travel to Simpson College where Mr. Andy McMahan, Director of Bands, will rehearse and critique the band to help prepare for these two performances. It promises to be a very rewarding and educational experience for our young players.

High School band just returned from the Pride of Iowa Honor Band Festival. This year the festival was held at East Union in Afton, Iowa. The clinician was Mr. Jeremy Fox from Southwestern Community College. He has composed music for orchestras, jazz bands, instrumental ensembles, and choirs. From 1999-2002, Mr. Fox received eight awards from Downbeat magazine. The students representing SEW were **Audra Drish**, **Danae Weilage**, **Josh Motsch**, **Alex Deaver**, **Zeb Birchette**, **Derek Hommer**, and **Gattett Kaldenberg**.

The band continues it's busy schedule with a performance at Capitol Square in downtown Des Moines at 11:30 A.M. on December 9. We hope to see you there as well as our Christmas concert on December 15th.

*Submitted by Willis VanderLinden,
Band Director*

Art Club News

The October Art Club meeting was a blast! After the meeting started, art club members played "Cut the Cake." It's a game where you pack a bunch of flour into a cake-like shape and place a ring (like one you would wear) in the middle of the flour cake. Then you take a knife and cut pieces off, and whoever makes the ring fall first, has to stick their face in it and get it out with their teeth! It was messy, but very fun! During the meeting, we put together ideas for the city of Milo welcome sign, decided on the art club T-shirt design, and started brainstorming ideas for a Mural in the Elementary School.



Upcoming December Activities:

- Jr. High Art Club Activity Night is November 24th from 5-7pm
- High School Art Club Activity Night is November 25th from 5-7pm
- Milo Country Christmas Kids Crafts December 6th

Dates for all Art Club members to sort and wrap gifts: December 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 17th, from 3-6pm. All the gifts will be organized and wrapped by 6 pm on Wednesday, December 17th.

Junior Class News

The SEW junior class would like to thank everyone for their magazine order. If your magazine order does not arrive within 4 weeks please call the QSP customer service number **1-800-678-2673**.

We had an awesome sale and plan to have a fabulous prom. Please plan on attending Grand March at the high school on May 1st, at 8:00 pm. Thank you for all your support!

Submitted by SEW Junior Class

Meetings



After Prom

Next meeting - January 14 - 7:00 pm @ High School Library

Athletic Boosters - 1st Wednesday of the month

Next meeting - December 17 - 7:00 pm @ High School

Children First Forum - 1st Monday of the month

Next meeting - December 1 - 7:00 pm @ High School

Fine Arts Boosters - 1st Wednesday of the month

Next meeting - December 3 - 6:30 pm @ High School Band Room

Partners In Education

Next meeting - December 1 - 7:00 pm @ Primary School

School Board Meeting - 2nd Monday of the month

Next Meeting - December 8 - 7:00 pm @ High School

Fine Arts Boosters

The deadline for ordering the denim shirts from the Fine Arts Boosters is December 17th.

Please come join us at our meeting help us help the Music, Band, Art, Flags, and Drama students. We are always looking for new ideas and people.

The next meeting is December 3rd at 6:30 in the High School Band Room.

Submitted by Barb Ripperger

eChoices



Looking for a Job? Possibly a Career?

Who: SE Warren High School Students, Parents or Community Members

How: eChoices on the Internet

**Contact Paula Schultz,
K-12 Media Specialist, at 466-3331
for web address, passwords,
training**

Whatz Hot? Whatz Not!



Student Newsletter
December 2003



Christmas Traditions Around the School!

By Britney Graham and Jessica Casey

We polled thirty students and two teachers about their Christmas traditions. We chose the most unique from each class. Here they are...

1. "We eat five raisins before we open our presents."
-Leslie Klages
2. "Every year my family goes to the grocery store and buys the biggest turkey we can find, and then we have a huge dinner. We eat turkey for the rest of the week."
-Ariel Ohnemus
3. "Starting with my birthday (December 21), I get to open one of my presents every day until Christmas when I get to open the rest."
-Tara Prine
4. "When we were younger, we made a star out of a toilet paper roll and tin foil. Now, Mom won't let us take it down because it was the first thing we made in Iowa."
-Lacey Edwards
5. "Every Christmas Eve my family has cheese and crackers for dinner. Then we open our presents while listening to Christmas cartoons."
-Korie Downs
6. "My family and I attend the candlelight service, then we go to my grandparents house to open presents and have snowball fights."
-Brittany Stanley
7. "We don't celebrate Christmas as a family. Each member of my family is assigned to one of our neighbors, and we each spend Christmas with them- presents and all."
-Ms. Fowler
8. "We read the Christmas story out of the Bible and sing "Silent Night" by candlelight. Also, after we open presents we have a wrapping paper wad fight."
-Mr. Vos



Adrenaline Dance Team and Color Guard News

By Emily Kimzey

On November 1, three girls from Southeast Warren competed at the State Solo Competition held at Pella High School. Courtney Kimzey and Meghan Seuferer, representing the dance team, earned Division I ratings in Class I Dance Category. Also receiving a Division I is Emily Kimzey in Small School Color Guard. Congratulations to all three for their hard work!

On November 22, the Southeast Warren Adrenaline Dance Team performed at Norwalk High School's Annual "Rock on to State." The evening showcased many area dance teams who are preparing for the upcoming state competition. This performance was very helpful for teams because they were critiqued by judges who gave them suggestions for improvement before the state contest.

On December 6 and 7, the Southeast Warren color guard and dance team will be competing in the Iowa Dance and Drill Team Competition held at Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines. This competition is the largest of its kind in the entire United States! The color guard will be performing on Friday afternoon. They have received a trophy for three consecutive years and are hoping to keep the tradition alive. The dance team will be performing throughout the morning, afternoon, and evening on Saturday. They have been working hard to prepare a pom, hoopla, and kick routine this year and would love to receive Division I ratings for all three routines. The state competition is a very entertaining event that your whole family will enjoy so come support SEW's dance team and colorguard!!!

Don't Miss the
Chance to get Your
2003-2004
All-Color Yearbook
for Only
\$40

Winter Sports

By Caitlin Crow

As the fall sports end and the winter sports begin, the students are ready for an exciting season of wrestling, bowling and basketball. I spoke with the coaches of these sport and here is a preview of what is to come.

Coaching the Warhawk wrestlers is Dave Ripperger, who is looking forward to keeping up the twenty-one year streak of sending one of our own athletes to state. Five years in a row, the Warhawks have placed at State. This season's assistant coaches include Gene Wadle, Scott Dirx, and Jason Walter (Mr. Dirx and Mr. Walter, the junior high wrestling coaches, will have their team practices with the high school team this year.). With four seniors, the team as a whole has twenty-five students out this season. The team is looking forward to another winning season and, hopefully, five state qualifiers. They want to improve their sportsmanship rating and have fun. Coach Ripperger said, "I am looking forward to this year based upon our numbers. I know we have some unexperienced wrestlers, but I think with some hardwork we will surprise some people."

The girls' basketball team may be small in numbers, but they make up for it with good attitudes. With only twenty-two girls out, five of them being seniors, the team's goal is to have a better record than last year and to win conference. Head coach Michelle Fowler said, "The girls have been working hard with plenty of hours put in. I am pleased with the dedication and attitude, especially at six in the morning. You will be seeing some magnificent things out of these young ladies this year."

Including the five seniors, this year's boys' basketball team has a total of twenty-five. They are led by Dan Thomas and assistant coach Tim Cerwinski. The boys are anxious to play games and, as a result, are ready to get the next two weeks of practice out of the way. According to Coach Thomas, "We will go as far as our defense will take us."

This is only the second year for the Warhawks bowling team. Barb Weeks is the new coach. They have not had a bowling meeting yet so information on this sport will come out next month.

Fall Sports Wind Up

By Amy Ripperger

The football season ended with a record of 4-5. Other football stats were unavailable.

The volleyball team had an overall record of 8-12, and their conference record was 4-2. They placed 5th out of 12 teams and tied for the 2nd best record in the league. Their best finish in a tournament was at Chariton, where they placed 4th. Brittany Stanley led the team with 173 kills, and Emily Kimzey had 74 aces while serving.

The cross country team went to districts at Lynnville-Sully. Even though the boy's team didn't finish in the top teams, they still ran a great race. Their finishing places were 74th, 80th, 91st, 108th, 114th. On the girl's side, Amy Ripperger finished districts in 80th place. Amy also broke the school record with a time of 19:43.

Just a Little About...

Deb Sage

By Heather B. and Angie S.

POSITION AT SEW: Science/Biology Teacher

BIRTHDATE: It's a secret!

BIRTHPLACE: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

ORIGINALLY FROM: Marion, Iowa (Go Linn-Mar!)

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 2

CHILDREN'S NAMES: Cody (14) and Jamie (10). They attend Indianola schools

FAVORITE QUOTE: If you fail to plan, you're planning to fail."

Where did you attend high school and college?

High school at Linn-Mar High School (Go Lions!).

College at Kirkwood, DMACC, and Simpson.

What is your favorite part of teaching at SEW?

The awesome students and supportive faculty and staff.

What is your least favorite part?

I have a crazy schedule and not enough time in the day!

What are some of the hobbies you enjoy?

Cheering on and supporting Cody and Jamie in their sports, choir, etc. camping, horses, and going to SEW activities whenever possible!

2J&A

Movie Review

By Amy R., Julie R., and Jacinda M.

Scary Movie 3

Rated: PG 13 - Comedy

The *Scary Movie* series takes scenes from other movies and either makes them funnier or just makes fun of them. The newest installment, *Scary Movie 3*, spoofs scenes from *The Ring*, *The Others*, *8 Mile*, *Signs*, and *Matrix*. It has top-notch actors/actresses like Charlie Sheen, Anna Faris, Tim Stack, Queen Latifa, Pamela Anderson, Anthony Anderson, and many more.

In the movie, Cindy, a news anchor, investigates crop circles found on Tom Logan's farm. She links the crop circles with a girl who kills people seven days after they watch a certain "video". Cindy and her nephew watch the movie, and have seven days to figure out how to stay alive. Cindy visits Orpheus, a man who can see the future. He tells her she must help the president protect the earth from an alien invasion.

Amy: The movie was horrible. I give it 1 warhawk.

Julie: It was an okay movie. I give it 2 warhawks.

Jacinda: It could have been funnier but it was okay. I give it 3 warhawks.

Rating: 2 Warhawks

Rating out 5 Warhawks



Articles submitted by Student Publications Staff and edited by Julie Ripperger.

Sponsors: Emily J. Layton and Joel Vos

Local Option Sales Tax

On January 13, 2004, the patrons of Warren County will have an opportunity to participate in a county-wide election on the issue of a local option sales tax for facility needs for Warren County schools.

The Iowa Association of School Boards has estimated that the revenue generated by the local option sales tax in Warren County would likely be in the range of \$385 to \$420 for each student who resides in Warren County. This proposed revenue would be received annually by each school district in Warren County for a period of ten years.

All patrons are encouraged to become involved in the process of studying the issues and participating in the election on January 13, 2004.

The Southeast Warren Board of Directors has approved use of the revenue generated by the local option sales tax for the following purposes:

- To provide funds to build and furnish a new school building or buildings
- To build and furnish addition(s) to school buildings and District facilities
- To remodel, repair, improve, maintain and equip District facilities
- To repair, improve, or replace mechanical, plumbing, structural, roof, and electrical systems
- To procure and improve sites
- To construct and maintain school recreational facilities
- To provide funds for emergency repairs to respond to natural disasters, such as fire, wind damage, flood
- To implement and install energy conservation measures
- To purchase, lease or the lease-purchase of equipment as authorized by law, including transportation, computer, and recreational equipment
- To purchase or lease-purchase school buildings
- To rent or share buildings or facilities
- To provide property tax relief for the payment of principal and interest or the retirement of general obligation bonds issued for school infrastructure purposes, loan agreements authorized by Iowa Code section 297.36
- To provide for the payment of sales tax revenue bonds issued under Iowa Code section 422E.4



Children First Forum Minutes - November 3, 2003

The November Children's First Forum was held Nov. 3 at Milo. Those attending were Jennifer Birchette, Zeb Birchette, Rose Ripperger, Tami Hall, Patty Marshall, Lisa Hunter, Gerald Judkins, Donna Clay, Joe Clay, Terry Gladfelter, Cindy Butler, Charlotte Weaklend, Carla Anders, and Bill Anders.

The topics for discussion were Mentoring programs for the elementary and the new CSIP plan. Lisa and Tami began the discussion by asking for suggestions on beginning a mentoring program for the elementary schools. They would like to see a reward program with high school students visiting the elementary to have lunch, play games, and socializing with the students. Patty stated that several of the ECP students are interested, but finding time in the day is difficult. Mr. Gladfelter would like to take the ideas back to his staff and try to work out a day each month to have the various groups at the high school visit the elementary building. He will come back next month with more information.

The second topic was the new CSIP plan. Mr. Gladfelter handed out information from the state on areas to be completed, and copies of ITBS/ITED results from last year. After reviewing the information, we discussed areas of concern. Questions raised were, Do we focus on Reading, Math, and Science? Or do we focus on all subjects? We will discuss this in more depth at the next meeting.

Our next meeting is December 1st, at Liberty Center. The agenda will be 10 minutes for updating the information on mentoring, and the remaining time will be spent on CSIP. All community members are welcome to attend the meeting, and input is greatly appreciated.

Submitted by Donna Clay

**Southeast Warren Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
October 13, 2003**

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met in regular session October 13, 2003, in the technology center of the Junior/Senior High School building. President Burrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following board members were present: Jennifer Birchette, Chris Hardy, Ron Miller and Chris Wadle. Superintendent John Della Vedova, Secondary Principal Terry Gladfelter, Intermediate Principal Cindy Butler, Primary Principal Charlotte Weakland and Board Secretary Julie Wilson were also in attendance, along with members of the community.

AGENDA: Motion by Miller, seconded by Wadle to approve the agenda. Ayes: 5.

VISITORS: None

REPORTS:

Transportation report:

1. I have got the bus barn cleaned up and organized to make it useable to do the bus maintenance.
2. I'm in the process of getting the busses and vans ready for the 1st round of inspections on October 28th.
3. Trips are getting filled and a few have been changed to get drivers. The coaches and staff have been very understanding to work with to get through this.
4. I have made numerous phone calls and have information coming on the bus cameras but have not received anything yet.
5. As usual, I am still looking for substitute bus drivers.
6. There were no major repairs, but a few light bulbs and mirrors replaced. I am currently working on getting a transmission for the '85 Chevy pickup.

Primary Principal's report:

1. The week of October 6th, Fire Prevention Week, included fire prevention discussions and activities at the Primary building. This was also an ongoing theme in morning assemblies. Two members of the Milo Fire Department met with our youngsters on the afternoon of October 7th, and the teachers introduced books, videos, and general information on the topics. The week concluded with the second of four required fire drills to be conducted this year. Many elementary families conducted their own fire drills at home.
2. The fall round of the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills testing were completed by the kindergarten and first grade students the week of October 6th. This will provide a basis for a check of progress twice more this year – once in the winter and once in the spring. Second and third graders' oral reading fluency will be tested later this month, following the same schedule. In addition, the third graders completed the Mea-

asures of Academic Progress this month. Retakes of this test that covers math, language, reading, and science next April will show us individual and group progress on our written curriculum. These, along with daily assessments and the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills given in November, are all important diagnostic tools that help us revise our curriculum and instruction as needed and helps us tailor our program to meet individual students' needs.

3. September 22nd was Character Day at the Primary building. Guest area high school students visited our school and met with groups of students to emphasize the importance of good character in the students' daily lives. They taught the students character chants and led the students in various interesting activities. These high school students, including S.E. Warren's own Joey Clay, are participants in Drake University's Institute for Character Development program. We appreciate P.I.E.'s financial support of this and other character development efforts throughout the year in both of our elementaries.

4. Five Primary teachers attended the "Risky Business" conference in Des Moines on September 29th. This annual conference centers on students at risk and involving all students in community volunteer programs. Three more teachers will be attending a two-day conference on October 29th and 30th entitled "Stronger Together" that focuses on a similar theme. Substitute teachers for those days are paid through the Primary's Com Serve Grant.

5. P.I.E. sponsored both a football and a cheer-leading camp on the evening of October 8th. The youngsters then performed at the October 10th's football game.

6. Upcoming events include Kindergarten Grandparent's Week during the week of October 20th, where students' grandparents are encouraged to visit school and enjoy a school lunch with their grandchildren, and Drug Free Week during the week of October 27th, when we emphasize the dangers of drug abuse.

Intermediate Principal's report:

1. Last year Brenton Tigner and I attended several training sessions of the Iowa Technical Adequacy Project (ITAP). This project required us to review our district wide assessments to ensure they measure what they are intended to measure. We also had to review standards and benchmarks to make sure they were tested by the tests. Additionally, we had to assure the state we use the data appropriately. The required paperwork has been completed and is ready to submit.

2. The two sixth grade math teachers are participating in an intensive staff development offered through the AEA called E2T2. Mental math and daily math review are part of the program aimed at improving middle school students' math scores. Both teachers are responding favorably to the training and student activities.

3. Wednesday we had a joint staff development session with the Melcher-Dallas staff here at

Lacona. AEA staff presented "Classroom Instruction that Works: Research-Based Strategies for Increasing Student Achievement". Teachers are required to implement and document one of the strategies. We will follow up in building meetings and at the November inservice.

4. A few more students need to complete MAP testing and we need to get all the data uploaded to NWEA. After that, we will be able to download district level reports. Next week several teachers, Terry and Charlotte will attend a data analysis workshop. Individual student results will be available to parents at conference time.

Secondary Principal's report:

Homecoming – Mr. Ripperger and the Student Council are to be commended for their planning and organization of this year's Homecoming. Many favorable comments from students, teachers, and community were received.

Juvenile Court School Liaison Position – I met with Mr. Eggert, Superintendent of I-35, on Tuesday to go over resumes. We had approximately 20 applicants. Next Friday (10/17) we will be interviewing the top six applicants for the position. It is our desire to have someone in the position by the end of the month.

MAP Testing – Testing has been completed and we are already receiving results. I will be going to Iowa City on Tuesday for training on how to interpret the results. MAP testing is used to test knowledge of what our students are being taught with our curriculum.

ITBS Scores – We have been spending time at our faculty meetings looking at the ITBS/ITED results from last year. We have looked at Language Arts and Math so far. We are seeing areas that need improvement. The area most in need of improvement in Language Arts is grammar, in Math the area of single and multiple step problem solving.

Governor's Volunteer Award – Our Student Council was recognized recently for having completed 10 years of roadside cleanup activities. A reception was held at the DMACC campus. Courtney Kimzey and Chad Hart were there to receive the award. We had our pictures taken with Governor Vilsack and his wife.

Character Education Program – Monthly a character trait is going to be emphasized in the school. Teachers that see students behaving in a way that reinforces the trait will have opportunity to nominate that student to be part of a monthly awards program. Local merchants and organizations have been contacted to help with the awards through certificates, tickets, gift cards, and services. The first character trait was respect.

ECP – Students involved in the Establishing Community Pride group have accumulated over

1100 hours of volunteer time since the summer began. I am pleased to see this type of activity being initiated by our students with the help of Patty Marshall and Ann Miller.

Legislative report - John Della Vedova related to the Board that the governor has ordered a 2.5% across-the-board cut. The cut to school districts will be applied on a per-pupil basis rather than as a 2.5 percent cut to the district's state aid payment. This will amount to a cut of approximately \$56,000 for Southeast Warren. A significant consideration of the 2004 legislature will be the ability to maintain the 2 percent allowable growth rate set for the 2004-05 school year.

Warren County Conference Board - John Burrell reported that Warren County would conduct a property tax pilot project for the next two years. Two sets of records will be kept; one set using the current property tax system and another set using the sale price of residential property as an assessed value. Ag land would remain the same as it currently is and residential property would be assessed on a square foot basis until the house is sold.

Children First Forum - Jennifer Birchette reported that the Children First Forum met on October 6th. Carla Anders has volunteered to take chairman for the next three months. The Comprehensive School Improvement Plan will be the main focus of this committee for the coming school year. The Annual Progress Report was reviewed. The next meeting will be held on November 3rd at Milo.

Athletic Boosters - Doug Hommer presented a request from the Athletic Boosters for permission to crown, tile, install an irrigation system and fence the football field. The Boosters also asked the Board to consider helping with the cost of the project. The entire cost of the project is approximately \$24,000. The boosters would like for the district to consider paying for the fence, which would cost approximately \$6,500. The project would be started right after the last football game on October 31st. Motion by Miller, seconded by Birchette to support the Athletic Boosters proposal and if at all possible the district will come up with the money to support it, but no guarantee. Ayes: 5.

Fine Arts Boosters: Jennifer Birchette reported that the fall play will be in November with both elementary and high school students involved. The Fine Arts Boosters will be serving the meal for the IASB District meeting on Thursday night.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Birchette, seconded by Miller to approve the September 15, 2003, minutes. Ayes: 5.
Motion by Wadle, seconded by Hardy to ap-

prove the financial reports. Ayes: 5.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

1. One of the most important votes for this district ever will be the one-cent sales tax: 5 of the 6 districts have voted their resolutions and I would definitely recommend that you follow that trend. It is very powerful legislation for this district and could generate as much as \$240,000 per year for infrastructure and transportation needs. Hopefully it could free up some general fund dollars for salaries and operating costs. We also need to appoint a board member and a community member to serve on the county sales tax committee.
2. We are down 4.8 students: this generates a budget problem for 2004-2005. Our new money (dollars over and above this year's budget) is approximately \$33,000. It takes \$23,000 to move teachers over on the salary schedule.
3. If any of the members would like to stop by and review the school finance structure feel free to let me know and I will see if we can get together.
4. Information was presented to the Board concerning a shared superintendent position with Melcher-Dallas Community School District. President Burrell invited community members to contact board members with input concerning the superintendent search.

DISPOSITION OF OLD SCHOOL HOUSE:

Ron Miller related that he had looked at the old school house and thought it would be cost effective to save the building if it was going to be used. Discussion was held concerning asbestos in the old school house. Previous asbestos reports indicate the building contains asbestos. Before remodeling can be done on the building, the building must be tested for asbestos at a cost of approximately \$300-\$700. If the tests confirm that the building contains asbestos and the asbestos would be disturbed by the remodeling, a licensed contractor must remove the asbestos prior to remodeling. Ron Miller will bring an estimate of the cost to remodel the old school house to the next board meeting. Motion by Wadle, seconded by Birchette to table this item until figures are ready. Ayes: 5.

PURCHASE OF BUS CAMERAS: Agenda item postponed until November board meeting. President Burrell asked that while research was being done on bus cameras that research also be done on the cost of mounting cameras to the buildings.

FCCLA TRIP: Miss Rhodes requested permission from the Board for herself and five FCCLA members to attend the FCCLA National Meeting in Dallas, Texas, on November 20-23. Motion by Hardy, seconded by Birchette to approve the FCCLA trip to Dallas, Texas. Ayes: 5.

8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES TRIP: Mrs.

Cooper requested permission to take the 8th grade class on a two-day trip along the Lewis and Clark trail in Sioux City, Iowa on May 20-21. The cost of the trip is funded through a grant in the amount of \$3,335 from the National Geographic Society. A point system will be set up for students to earn points based on behavior, only those students with enough points will be able to go on the trip. Motion by Miller, seconded by Hardy to approve the 8th grade social studies trip and give Terry Gladfelter and the teachers authority to establish guidelines for a point system. Ayes: 5.

SALE OF LAGOON: President Burrell related that a meeting had been held with Corey Frank, Superintendent Della Vedova and the people who are in charge of financing the lagoon project. Superintendent Della Vedova related that Warren County has agreed to purchase the lagoon for \$40,000 and would like for the school to mow around the lagoon three times per year. Southeast Warren will not be responsible for any other operation or maintenance costs. If the Board agrees to this agreement, the Assistant County Attorney will write up a purchase agreement and mowing agreement to be reviewed by our school attorney. Kevin Smith expressed concern about the liability and responsibility connected with mowing the lagoon. Motion by Miller, seconded by Wadle to accept the sale of the lagoon for \$40,000 contingent upon the approval of the purchase agreement and the mowing agreement. Ayes: 5.

PERSONNEL CHANGES: Recommendation to hire George Ricklefs as HS Custodian, Step 2 of the Non-Lead Custodian Schedule. Motion by Birchette, seconded by Hardy to approve hiring George Ricklefs, HS Custodian. Ayes: 5.

Recommendation to hire Paula Schultz as Academic Coach, Step 1. Motion by Miller, seconded by Hardy to approve hiring Paula Schultz as Academic Coach. Ayes: 5.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Wadle to accept the resignation of Rachele Spence, Daycare Associate, effective October 22, 2003. Ayes: 5.

Charlotte Weaklend recommended hiring Mike Mason as Elementary Lead Custodian at the base salary. Motion by Wadle, seconded by Birchette to approve hiring Mike Mason as Elementary Lead Custodian. Ayes: 5.

GAMBLING LICENSE: Motion by Miller, seconded by Birchette to approve the application for a gambling license. Ayes: 5.

AT-RISK BUDGET: Julie Wilson reviewed the proposed At-Risk budget for the 2004-2005 school year. Motion by Birchette, seconded by Miller to approve the 2004-2005 At-Risk budget. Ayes: 5.

LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX: Superintendent Della Vedova read the resolution to submit to the voters of Warren County the question of the imposition of a one percent local sales and services tax for school infrastructure. Motion by Wadle, seconded by Birchette to approve the resolution. Ayes: 5.

REVENUE PURPOSE STATEMENT: Superintendent Della Vedova read the resolution adopting the Revenue Purpose Statement that sets forth the use of the revenue generated by the Local Option Sales and Services Tax in Warren County. Motion by Wadle, seconded by Hardy to approve the resolution adopting the Revenue Purpose Statement. Ayes: 5.

COUNTY SALES TAX COMMITTEE: President Burrell appointed Ron Miller and Paul Mead as representatives to serve on the county sales tax committee.

CERTIFIED ENROLLMENT: Julie Wilson reviewed the September 2003 certified enrollment figures. The September 2003 certified enrollment is down 4.8 students from the prior year. Open enrollment out is up 5 students and open enrollment in is up 6 students from the prior year.

SBRC REQUEST FOR MODIFIED ALLOWABLE GROWTH: Motion by Miller, seconded by Birchette to approve the request to the SBRC for modified allowable growth for open enrollment out students not on the previous year's certified enrollment count for whom tuition will be paid in the current year in the maximum amount allowed. Ayes: 5.

CERTIFIED ANNUAL REPORT: Julie Wilson gave a brief review of the Certified Annual Report for the period ending June 30, 2003.

BOARD POLICY SERIES 100: Motion by Hardy, seconded by Wadle to approve the review of Board Policy Series 100, "Educational Philosophy." Ayes: 5.

President Burrell adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Weather Related Closings will be announced on the following radio and TV stations:

TV
WOI - TV5
WHO - TV13
KCCI - TV8



Radio
WHO/KLYF/KISS
KIOA/KRNT/KLTI
KAZR/KSTZ/KXTK

Online
www.theiowachannel.com
www.whotv.com

**Southeast Warren Board of Education
Board Work Session
October 28, 2003**

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met for a work session at 6:00 p.m. on October 28, 2003, in the media center of the Intermediate building. The following board members were present: President John Burrell, Ron Miller, Jennifer Birchette and Chris Wadle. Chris Hardy was absent. Superintendent John Della Vedova, Secondary Principal Terry Gladfelter, Intermediate Principal Cindy Butler, Primary Principal Charlotte Weakland and Board Secretary Julie Wilson were also in attendance, along with members of the community.

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met with board members of the Melcher-Dallas Community School District to discuss possible sharing arrangements between the two school districts.

Superintendent Della Vedova presented points to consider when thinking about possible sharing arrangements and scenarios for possible sharing arrangements. The board members from both schools then split into groups to discuss ideas. Several ideas were generated including sharing a superintendent, elementary principal, elementary counselor, media director and classroom teachers. A meeting will be scheduled at a later date to continue discussion after the administrators have had a chance to look at schedules and the boards have had a chance for discussion in their own districts.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

**Southeast Warren Board of Education
Work Session
October 16, 2003**

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met for a work session at 5:00 p.m. on October 16, 2003, in the technology center of the Junior/Senior High School building. The following board members were present: John Burrell, Jennifer Birchette, Ron Miller and Chris Hardy. Superintendent John Della Vedova and Board Secretary Julie Wilson were also in attendance.

The Board discussed the following possible sharing scenarios and administrative scenarios:

1. Full time superintendent for Southeast Warren – cost – salary \$80,000, SS \$6,120, IPERS \$4,600, Health \$8,554, Dental \$784 = \$100,058
2. Combination superintendent-elementary principal – possible savings of \$54,000 based on the position being paid as above.
3. Combination superintendent-elementary counselor – Really no savings as it would be an added position, but \$35,000 would come from At-Risk funds and not affect the general fund or a \$25,000 savings for general fund based upon the above salary.
4. Shared superintendent with another district – approximate savings \$45,000 based upon a salary of \$90,000.
5. Shared elementary principal and superintendent – approximate savings \$68,000.
6. Possible shared media personnel – approximate savings of \$21,000.
7. Possible shared counselor for the elementary – approximate savings of \$20,000.
8. Secondary principal – superintendent – possible savings of \$54,000, but some help would be needed from the intermediate principal at least one half of the day as an associate principal.

The Southeast Warren Board of Education will meet with the Melcher-Dallas Board of Education on October 28th at 6:00 in Lacona to discuss possible sharing arrangements.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**Next School Board Meeting
December 8 , 2003
Liberty Center - 7:00 p.m.**