

The WARREN PRIDE



Published monthly
eleven times per year

SEPTEMBER 2005

Volume XI - Issue III

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.se-warren.k12.ia.us

DATES TO NOTE

- Sept. 7 - Football pictures
- Sept. 10 - Can Drive
- Sept. 12-23 - MAP testing
- Sept. 14 - XC & VB pictures
- Sept. 15 - Early Dismissal
- Sept. 24 - Golf Tournament
- Sept. 29 - Student pictures
- Sept. 29 - Homecoming parade & festivities
- Sept. 30 - Homecoming game

*More information on these events
can be found in this newsletter*

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*The WARRENPRIDE is compiled & edited
by Kimberly Warner. Please call 466-3531 with
information.*

Email: kwarners@se-warren.k12.ia.us

From the Superintendent

Dr. Harold Hulleman

Last year, the School Boards from Southeast Warren and Melcher-Dallas agreed to a study of what the future might hold for the two districts. A request was made to Eric Heitz, Consultant with the Iowa Department of Education, for assistance with this study. He gathered information about the two districts, met with groups of staff and community members from both districts, and prepared a written report of his findings. This report concluded with possible next steps for the two districts.

In this issue of the newsletter, information gathered by Eric Heitz will be presented. Included in the next two newsletters will be the responses from the focus groups and the possible next steps for the two districts.

New Faces, Some Changes

Jr-Sr High School:

Mrs. Kim Warner, current 9th and 11th grade Language Arts teacher, will move to the Spanish position. We are currently seeking someone to take her vacated position.

Newly appointed assistant football coaches are Phil Oliver and John C. Burrell.

Support Staff:

Mr. Brian Chaplin is a new one-on-one associate at the Jr-Sr High School. He has previously served as an associate at Indianola Schools and is currently a youth leader for Milo Christian Union Church. Brian lives in Indianola.

Open Enrollment - Correction

March 1, 2006: Last day for regular open enrollment requests for the 2006-07 school year. This has been changed from the January 1 deadline as stated in last month's newsletter.

For further details contact the school superintendent's office at 466-3510.

Intermediate School Principal

Mrs. Cindy Butler

Wow! Our campus here at the intermediate center has gone through a transformation! The outside of the building has been improved, the football field has been updated, and the playground has expanded.

The exterior of the building was improved with the installation of new siding. The siding smoothly covers the rough textured wall that was the physical connection to the previous building. Windows in the art room and cafeteria were replaced and new blinds were added. The new windows should help us maintain an appropriate temperature in each of those rooms. All of this work was funded by a grant Dr. Garton wrote several years ago. The project is finally finished and has really improved the appearance of the whole building.

In addition to the building, the football field on our campus has undergone a complete renovation. The Athletic Boosters took on this project. They put in numerous hours of personal time to turn the field into an outstanding facility. First all the old fence and goal posts were removed. Then an excavation company hauled in loads of soil to create a crown on the field and make it level from north to south. After that, a watering system was installed and grass was sown. The boosters continue to add improvements to make the area safe for participants and spectators. The school district has contracted for fence installation and that should be complete by the time you read this. We really need to offer a hearty thank you to the individuals who worked tirelessly on this project as well as to the people who have worked the concession stands over the years or otherwise contributed monetarily to the project. The field is greatly improved.

Another area receiving attention this summer was the playground. The parent group called Partners in Education (PIE) organized fundraisers last year. With the help of the students and parents who participated in their fundraisers, we have almost \$10,000 worth of new playground equipment! As of this writing the equipment has not been installed, but it will be soon. The equipment includes a balance beam, chin up bar, climbing chains, a modified teeter-totter, and a few smaller items. I'm sure the students will enjoy using the additional equipment.

The patrons of the Southeast Warren School District have many reasons to be proud of the campus in Lacona. Through the efforts of many, many people, we are able to offer our students safe, comfortable facilities of which we can be proud.

Lunch Reminders

If you are participating in the free and reduced meal program, please remember: Only one full lunch and breakfast per day qualifies for the program. If your child eats ala carte items or extras, your account will be charged for them. A full meal consists of a minimum of three items.

Regardless of your child's meal eligibility status, please keep your account funded so it does not fall below zero. An easy and convenient way to do this is to use the school website link to your personal lunch account. Contact Sue Ellingson (email s_elling@se-warren.k12.ia.us) to set up your user ID and password. It's easy!

FFA Hits the Fairs

The Southeast Warren FFA Chapter recently completed another busy summer. Our students worked throughout the entire State Fair opening the Polled Hereford Museum. They also sold raffle tickets and tractors for the FFA Association. Special thanks to Terri Brummer who assisted in driving and chaperoning students during in-service.

County Fair was also busy with many faces showing and participating in numerous events. The Officer team served steaks and refreshments for the second year in a row. We also hosted our Second Annual Sheep Show at the Warren County Fair grounds in July. This was a huge success with well over 100 lambs present.

Special thanks to everyone that has helped our FFA chapter out during the busiest time of the year, I would also like to personally thank Jodi Pitcock, Larry and Genie Snuggs, Gary Thompson, Brett and Terri Brummer. Thank you for your extra time and effort invested in our chapter.

Scott Dirkx, FFA Advisor

MAP TESTING INFORMATION

September 12th to the 23rd, all students in grades 3 to 10 will participate in a computerized district wide assessment called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). These tests measure each child's academic skill in the areas of mathematics, science, reading, and language usage.

NWEA, the developer of the assessment has produced a resource guide for parents, part of which is reproduced here.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is MAP?

MAP— NWEA's computerized adaptive tests are called Measure of Academic Progress, or MAP. When taking a MAP test, the difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers all the previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. In an optimal test, a student answers approximately half the items correctly and half incorrectly. The final score is an estimate of the student's achievement level.

How long does it take to complete a test?

Although the tests are not timed, it usually takes students about one hour to complete each test.

Do all students in the same grade take the same test?

No. NWEA assessments are designed to target a student's academic performance in math, language usage, and reading. These tests are tailored to an individual's current achievement level. This gives each student a fair opportunity to show what he or she knows and can do. The computer adjusts the difficulty of the questions so that each student takes a unique test.

What are NWEA assessments used for?

NWEA assessments are used to measure your student's progress or growth in school. You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your child's height at certain times, such as on his or her birthday. This is a growth chart. It shows how much he or she has grown from one year to the next. NWEA assessments do the same sort of thing, except they measure your student's growth in reading, language usage, and math skills. The scale used to measure your child's progress is called the RIT scale (Rasch unIT). The RIT scale is an equal-interval scale much like feet and inches on a yardstick. It is used to chart your student's academic growth from year to year.

How do teachers use the test scores?

NWEA tests are important to teachers because they keep track of progress and growth in basic skills. They let teachers know where a student's strengths are and if help is needed in any specific areas. Teachers use this information to help them guide instruction in the classroom.

What can parents do to help their students prepare for testing?

- Meet with your child's teacher as often as needed to discuss his or her progress. Ask the teacher to suggest activities for you and your child to do at home to help prepare for tests and improve your child's understanding of schoolwork. Parents and teachers working together benefits students.
- Provide a quiet, comfortable place for studying at home.
- Make sure that your child is well rested on school days and especially the day of a test. Children who are tired are less able to pay attention in class or to handle the demands of a test.
- Give your child a well-rounded diet. A healthy body leads to a healthy, active mind.
- Provide books and magazines for your child to read at home. By reading new materials, a child learns new words that might appear on a test. Ask your child's school about a suggested outside reading list or get suggestions from the public library.

Please contact your building principal if you have additional questions related to MAP testing.

**Southeast Warren Community School
District
Regular Board Meeting
July 11, 2005**

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met in regular session July 11, 2005, in the technology center of the Junior/Senior High School building. Board President Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following board members were present: Chris Hardy, Jennifer Birchette and John Burrell. Chris Wadle was absent. Superintendent Harold Hulleman, Secondary Principal Terry Gladfelter, and Board Secretary Julie Wilson were also in attendance, along with members from the community.

AGENDA: Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the agenda. Ayes: 4.

RECOGNITION: Dr. Harold Hulleman reported that Ron Van Strien has been selected the second Preserve America History Teacher of the Year for Iowa.

REPORTS:

Warren County Conference Board—John Burrell related that the Warren County Conference Board had not met recently. He also noted that there had not been any word on the sewer situation in Liberty Center.

Children First Forum—Ron Miller related that the Children First Forum had met about six weeks ago. They have developed some recommendations that the Board will be discussing later in the meeting.

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

1. June 13, 2005 minutes
2. Financial reports

Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the items on the consent agenda. Ayes: 4.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Hulleman reported on the following items:

1. An updated board calendar was included in the board packets.
2. The IASB Fiscal Management Conference will be held on July 13th. Any board members interested in attending should contact Julie Wilson to register.
3. Ron Van Strien has been selected as the Preserve America History Teacher of the Year for Iowa.

4. A copy of a letter from the Department of Education thanking the administrators and local board members who attended the high school review meetings was included in board packets.
5. A report on the Primary Playground Project was included in board packets.
6. A revised Curriculum Revision Matrix was included in board packets. The descriptions have been revised.
7. A copy of an article on being a better board member was included in board packets.
8. An article from IASB's Leadership for Learning series, The School Board's Role in Improving Reading Achievement, was included in board packets for review.
9. A written report submitted by Rose Hanrahan, Juvenile Court Liaison Officer, was given to board members.

CHILDREN FIRST FORUM: The Board reviewed the following recommendations from the Children's First Forum:

1. Extended Learning Program
 - Review and revise current identification procedure to insure that students identified are fully qualified for the program
 - Consider providing a consultative program for the K-3 building with a pullout program to begin in grade 4
2. Required Technology Skills
 - Begin keyboarding skills early in the elementary grades
 - Insure that students have skills in basic computer programs such as word processing, spread sheets, presentations, and email (via the Internet)
 - Introduce students to technologies other than computers such as FAX machines, copy machines, and digital cameras
3. Elementary Guidance and Character Education
 - Continue these programs
4. Membership of Children's First Forum
 - Add students to the membership of this committee

An assessment for technology skills will be developed in 2005-2006. The assessment will be for eighth graders. The Board will be asked to approve the membership of the Children First Forum at the August or September board meeting.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION PRIORITIES: The Board discussed and approved the following as their top legislative priorities for 2006: (2) Supports state funding and legislation to address

funding inequities existing in the local option sales and services tax, property tax, and other sources of revenue dedicated for infrastructure. IASB also supports state funding and legislation that promotes property tax equity (both regular and special levies) to minimize rate differences between districts while maximizing resources for students. (4) Supports setting allowable growth at a rate that encourages continuous school improvement and reflects actual cost increases experienced by school districts. Therefore the allowable growth for FY 2005-06 should be set at 6 percent, as the 4 percent already committed is not sufficient to meet the increasing costs of education. The allowable growth rate for FY 2006-07 should be set no lower than 6 percent. (6) Supports a budget guarantee for districts with declining enrollment and on-time funding for districts with increasing enrollment. (9) Supports sufficient incentives and assistance to encourage sharing, reorganization and regional high schools to expand academic opportunities for students.

CHANGES TO STANDARDS AND BENCHMARKS: Dr. Hulleman reviewed the proposed changes to the reading standards and benchmarks. These changes address phonemic awareness and phonics, which are integral parts of the reading program in the early grades. The Board will be asked to approve the changes to the standards and benchmarks at the August board meeting.

SUMMARY REPORT ON SHARING WITH MELCHER-DALLAS: The Board briefly discussed the summary report generated from the interviews with board members/administrators, community members, and staff in both the Melcher-Dallas and Southeast Warren School Districts. Dr. Hulleman proposed giving copies of the report to all employees and placing pieces of the report in the school newsletter. Dr. Hulleman will meet with the Melcher-Dallas Superintendent at a later date to continue discussions of possible sharing arrangements.

REMOVAL OF OLD SCHOOL HOUSE: Dr. Hulleman related that a local resident was interested in removing the old school house from the property. The Board discussed the need to advertise for bids and their concern that the individual who removes the school house clean all debris from the property. Motion by John Burrell, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to advertise the sale of the old school house in Liberty Center with bid to be due by August 4th. Ayes: 4.

PERSONNEL CHANGES: Dr. Hulleman recommended accepting the resignation of Perry Klages, Regular Route Bus Driver, and the assignments of Mary Ulin, One-on-One Associate; Michelle Lewis, One-on-One Associate; Mike Tierney, Head HS Girls' Basketball Coach; Alissa Norden, Drill Team Coach; James Funk, Regular Route Bus Driver; and Perry Klages, Substitute Bus Driver.

Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by John Burrell to accept the resignation of Perry Klages. Ayes: 4.

Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the assignments of Mary Ulin, Michelle Lewis, Alissa Norden, James Funk and Perry Klages. Ayes: 4.

Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the assignment of Mike Tierney. Ayes: Ron Miller and Chris Hardy. Nays: Jennifer Birchette. John Burrell abstained from voting. Motion passed 2:1.

2005-2006 SCHOOL CALENDAR: Dr. Hulleman recommended approving the amended 2005-2006 school calendar. The calendar was amended to add one additional contract day on August 18th for the purpose of professional development required under the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program. Motion by John Burrell, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the amended 2005-2006 school calendar. Ayes: 4.

FIVE-YEAR EXPENDITURE PLAN: Dr. Hulleman recommended approving the five-year estimated expenditure plan for facilities, transportation, and technology. The plan will serve as a guide for improvements in these areas. Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by John Burrell to approve the five-year estimated expenditure plan for facilities, transportation and technology. Ayes: 4.

2005-2006 STUDENT HANDBOOKS: Dr. Hulleman recommended approving the 2005-2006 student handbooks. Motion by John Burrell, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the 2005-2006 student handbooks. Ayes: 4

ROOF REPAIRS: Dr. Hulleman reported that three bids had been received for roof repairs to the Junior-Senior High School. Dr. Hulleman recommended accepting the low bid from Hunt's Local Contracting in the amount of \$13,255.63. Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the bid from Hunt's Local Contracting in the amount of \$13,255.63 for roof

repairs to the Junior-Senior High School. Ayes: 4.

Dr. Hulleman reported that at this time only one bid had been received for the roof repairs to the bus barn/day care facility. Dr. Hulleman will seek further bid to bring back to the Board at the next meeting.

FOOD SERVICE BIDS: Dr. Hulleman recommended accepting the milk bid from Anderson Erickson and the bread bid from Sara Lee. Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by John Burrell to accept the food service bids from Anderson Erickson and Sara Lee. Ayes: 4.

FOOD SERVICE EQUIPMENT: Dr. Hulleman related that three bids had been received for the purchase of a new steam kettle for the Liberty Center kitchen. A bid had also been received from Country Propane to disconnect the old unit and install the new steam kettle. Dr. Hulleman recommended approving the low bid for the steam kettle from Taylor Industries and that the hookup for the steam kettle be completed by Country Propane. Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the purchase of the steam kettle from Taylor Industries and the hookup be completed by Country Propane. Ayes: 4.

REMOVAL OF CHEMICALS FROM HIGH SCHOOL: Dr. Hulleman related that representatives from EMC Insurance Company had assessed our chemical supplies on campus as part of the Rehab the Lab program. The assessment resulted in a list of chemicals that need to be removed from the building. EMC obtained a bid from Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. for the removal of the chemicals. The bid is for \$4,175. Dr. Hulleman recommended approval of the agreement with Clean Harbors to remove the chemicals as requested by EMC. Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the removal of the chemicals by Clean Harbor. Ayes: 3. Chris Hardy abstained from voting.

ELP PROGRAM: Dr. Hulleman reviewed the proposed changes to the ELP program for 2005-2006. The proposed changes follow the recommendations of the Children First Forum. Dr. Hulleman recommended approval of the changes to the ELP program. Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the changes to the ELP program. Ayes: 4.

2006 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: Dr. Hulleman related that proposed changes to the

2006 graduation requirements included the addition of Algebra IA and IB, Environmental Science to fulfill a lab science, changing of Fine Arts to Liberal Arts and including five other courses to help fulfill the requirement, and adding Computer Tech courses to fulfill the Vocational credit area. The number of credits required has not changed, but the terminology has been changed and courses added to help complete the credits. Dr. Hulleman recommended approving the 2006 graduation requirements as proposed. Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the changes to the 2006 graduation requirements. Ayes: Hardy, Birchette and Miller. Nays: Burrell. Motion passed 3:1.

SALE OF DISTRICT EQUIPMENT: Dr. Hulleman recommended accepting the high bid of \$305 from Eldon Emmick for the purchase of the John Deere 112 tractor and the high bid of \$500 from Robert Nutting for the purchase of the bus. Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the sale of the equipment to the high bidders. Ayes: Miller, Birchette, and Hardy. Nays: Burrell. Motion passed 3:1.

Dr. Hulleman related that a request had been made to sell a four-section warming table from the Lacon kitchen. The temperature cannot be regulated to meet state requirements. The consensus of the Board was to advertise for bids for the sale of the warming table.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK MEMBER: President Miller appointed Chris Wadle as the Legislative Action Network Member for 2005-2006.

MILEAGE PAYMENTS FOR SUPERINTENDENT: Dr. Hulleman related that at the June board meeting the board members who were present had suggested that the Superintendent be reimbursed for in-district travel. Action on this item was deferred until the June board meeting. Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by John Burrell to pay the Superintendent mileage for in-district travel. Ayes: 4.

WORK SESSION: The Board discussed the ramifications of the baseball game that took place last week. Board Goals and evaluation of the Superintendent will be discussed at the August board meeting.

President Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.



SE Warren 2006 After-Prom Fundraiser Golf Tournament Saturday-September 24, 2005

Entry Fee:

*\$50.00 for Adults or non-SEW Senior students
\$35.00 for SEW Senior Players.*

*Where: Raleigh's World Country Golf Club
Norwood, Iowa*

*Time: 8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start
(Check in at 7:30A.M.)*

Format: 2-person Best Ball Golf Tournament

*Prizes and awards will be given out
following tournament play.*

Sandwich luncheon will be served.

*This tournament is being held as a fun event that the
graduating seniors and under class students can participate in
to help raise money for the after prom event.*

Register by: September 17, 2005

Prepaid entries only,
make Checks Payable To:
SE Warren High School After Prom
Mail Checks To:

Barb Weeks
19588 133rd Avenue
Indianola, IA 50125

For More information contact
Barb Weeks @ 515-962-0854 or
515-240-9030.

Email: Weekshome@netzero.net

Milo Methodist Church Fall Supper

When: October 1st

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Where: Milo Community Center

Serving: Ham, turkey, potatoes,
dressing, vegetables,
salads and desserts

Athletic Physicals

Students participating in athletics must submit a school physical form, SIGNED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN. Athletes are also required to have insurance. Physical forms are available at Indianola physicians' offices or at the high school. Please use the physical form for Southeast Warren Schools.

Band Notes

The band program is off and running with a continued increase in numbers throughout. That is encouraging and gives me great satisfaction to know that the hard work is achieving results. Quality is much more important than quantity and that is also showing improvement.

This year I have selected musical literature that is more challenging and will require more commitment and practice from our musicians. The performance schedule is intense and provides many opportunities to show what we can do. I'm confident our students will rise to meet the challenge.

Be sure to read the monthly articles to see when and where the bands are performing so you can hear us play. You won't be disappointed!

Willis VanderLinden

No Health Insurance?

Warren County Health Services would like to help you get insurance for you and your family. You can do this during student registration, or contact them directly at 515-961-1074.

REPORT OF SHARING OPTIONS STUDY

Iowa Department of Education

I. REASONS FOR DISCUSSION:

Various reasons exist for the Districts to explore sharing options. As with most districts in the State of Iowa, Melcher-Dallas and Southeast Warren are losing enrollment as shown the following table:

TABLE 1: ENROLLMENT

<u>Year</u>	<u>Melcher-Dallas</u>	<u>Southeast Warren</u>
1994-1995	492	695
2004-2005	427	583
2008-2009	380	546

(Certified Item 7)

In addition to having a decline in enrollment, the District’s projections show this trend will continue. A review of open enrollment numbers indicates both districts have more students open enrolled out than in. In Southeast Warren’s case a number of these students open enroll out to Indianola.

As enrollment decreases, so does funding which results in decreased opportunities for students. In this case, as in most, options become limited at the middle and high school levels. Reasons for the limit at these levels is due to the number of teachers that must be employed to offer the array of courses to operate a 7-12 program. The number of courses taught at each district compared to the State average and minimum required by law is shown in the following table:

TABLE 2: COURSE OFFERINGS

<u>Course</u>	<u>Melcher-Dallas</u>	<u>Southeast Warren</u>	<u>State Average</u>	<u>State Minimum</u>
Language Arts	6	6.5	10	6
Mathematics	8.5	8	9.5	6
Science	5	6	7.5	5
Social Studies	7	8.5	7.3	5
Foreign Language	2	4.5	5.9	4

In a review of course offerings, Melcher-Dallas is below the minimum State requirement in Foreign Language. Both districts are below the State average in all areas but social studies at Southeast Warren.

As the Districts explore sharing options, it is important to review success of students after graduation. Table 3 contains current intentions of graduates, the percent of students taking a core program (four years of English and three or more years of mathematics, science, social studies), and the percent of students scoring 20 or higher on the ACT (American College Testing). Although pursuing postsecondary education does not guarantee success, it is a common measure used by the school and state.

TABLE 3: POSTSECONDARY 2003-2004

	<u>Melcher-Dallas</u>	<u>Southeast Warren</u>	<u>State Average</u>
Intent to Pursue			
Postsecondary Education	65%	90%	82.9%
Core Program	29%	55%	66%
20 or higher on the ACT	N/A	52%	69.3%

Table 3 indicates the districts are below the state average in all areas except the percent of students at Southeast Warren intending to pursue postsecondary education. (The percent of students at Melcher-Dallas scoring 20 or higher on the ACT was not available when the APR was sent to the Department of Education.)

In addition, the Iowa Learns Council released recommendations regarding high school reform. The Council believes that a rigorous high school curriculum helps prepare students for success in postsecondary education. Although the recommendations are not law, it has raised the awareness and discussion of high school curriculum and its ability to successfully prepare students for lifelong learning.

Another state and national indicator is the percent of students scoring at or above proficient on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and the Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED). These percentages are shown in Tables 4 and 5.

TABLE 4: 2003-2004 PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING IN THE PROFICIENT RANGE FOR READING

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Melcher-Dallas</u>	<u>Southeast Warren</u>	<u>State of Iowa</u>
4	84.2%	82.6%	75.9%
8	56.2%	48.9%	69.3%
11	62%	69%	77%

TABLE 5: 2003-2004 PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING IN THE PROFICIENT RANGE FOR MATHEMATICS

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Melcher-Dallas</u>	<u>Southeast Warren</u>	<u>State of Iowa</u>
4	89.5%	84.9%	75%
8	62.5%	67.4%	71.6%
11	64.3%	78.8%	79.2%

The tables indicate that both districts are above the state average for both reading and mathematics at 4th grade. However, they are below the state average for reading and mathematics at 8th and 11th grade. Further review indicates the percent of students at or the above the proficient level for 8th grade reading is significantly below the state average at both districts. With the increased expectation of student achievement required by the No Child Left Behind Act, student achievement may become an issue for the districts in the future.

The Districts are currently financially stable but carry a high tax rate. The tax rate for Melcher-Dallas is 18.73 and Southeast Warren is 18.02. Preliminary records show the Districts ended with a positive unreserved balance, Melcher-Dallas with \$529,299 and Southeast Warren with \$688,516. This was a decrease for Melcher-Dallas and an increase for Southeast Warren from the previous year. I applaud the fiscal responsibility the districts have taken to ensure a positive balance, however, as State resources for schools continue to decline, it may not be prudent for districts to carry such a large unreserved fund balance. The balance may send an unintended message to the public that the school has the resources to maintain the status quo into the future or its unjustified in levying the current tax rates, when in reality this is not the case.

MUSIC

VOCAL

The Music rooms are up and running with busy students learning to make their own kind of music! We are looking at a very busy First Semester.

First off, we are beginning to work on our district-wide musical, Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" which will be presented in November. In December we will share the Spirit of the Holidays with the Elementary Concert on Monday, Dec. 5 and the Jr/Sr High on Monday, December 12.

We are forming an "Outreach Group" of High School vocalists who are willing to perform for any community or church functions. Contact the school if you are interested in having us perform. We are again taking the High School Chorus to New York City to perform at the Twin Towers Memorial. We still need to raise \$28,000. We will be having raffles, glo bracelet sales and other activities to help meet our goal. I would like to remind you, we do welcome donations, which are tax write offs. If anyone has any fund-raising ideas, please feel free to contact us.

We are blessed to have so many talented young people. They are the product of a very supportive and nurturing community. Thanks for all you have done to create this for our young people, our greatest resource.

Lynnea Young , Vocal Instructor

Southeast Warren Community School District
16331 Tyler Street
Liberty Center IA 50145



BOXHOLDER

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Southeast Warren Community School District, in partnership with the community, will promote the habits of mind and character that will enable our students to become responsible and productive citizens of a global society.

It is the policy of the Southeast Warren Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, creed, age or marital status in its educational programs or employment practices. If you have questions or grievances related to this policy please contact:

Superintendent **-OR-**
Equity Coordinator
16331 Tyler St.
Liberty Center, Iowa
641-466-3510

IOWA DEPT. OF EDUCATION **-OR-**
Grimes State Office Bldg.
Des Moines, Iowa
515-281-5294

U.S. Dept. of Education
Office of Civil Rights
111 North Canal St., Suite 1053
Chicago IL 60606-7204

AFTER-PROM Sponsored Events

Have we got stuff going on!

Can Drive - Saturday, Sept. 10

Save all your Labor Day empties! We'll pick them up for you. Set out your redeemable cans on your curb, bring them to any school site, or if you're in the rural areas, call Brenda King at 534-3015 and we'll come pick them up. We'll start at 9 a.m.

Southeast Warren Merchandise

If you didn't see them at the Alumni football game or during Lacona Celebration, ask any senior or senior parent, or call the high school office.

"Ribbon" car magnets - \$3.00

Green & white rubber bracelets - \$3.00

SEW embroidered blankets - \$25.00

(warm & waterproof, they fold for easy carrying)

Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 24 at Raleigh's World Country Golf Club. See page 3 in this newsletter for more information.