

The

WARREN PRIDE

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DATES TO NOTE

Sept. 11-22 - MAP testing
Sept. 14 - Early dismissal
Sept. 22 - Homecoming

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The *WARREN PRIDE* is compiled & edited by LuAnn Ohnemus. Please call 466-3510 with information.

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Vacant School Board Position

There will be no candidate on the ballot for Director District 4 in the upcoming school board election. Chris Hardy currently holds that position, but he has elected not to run for re-election.

No resident from District 4 filed nomination papers by the August 3rd deadline. District 4 is the northeast quadrant of the District, outside the city limits of Milo to the north, east and south (see map on page 4).

An individual living in District 4 may be elected as a write-in candidate. Space is provided on the ballot for write-in candidates. The write-in candidate is not required to file a nomination petition.

The election will be held on Tuesday, September 12. If no write-in candidate is elected, the School Board will appoint a resident of District 4 to serve until the 2007 school board election.

In District 1, Ron Miller is running for re-election. In District 5, Larrie Williams will be running for the one-year term remaining on the position previously held by Chris Wadle. Chris moved from the Southeast Warren School District earlier this summer and resigned from the Board. The Board appointed Larrie to fill the vacancy until this election.

Board Supports Discipline Policy

The Southeast Warren School Board endorses the school discipline policies that were developed by teachers and administrators and formally approved by the Board. The Board will hold teachers and administrators accountable for implementing those discipline policies. We will also support and stand with those staff members who enforce discipline.

Southeast Warren School Board:

*Ron Miller, John Burrell,
Jennifer Birchette, Chris Hardy
and Larrie Williams*

Jr-Sr High Principal

Mr. Terry Gladfelter

Welcome back! It was a restful, but short summer. I'm ready for the year to begin and would like to introduce our new staff.

- **Mr. Mike Dale** – will be working with the media center, lunch accounts, and study halls. He is a graduate of Indianola and recently served with the military in Iraq.
- **Mrs. Tricia Dyer** – is joining us from Glenwood High School and will be teaching Family and Consumer Science and Health. She is a graduate of Iowa Wesleyan College.
- **Ms Laura Granger** – will be teaching junior high language arts and reading. She is a graduate of Drake and student taught at East High School.
- **Ms Minerva Hurtado** – will be teaching Spanish. She lived in Extremadura, Spain and is a graduate of the University of Extremadura. She is one of thirteen teachers that have come from Spain to fill teacher shortages in the state of Iowa this year.
- **Mrs. Tonya King** – is our court liaison officer. She will be working in both the Southeast Warren and Carlisle school districts. She has done extensive work in family counseling.
- **Ms Bradi Smith** – will be teaching senior high Language Arts. She is a graduate of Southeast Warren and a more recent graduate of Simpson College. She student taught at Indianola.

I am very pleased and impressed with the caliber of our new staff and know they will be an important addition to SEW.

What's Your Job?

Would you like to share your career with others? Mrs. Cooper's Junior High exploratory career class would enjoy hearing about your career. It would be great for our students to be exposed to a variety of careers. The class is from 2:37 to 3:20 (8th hour.) Email Mrs. Cooper if interested: ncooper@sewarren.k12.ia.us or call 641-466-3331.

A Name Change – During the last two years our advisor/advisee period has been called “Colorguard.” This year we will be changing the name to “Connections.” The name better indicates the purpose of the meetings; which is making connections with students in a positive manner outside of the academic classroom structure. We will be having “Connections” on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Drop Everything and Read – (DEAR) – We will be continuing this reading program from last year. It is important that our students are reading. We will run this opposite of “Connections” with reading on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. All students and staff read during this 25-minute block of time.

Student Handbook – I appreciate the positive response to the handbook changes for this year. We will be reading through the handbook with all of our students during the first three days of school. We want to make sure all students have had appropriate opportunity to understand the changes.

Our success for the year is based on a collaborative effort of students, staff, and family. A recent survey has shown that as much as 80% of student success is based upon the commitment of family and collaboration with the school. Let's make this a year of working together for the educational success of our students.

After Prom Plans

The After Prom committee had a productive meeting in August. We were happy to see several new faces. We have already set up some fundraisers. We are planning several can drives, November 4th and January 6th. Watch for flyers and in newsletters.

We will be finalizing other new projects in our next meeting on Monday, September 18th, at 6:30pm at the high school. We urge as many parents of seniors to come as possible.

More Results from the 2006 Community Survey

In April 1,370 community surveys were sent to patrons of the Southeast Warren School District. We received 121 completed surveys for a response rate of 8.8%. The data and comments from the surveys have been compiled and analyzed. In the August newsletter, a portion of the survey results was reported. Following are results from the balance of the survey.

There were sixteen items of the survey concerning our school principals. Respondents indicated strong agreement that principals encourage parents to be involved, that they provide information to parents in a timely manner, that they focus on student achievement, and that they emphasize respect for one another. This is positive feedback for the work of our principals.

A majority of respondents had moderate agreement that principals maintain clear communications with parents, that they respond quickly to calls, that they work with parents to help their children succeed, that they maintain a safe school environment, and that they select high quality teachers. However, for most of these items a much higher level of agreement is needed and desired.

Respondents are somewhat more positive about the principals balancing of academic and athletic achievement than they are about the teachers balancing of academics and athletics. However, the agreement is not strong for either principals or teachers.

Respondents indicated moderate disagreement that principals make decisions only after gathering input from all who are affected, that they manage parental complaints well, and that they establish clear lines of authority. The principals should seek to learn what has caused these perceptions and what they can do to improve their performance in these areas.

There was strong disagreement that principals maintain effective discipline and that they enforce discipline fairly and effectively. The results for these item are expected given the overwhelming number of responses to item 4 of the survey which indicated that discipline, lack of respect by students, bullying/violence, and at-risk and special needs students were the biggest problems the SEW schools must deal with. There are also numerous comments later in the survey that mention the need for fair and consistent discipline. These areas are being addressed by staff and administration, particularly at the secondary level.

By a slight margin, the respondents agreed that all students including special education students at Southeast Warren should be required to meet the same academic requirements as all other students. A majority disagree that the Southeast Warren Schools have a clear and defined chain of command; this is an issue that should be addressed by the School Board and the administrators and communicated to the public.

Most respondents do not believe the Southeast Warren community has a clear vision for the academic achievement of all students. The School Board, staff and administration must improve communications about the direction the District is going.

By a five to four margin, the respondents disagree that the Southeast Warren curriculum is rigorous and relevant. More information is needed to understand their interpretation of rigorous and relevant. Then, we can begin to address their concerns about the lack of those characteristics in our instructional program.

There were three survey items about parents. Nearly two-thirds of the respondents disagree that Southeast Warren parents value academic success over achievement in school activities. As noted earlier, there were a number of comments about the over-emphasis on athletics.

The agree/disagree responses were evenly divided on the statement that Southeast Warren parents work with their children at home to help them learn. The absence of a strong agree response is a concern. Parents must be partners in the education of their children. Efforts must be made to improve the home-school partnership.

There was moderate disagreement with the statement that Southeast Warren parents treat teachers and administrators with respect. This topic should be discussed by parents and staff to determine if there is an underlying cause or concern.

Two items on the survey addressed the current administrative structure of the District. The respondents were somewhat evenly divided (47% agree, 45% disagree) about whether the school is succeeding with a part time superintendent.

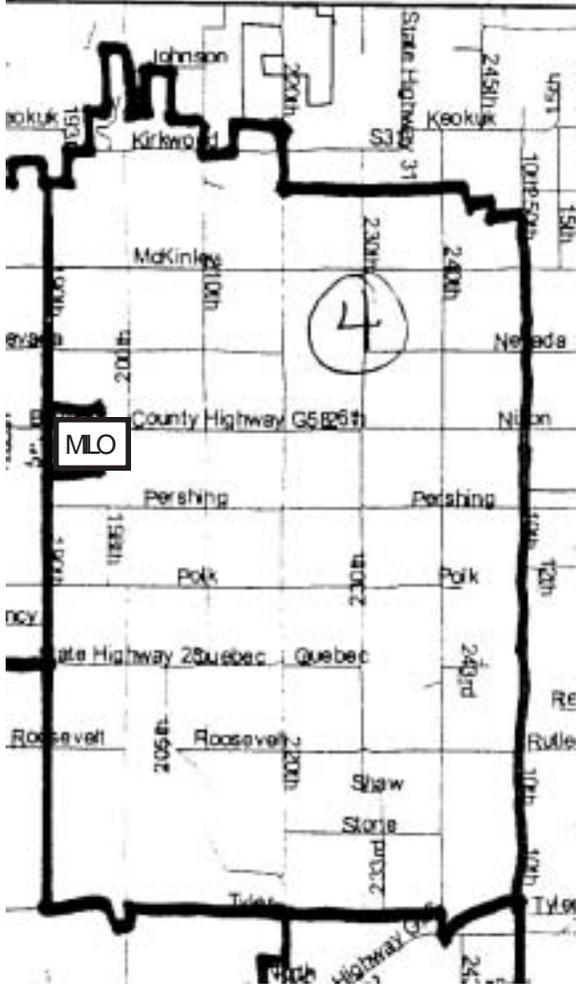
Community Survey, continued

By a two to one margin, the respondents disagreed that Southeast Warren needs a principal in each building to succeed. Many residents are aware that the District functioned with only two principals in past years. The School Board and the administration must do a better job in communicating the functions of the building administrators beyond their roles as building principals. The School Board has been reviewing the District's administrative structure each year and will continue to do so.

The final survey item asked about several options for the future of the District. Respondents could choose more than one option. Sharing with other school districts received a positive response from about half of the respondents. There was some support for improving facilities; there was similar support for continuing as an individual district without sharing. Exploring merger with one or more school districts received little support.

Four items at the end of the survey asked open-ended questions that allowed the respondents to add comments about the strengths of the SEW schools, suggestions for improvement, how the school could assist them as parents, and general suggestions or comments. These responses were compiled (20 pages) and are appended to the complete Community Survey Report which is available from the Southeast Warren District Office in Liberty Center. Some of these responses were referenced in this summary as well as in the complete report. However, due to the large number of comments, they have not been summarized. Other comments were also written on the surveys and have been included in the complete report.

Southeast Warren Community School District 4 - Open Board Member Seat



Southeast Warren Athletic Boosters

Southeast Warren Athletic Boosters had a busy summer with baseball and softball concessions. Congratulations on a great season to both teams! We are looking forward to fall sports.

Now is a very exciting time to become a member to the Athletic Boosters. In addition to our fund raising and athletic support we are beginning the construction of a new concession stand in Milo.

The athletic boosters are in need of new members. We currently have about five or six families that attend the meetings, vote on decisions and make sure our work is done. More help is needed! We welcome anyone and everyone that would like to be a part of Southeast Warren Athletics to join the boosters. There is no cost to become a member and you can make a difference! We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the auditorium in the Liberty Center School. The officers are elected in October.

MAP TESTING

September 11th to the 22nd, 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.

From your Primary Principal

Mrs. Charlotte Weakland

Our Primary building character theme this year is reflected in the lessons learned through the little red wagon. I believe this rendition by Margaret Katter of our interactions with this long-time favorite children's toy aptly expresses an attitude we as staff members seek to model for the youngsters in our building as they launch on another academic year in their educational careers.

"Some days we skip along, pulling our wagons with great confidence – so full of energy that the load seems light. Some days the load seems heavy, and we need someone to help us pull our wagons over the bumps in the road. Some days we are just tired. We sit in our wagons and let someone else pull us along for a while. And some days, it's kind of nice to share our little red wagons with a friend. As you think about yesterday, and make plans for tomorrow, keep in mind that there will be times when you can help pull someone's little red wagon for a while. After all, helping to pull each other's little red wagon is what makes it possible to face the challenges the day brings."

We wish to thank parents, grandparents, and community members who attended our annual Open House on the evening of August 29th. What a great way to launch the new year! Thanks also the Partners in Education group who provided a meal for the participants. Whether you are

a parent, a grandparent, or a community member, our PIE group would love to see you at our meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of each school month at 6:00 p.m. in the Primary media center. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 11th. Your input and participation in the PIE's work of supporting our educational programs would be greatly appreciated!

While our 3-year-old preschool class has filled up, we still have several openings in our 4-year-old preschool classes. If you have a child who will be four by September 15th, I would be glad to speak further with you about our program. Those classes will not begin until September 11th. Just give me a call at 942-6216 during the day or at 942-6137 in the evening for more information.

I welcome all of your concerns, questions, and suggestions throughout the year. Please call me at one of the above telephone numbers whenever I can be of assistance, or e-mail me at weakland@se-warren.k12.ia.us. We really do all need to be pulling each other's wagons to give our students the kind of thorough and meaningful 21st Century education that they so richly deserve.

SouthEast Warren Community School District Regular Board Meeting July 10, 2006

The Southeast Warren Board of Education met in regular session July 10, 2006, in the technology center of the Junior/Senior High School building. Board Vice President Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The following board members were present: John Burrell, Jennifer Birchette, Chris Hardy and Larrie Williams. Superintendent Dr. Harold Hulleman, Transportation Director Joel Mosher, and Board Secretary Julie Wilson were also in attendance, along with members from the community.

AGENDA: Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by Larrie Williams to approve the agenda. Ayes: 5.

REPORTS:

Transportation report submitted by Joel Mosher:

1. We had 39 extra bus trips for the month of June.
2. All the repairs from inspection have been completed.

3. I had some time in keeping the law equipment going. I also spent time checking over and making repair and parts lists for all units.

Secondary Principal's reports submitted by Terry Gladfelter:

Student Handbook—Shelley Mitzelfelt and Paula Schultz will present the changes made for the 2006-2007 student handbook.

All changes throughout the document are bold-faced/italicized and can be found on pages 3,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,16.

One area that still needs to be evaluated and changed are the eligibility requirements. The state's new plan goes into affect on July 1. We must use their guidelines but can also implement any additions that we feel would help at the local level. I plan on having information ready for the August meeting concerning eligibility.

Roof Flashing—Modern Builders Inc. was here on Friday, June 30. They made the necessary repairs to the corrugated flashing in the front of the school and above the boys' locker room.

The channel to which the corrugated flashing was attached was also loose and had to be re-attached to the wall.

Electrical Repairs—In the demolition of the white school building the electric to the parking lot lights had to be disconnected. We at first thought we could run electric from the wrestling building. When the power company came to locate underground lines, they recommended to stay away from the wrestling building. The pole at the west exit of the parking lot had a box and they recommended that service be run to the lights from that pole. It would be a much safer option. Cable was trenched to the center pole and the east and west poles are now powered from the center pole.

Children First Forum: Ron Miller related to the Board that the agenda items at the May 22 Children First Forum included a presentation from Lori Nutting on Title I, discussion of graduation requirements, the Extended Learning Program and a review of the past year. Dr. Hulleman related that the only recommendation to the Board from the Children First Forum was the wellness policy that has already been acted on.

BOARD MINUTES, continued

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

1. June 19, 2006 minutes
 2. Financial reports
 3. Second reading of Board Policy 204.10, "Order of Regular Business Meeting"
 4. Second reading of Board Policy 602.3, "Wellness Policy"
- Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the items on the consent agenda. Ayes: 5.

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

1. Review of the Board calendar.
2. Monday, July 10th is the first day to file nomination papers for the school board election. School board elections will be held on September 12th.
3. An engineer will be down this week to take a look at the locker room floor and art room floor to see if a cause can be determined for the sinking floors.
4. Carpet will be installed in the High School media center this week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Dr. Hulleman related to the Board that the restroom partitions discussed last month would be considered minor decorating, not new construction, and would therefore not require remodeling to accommodate handicap facilities. The number of stalls could be left as it currently is. Signage could be placed directing to the area where handicap restrooms are located. Dr. Hulleman will pursue the price of new stalls as they currently are and report back to the Board.

MILO CONCESSION STAND: Andy Schurman presented plans as proposed by the Athletic Boosters to the Board for a new concession stand with restroom facilities and storage in Milo. The Athletic Boosters would like to start on the project this fall if possible. The Athletic Boosters requested a contribution from the District toward the cost of the project. Price quotes will be brought to the Board at the August board meeting. Dr. Hulleman and Charlotte Weakland will look at the proposed site for the concession stand to see if the plans will work into the daily school routine.

FIVE-YEAR EXPENDITURE PLAN: Dr. Hulleman reviewed the updated and revised five-year expenditure plan for facilities, transportation and technology. The Board discussed current projects and future projects they would like to have considered. Dr. Hulleman will secure estimates on the price of a Morton Building for a practice facility.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS: Dr. Hulleman reviewed a portion of the community survey results with the Board. Additional portions of the survey will be reviewed with the Board at the August board meeting.

PARKING LOT PLANS: Dr. Hulleman presented a revised parking lot plan for the Liberty Center parking lot. The plan provides for 150 paved parking spaces plus 6 handicapped spaces. There would be 46 overflow spaces on the gravel south of the wrestling building. The Board asked for the plan to be revised further to include additional parking spaces.

PERSONNEL CHANGES: Dr. Hulleman recommended the approval of the appointment of Laura Granger, Junior High Language Arts. Motion by Chris Hardy, seconded by John Burrell to approve the appointment of Laura Granger, Junior High Language Arts. Ayes: 5.

PURCHASE OF VEHICLES: Joel Mosher related to the Board that he had located two used vans and one new van at Noble Ford. One van is a 2004 Ford Freestar with 38,000 miles for \$12,500. The second van is a 2006 Ford Freestar with 17,000 miles for \$16,500. The new van is a 2006 Ford Freestar for \$19,128. All three vans are equipped the same. The Board asked Joel to look at Blue Book values and to check into an extended warranty if a used van is purchased. Motion by Larrie Williams, seconded by John Burrell to authorize the purchase of the new 2006 Ford Freestar for \$19,128 or the purchase of the used 2006 Ford Freestar if the purchase price could be negotiated closer to \$15,000. Ayes: 5.

Joel also provided information to the Board on two used buses that are available for purchase. After Board discussion, it was decided to continue looking at other possible options.

2006-2007 STUDENT HANDBOOKS: Shelley Mitzelfelt and Paula Schultz related to the Board that a Discipline Committee had been formed to work on revisions to the secondary handbook. The changes in the secondary handbook were then presented to all staff members. Shelley and Paula reviewed the changes with the Board. Dr. Hulleman recommended approval of the Sunrise Sunset Child Care Handbook, Primary Student Handbook, Intermediate Student Handbook and Junior/Senior High Student Handbook as revised except for the revision on page 6 of the secondary handbook concerning sleeveless tops. Motion by Jennifer Birchette, seconded by Chris Hardy to approve the handbooks as revised with the deletion of the clothing

statement on page 6 of the secondary handbook. Ayes: 5.

2007 IASB LEGISLATIVE ACTION PRIORITIES: The Board discussed legislative priorities for 2007. The consensus of the board was to adopt the following legislative action priorities and resolutions: (7) Supports a budget guarantee for school districts with declining enrollment and real on-time funding for districts with increasing enrollment in the current year. (8) Supports full funding of public schools before expansion of support to non-public schools. (10) Supports sufficient incentives and assistance to encourage sharing, reorganization and regional high schools to expand academic opportunities for students. (15) Supports the creation of an additional funding mechanism for school districts experiencing excessive transportation costs and the development of a transportation funding mechanism that does not directly or indirectly impact funding for the educational program. (16) Supports funding to ensure that all three and four year olds have access to a high quality public school preschool program to be funded by revenues that do not divert what would otherwise be K-12 resources. Funding should be allocated for literacy-based programs with well-articulated standards of high quality.

SUPERINTENDENT'S GOALS: Dr. Hulleman presented the following Superintendent's Goals for 2006-2007:

1. Work with principals, staff and students to make the District a safe place to work and to learn, a place where people respect one another, a place where people take responsibility for their actions, a place where people have pride in their work and in their school, and a place in which the community has confidence that teaching and learning are taking place in an organized and disciplined manner.
2. Insure that the 2006-2007 budget is balanced.
3. Improve the community's understanding of the District's budget, organization and functions as well as the role of the community in developing a successful school district.
4. Continue to work with the Administrative Team in providing leadership in curriculum and instruction.
5. Communicate and interpret the results of the community survey to the Board, staff and community through the Warren Pride and presentations to community groups.

Motion by John Burrell, seconded by Jennifer Birchette to approve the Superintendent's Goals for 2006-2007. Ayes: 5.

Vice President Ron Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Athletic Schedules
Go to www.se-warren.k12.ia.us/athletics



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN FOR THE 2006/2007

**SOUTHEAST WARREN ATHLETIC BOOSTER
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

THE WHITE CLUB - \$15.00

THE WARHAWK CLUB - \$50.00

THE GREEN CLUB - \$25.00

THE SOAR HIGH CLUB - \$100.00-UP

- SPONSORS WILL BE LISTED ON FALL AND WINTER SPORTS PROGRAMS.
- OUR NEXT PROJECT IS A NEW CONCESSION STAND AND RESTROOMS AT THE SOFTBALL/BASEBALL FIELDS.



PLEASE SUPPORT WARHAWK ATHLETICS

REMIT BOTTOM PORTION WITH CHECK

NAME OF SPONSOR(S) _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SE WARREN ATHLETIC BOOSTERS
MAIL TO DEANNA WILLIAMS, 16200 185TH AVE, MILO, IA 50166

Athletic Schedules

Go to www.se-warren.k12.ia.us/athletics

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
