

The S-DCS Column

A Newsletter for the Stakeholders of Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools

National Recognition for Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools

It is not often that a school corporation or school receives national recognition for the efforts it makes to educate students. Recently, Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools or more specifically, East Central High School, was recognized by *The Washington Post* newspaper. In the most recent article on The High School Challenge, *Post* education reporter Jay Mathews has ranked East Central on a national list of high schools that provide programs and courses that prepare students for college. This was East Central's first time on the list and it debuted at 1633 out of 1900 high schools in the United States.

How did East Central High School make the list? The schools that provide college level classes (such as Advanced Placement), and offer an AP test or participates in an International Baccalaureate testing program were ranked based on the number of college prep tests given to the number of graduating students.

What does this mean for our students? It means that East Central High School has made a commitment to provide educational opportunities, not just for students who want to graduate from high school, but opportunities for those students who also want to earn college credits along with the credits necessary to graduate from high school.

Where do we go from here? Over the next few years, East Central High School will continue to strengthen its program to provide classes that can earn students college credit. In addition to our current dual credit program with Ivy Tech and Advanced Placement program, next year ECHS will offer college credits through the Advanced College Project (ACP) from Indiana University. Students who attend and pass the ACP classes will not only receive college credits for these classes, but they will also receive a grade that will be placed on an Indiana University transcript.

This is a great time to be excited about Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools. Our schools continue to be on the leading edge in the field of education based on the academic programs that we provide to help meet the needs of all of our students. Furthermore, the hard work that our students, teachers, guidance counselors and administrators are doing has started to bring national recognition to our schools. We are very proud of these accomplishments, and we are also dedicated to bringing further recognition to our school system in the future.

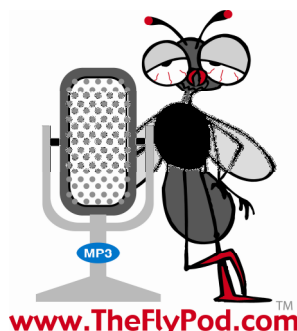


Dr. Jeff Hendrix
Superintendent

Volume 1, Issue 11
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Dr. Jeff Hendrix

Don't miss the buzz, tune into The FlyPod



Each month Sunman-Dearborn Schools is featured on The FlyPod, a local entertaining yet informative media source. Hosted by Gary Puckett, we have participated in his "SuperChat" podcast and also have had our three elementary schools featured on the "Your School" podcast.

Enter www.TinyURL.com/SDSC-Schools in your address line on a new web page to hear the latest SuperChat featuring Dave Jarvis and Don Stonefield.

S-DIS 6th Grade AR Auction = Awesome!!!



Thanks to everyone who donated items or helped out in any way with the Sunman-Dearborn Intermediate School Accelerated Reader Auction, and this includes parents who encouraged their child to keep reading!

The purpose of this auction is to promote a desire to read, gain reading skills, and increase comprehension. Students seem to find a little extra confidence knowing they can achieve their goals. The auction has been so successful that each year our sixth graders look forward to the occasion. They love the fact that there is such an awesome variety of merchandise, and they spend AR points not money to purchase their items.



S-DCSC



Thank you from Mr. Bond, Principal NDES

Another year has come and gone at North Dearborn Elementary School. What a great year it was! Our students grew so much this year! We could not have enjoyed such success without the hard work of all those involved with our students. I would like to thank the teachers, assistants, counselors, office staff, cafeteria employees, bus drivers and custodians for all they have done this year for the benefit of our students. I would also like to thank the students, caregivers and parents as well! I end the year, again, so thankful for the wonderful people who support our students and give them the tools they need to come to school ready to learn each day. It takes a combined effort of those here at school as well as the people working behind the scenes at home to allow these students the best opportunity to learn.

We start next year with new common core standards, new testing procedures and new material to cover. I know that when the students come back in August they will be ready and eager to learn.

Enjoy the summer, take time to catch up on some family time, hug your children and continue to support their desire to learn. Have a safe and happy summer, I will see you all again in August.

Character Education at BES by Mr. Hutchinson!

During the months of March, April, and May, Bright Elementary has continued their work with Character Education.

In **March** they talked about **Fitness and Skill**. They discussed the importance of keeping their “one and only” body healthy and fit. All of the kids were put through a “mini” fitness screener to help them understand how they are doing when it comes to keeping their body fit. They specifically talked about strength, balance, flexibility, and endurance.

In **April** they discussed **Team Spirit**. Mr. Hutchinson made the word “Team” interchangeable with Family, Group, or Class. In other words, he emphasized the importance of the students working together with others for the good of the group. The discussion revolved around how our military teaches that each soldier must put their own needs aside and be willing to work for the safety and well-being of the group. They related that to their families, classrooms, and teams.

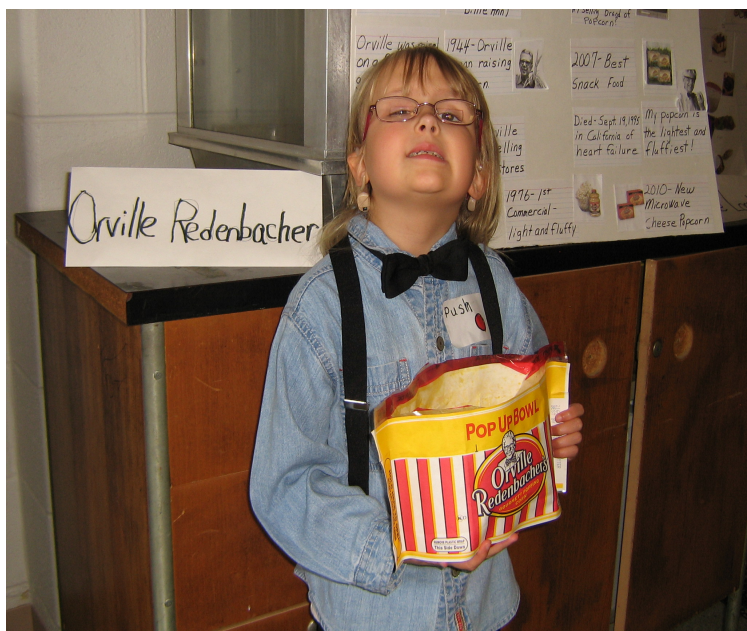
In **May** we discussed **Poise and Confidence**. They talked about the importance of practicing and becoming proficient at a skill. In turn, this helps us to feel confident in what we are doing. They discussed a variety of activities that seem difficult at first, but with a little practice, a person can quickly become confident in what they are doing. Yo-Yo’s, stilts, frisbee’s, riding a bike, etc... These are all examples of things that kids do everyday that start out very challenging, but with practice they have mastered.

Hoosier Hall of Fame at SES

Fourth grade students at Sunman Elementary ended their study of Indiana history by researching and portraying famous Hoosiers. Students were amazed to find that so many notable celebrities, scientists, writers, and artists claim Indiana as their home state.

Students each chose a specific Hoosier personality to research. They were guided with information-gathering questions to find answers about each person's life. Students used books, magazines and the internet to collect and interpret facts about their person of interest.

The study culminated in a Hall of Fame presentation in which students portrayed their famous Hoosier and gave speeches as if each student were that individual. Parents, grandparents, and other friends and family members totaling well over 100 were the spectators for the event held on Wednesday May 25th.



Kalena as Orville Redenbacher



Gaar as Red Skeleton

2011-2012 School Calendar

SUNMAN-DEARBORN COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION 2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 8-9, 2011	Teacher Workdays
August 10	First Student Day
September 5	Labor Day - No School
October 14	End of First Grading Period (47 student days)
October 19	Students Not Present
	Parent-Teacher Conferences
October 20-21	Fall Vacation - No School
November 24-25	Thanksgiving Vacation - No School
December 21	Last Student Day Prior to Christmas Vacation
	End of Second Grading Period (43 student days)
	End of First Semester (90 student days)
January 2, 2012	Teacher Record Day/ In-Service Day
January 3, 2012	Classes Resume After Christmas Vacation
March 2	End of Third Grading Period (44 student days)
March 19-23	Spring Vacation - No School
April 6	Good Friday - No School (Possible make-up day)
May 22	Last Student Day
	End of Fourth Grading Period (46 student days)
	End of Second Semester (90 student days)
May 23	Teacher Record Day/In-Service Day
May 28	Memorial Day - No School
June 3	East Central High School Graduation
Total Students Days	180
Total Teacher Days	185

The calendar may be shortened or lengthened to reflect a total of 180 student days as required by I.C. 20-30-2-3 and the teacher record day will follow the last student day.

Adopted: March 10, 2011



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Bright Elementary School Talent Show 2011



Bright Elementary Students showing their talent at the talent show on April 28, 2011

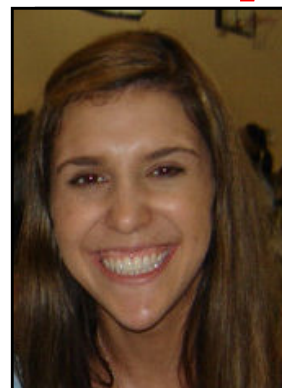


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Healthy Summer Snacks for the Whole Family

We all love to have a cool treat on a hot summer day, but the type of treat you choose for your family can be challenging. Try some of the following tasty and healthy summer treats that you can feel good about:

- Frozen Bananas: These are easy and yummy! Simply peel a banana, place it in a plastic bag and stick it in the freezer.
- Very Berry Smoothie: Toss a cup of milk or yogurt, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup berries of your choice and a handful of ice cubes in the blender and enjoy this antioxidant rich treat in minutes!
- Fresh Veggies and Creamy Hummus: Kids love to dip so why not give them a dip that provides both fiber and protein for a filling snack!
- Fruit Kabobs: Cut up your favorite fruits and put them on a skewer for a great snack that's fun to eat!



*Mandy Grassi
Food Service
Director*

Keep these treats in mind to help you stay cool this summer!



Mark your calendars!

CASA, the Yes Home, and One Community One Family will be hosting the 2011 Youth Wellness Fair on August 27 from 10-1 at Sunman-Dearborn Middle School. They are looking forward to hosting 5th-8th graders again this year. More information will be available during book days. There WILL NOT be a pre-registration this year.

The focus is wellness. Prevention topics such as bullying, suicide, substance abuse, piercing and tattoo safety, along with topics on nutrition, fitness, and activities in the community will all be addressed. The day will be filled with FUN and EDUCATION for 5th to 8th graders.

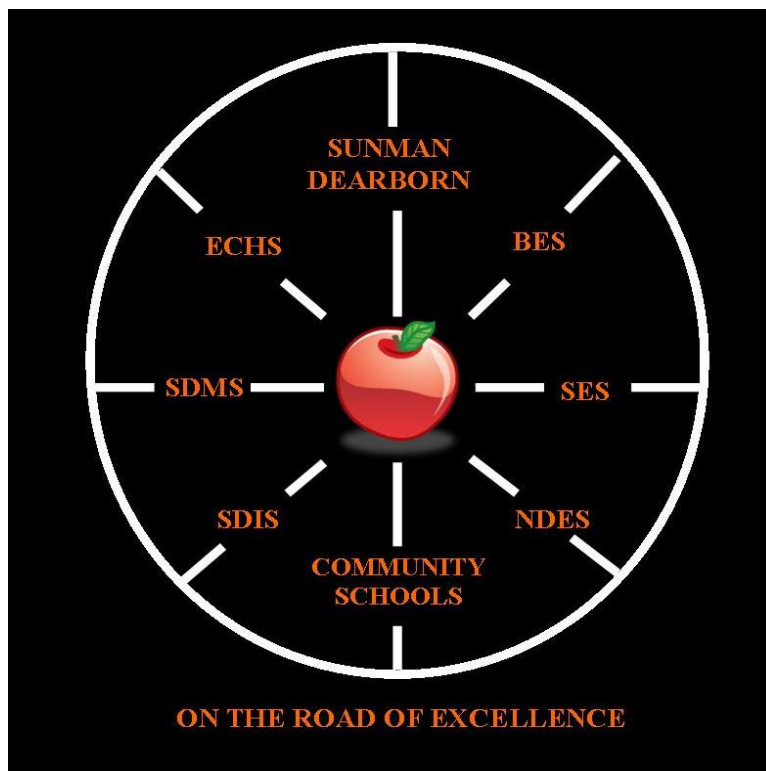
More info to come.

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*A Newsletter for the Stakeholders of
Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools*

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**To Create a Culture of Educational
Excellence for Each Student!**



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