Please keep this Resource Guide as a reference for the 2020-21 school year.

Due to the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are forced to cancel our annual Welcome Back Registration Event for 2020.

We are requesting all families fill out and return the forms included in this 2020 “Need to Know” Summer Mailer. Please return by utilizing the drop box located by the front door of your child’s school. You will also find the most up to date and current information about “Back to School” and the school year on the district website under Hot Topics. The link is titled “Important Back-to-School Information”. Please check online using a laptop, desktop, or a district-issued student chromebook (if applicable).

Some things you will be able to find on the “Important Back-to-School Information” section of the website:

- Free or Reduced Lunch Forms
- Add money to your family Lunch Account
- Purchase Bus Tickets
- Handbook Receipt
- Sign up for PowerSchool Account to Check Grades

If you are new to the district, please contact the Welcome Center as soon as possible to get the registration process started. Please do not wait until August. If you have a Preschool or Kindergarten age child we also need you to call our Central Registrar or stop by the Welcome Center to get your child enrolled today.

**Welcome Center**
204 W. 21st Street  |  402-412-2824

We are still dealing with the immediate decisions raised by the COVID-19 disruptions from this last Spring and unfortunately we have to simultaneously plan for and try to anticipate the implications of additional disruptions over the next year.

We want you to know that the South Sioux City Community School District is committed to equity. We promise to do our best to balance the need for academic learning while meeting the social-emotional needs of all of our students and staff.

Be Kind, Be Respectful, Be Better Every Day!
Greetings and welcome from your Superintendent! We are extremely excited that you will be part of the South Sioux City School District for the 2020-21 school year and will do our best to make sure everyone feels they are part of our Cardinal family!

My family is proud to call South Sioux City home and my children are benefactors of the same dynamic education that we all experience in the South Sioux City Community Schools! I would like to share a few characteristics of our great district. I am confident you will find the schools and community tremendous places in which to grow, learn and live. Our people are our greatest asset!

We take pride in establishing high expectations for all staff and students in a collaborative and purposeful approach. Our staff is organized into teams called professional learning communities or PLCs. Each Monday, we dismiss students early so that these PLC groups of teachers can meet. We believe that all students can achieve at high levels when these teaching teams collaborate.

We establish what students are expected to learn in priority standards and focus our attention on what is learned by studying results from common and individual assessments to know each student and help him or her skill by skill. Many opportunities are provided for intervention and enrichment at each school to support our guaranteed and viable curriculum that provides essential knowledge and skills to all students regardless of which of our great teachers or schools they are assigned.

South Sioux City Schools has many extracurricular activities available for students outside the regular school day and they are highly encouraged to participate. Extracurricular activities allow kids to explore talents, make friends/teammates and develop skills that enhance their educational experience. Activity fairs and events are held throughout the district and many of the activities are highlighted on the individual school websites. Students of all ages are encouraged to attend school events and cheer on their peers in a fun, supervised setting throughout Cardinal Nation!

We are proud of our current parent, business, college and workforce partnerships in the Siouxland area! We continue to work with all stakeholders in developing our college and career curriculum, as well as facility planning, to ensure that our students are prepared for the post-secondary life of their choosing. Our high school curriculum contains several career academies that are linked to the personal learning plans developed by an interactive student, parent, counselor and teacher relationship. These personal learning plans begin at the middle school level and parents are encouraged to be active partners in their son or daughter’s curriculum choices. Parents are also able to access and/or receive updates in the student gradebook online through the Powderschool software in our district. Parent involvement is highly encouraged and necessary if students are to reach their maximum potential and have the best possible school experience. Please know our school board, administrators, teachers and all of our district employees are passionate about serving students and look forward to a tremendous year of achievement!

Go Cards!
Todd Strom, Superintendent
South Sioux City Community Schools
### HAVE YOU HAD A CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please notify the office of your child’s school to update mailing lists. Two proof of address are required.

Examples for proofs of address that are accepted are: Current lease or mortgage, current utility bill, official correspondence from City, County, State or Federal Agency, or Property Tax Bill.

For boundary map, please visit [www.ssccardinals.org](http://www.ssccardinals.org) or call our Welcome Center at 402-412-2824.

### BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Nebraska state law requires that the school has a copy of the certified birth certificate of each student enrolled in our school system. When we receive your child’s records, we will be contacting you if there is not a copy of his/her birth certificate on file. Please send a copy of the birth certificate to your child’s school, or bring the original, and we will make a copy for our records.

---

### 2020-2021 SUMMARY OF THE SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Age Group</th>
<th>Required Vaccines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2-5 year olds enrolled</strong>&lt;br&gt;in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider</td>
<td>4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine&lt;br&gt;3 doses of Polio vaccine&lt;br&gt;1 dose of MMR given on or after 12 months of age,&lt;br&gt;3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age,&lt;br&gt;3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine,&lt;br&gt;4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age,&lt;br&gt;1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) given on or after 12 months of age OR written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th - 12th Grades</td>
<td>3 doses of DTaP, DPT, or Tdap vaccine (the last dose given after age 10 years of age)&lt;br&gt;3 doses of Polio vaccine&lt;br&gt;2 doses of MMR vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month&lt;br&gt;3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age&lt;br&gt;2 doses of varicella, separated by at least one month OR written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K - 6th Grades</td>
<td>3 doses of DTaP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4th birthday,&lt;br&gt;3 doses of polio vaccine&lt;br&gt;2 doses of MMR vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month&lt;br&gt;3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age&lt;br&gt;2 doses of varicella, separated by at least one month OR written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABOUT US

• The South Sioux City School District has six neighborhood elementary schools.
• Every building and grade provides the same curriculum and learning goals. Grade level teams use the Nebraska State Standards to prioritize student learning.
• Grade level teams collaborate on a regular basis to discuss student growth and progress on learning goals.
• Teams of teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) within their building and within their full grade levels to plan for student interventions and extended learning.
• We work to embed the use of technology throughout our day. Each elementary building has multiple laptop computer carts that students access during the day to support their classroom instruction to include teacher integration of technology through his/her classroom teaching.

COMMUNICATION

• Follow us on Facebook & Twitter.
• See your child’s Thursday folder for school news and information.
• Visit our webpage to find full staff lists, contact information, and more!
• Please call or contact us with questions as we partner together in your child’s education.

CURRICULUM

Elementary students receive daily instruction in English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Throughout the English Language Arts block, students learn and apply literacy skills during Interactive Read Alouds, Shared Reading, Writing, and Guided Reading. Guided Reading occurs daily, and students are placed in flexible groups to focus on comprehension and fluency. Each building is fortunate to have reading specialists who push into each classroom during guided reading, to provide reading support for all students. Teachers have prioritized the Nebraska State Standards in order to make sure all students, in each of our buildings, are receiving the same instruction.

In addition to the core curriculum, students also have daily specials classes. Elementary specials include art, music, PE, guidance, library, and technology. Each building has support from our amazing school counselors. In addition to teaching guidance class, our counselors are available to work with students in friendship groups, social learning, and more.

WIN TIME/INTERVENTION

WIN Time – “What I Need” Time
• Regularly scheduled throughout the week by each grade level team.
• Students are grouped based on their level of understanding on specific grade level content. During this time, students may receive reteaching or enrichment.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>7:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 2:05 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No child should be on the school grounds or in the building before 7:30 a.m. as there will be no adult supervision until this time. Please do not drop your child off before 7:30 a.m. Children need to be picked up no later than 5 minutes after the dismissal bell.

SCHOOL SECURITY SYSTEM

ALL EXTERIOR DOORS ARE LOCKED during the school day. Any parents or visitors to the school will need to press the doorbell/camera button located at the MAIN ENTRANCE in order to gain access to the school. The office staff can verify a person’s identity before allowing entrance to the building. All visitors must check into the office first.

NEBRASKA READING IMPROVEMENT ACT - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Nebraska’s Reading Improvement Act, enacted in 2018, went into effect in the 2019-2020 school year. This legislation requires NE public schools to screen all students in kindergarten through third grade, identify those who may have difficulties in reading, implement interventions and monitor progress. Key components include:

• All K-3 students must be assessed 3 times per year with an assessment approved by the NE Dept of Education. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), already used in SSC Schools, is an approved assessment.
• Parent Engagement: Parents of K-3 grade students are kept informed of their child’s reading progress and notified in writing within 15 days, should their child be identified as having a reading difficulty. Supplemental reading intervention programs will be provided during regular school hours in addition to regularly scheduled reading instruction for identified students.
• Individual Reading Improvement Plans, created in collaboration with parents, will be provided to identified students within 30 days, describing intervention services the student will receive through the supplemental reading intervention program.
• Summer reading programs will be available for students in grade 1-3 identified as continuing to have a reading difficulty. These may be school-based, community based, or offered online.

Additional information may be found at: https://www.education.ne.gov/nebraskareads
## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS SUPPLY LISTS

### Preschool
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count Crayons
4. Glue sticks
5. Elmer's Glue, 4 oz.
6. Washable markers - large
7. Gallon Ziploc bags
8. Extra change of clothes

### Kindergarten
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count Crayola Crayons
4. Elmer's glue - 4 oz.
5. Expo Markers
6. Fiskar scissors
7. #2 pencils
8. Large pink eraser
9. Plastic school box
10. Washable markers - large

### First Grade
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count Crayons
4. Elmer's glue - 4 oz.
5. Expo low odor markers - black
6. Fiskar scissors
7. Glue stick
8. #2 pencils
9. Large pink eraser
10. Plastic school box
11. Pocket folders
12. Washable markers - large
13. Wide ruled spiral notebook

### Second Grade
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count colored pencils
4. 24 count Crayons
5. Elmer's glue - 4 oz.
6. Expo low odor markers - black
7. Fiskar scissors
8. #2 pencils
9. Large pink eraser
10. Plastic school box
11. Pocket folders
12. Washable marker - large
13. Wide ruled spiral notebook

### Third Grade
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count colored pencils
4. 24 count Crayons
5. Elmer's glue - 4 oz.
6. Expo low odor markers - black
7. Fiskar scissors
8. Glue stick
9. #2 pencils
10. Large pink eraser
11. Plastic school box
12. Pocket folders
13. Washable marker - large
14. Wide ruled looseleaf paper
15. Wide ruled spiral notebooks

### Fourth Grade
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count colored pencils
4. 24 count Crayons
5. Elmer's glue - 4 oz.
6. Expo low odor markers - black
7. Fiskar scissors
8. Glue sticks
9. #2 pencils
10. Large pink erasers
11. Pocket folders
12. Washable marker - large
13. Wide ruled looseleaf paper
14. Wide ruled spiral notebooks
15. Ziploc bags

### Fifth Grade
1. Backpack - no wheels
2. Box of Kleenex - large
3. 24 count colored pencils
4. 24 count Crayons
5. Elmer's glue - 4 oz.
6. Expo low odor markers
7. Fiskar scissors (not pointed)
8. Glue sticks
9. #2 pencils
10. Large pink erasers
11. Pocket folders
12. Washable marker - fine
13. Washable marker - large
14. Yellow Highlighter
15. Wide ruled looseleaf paper
16. Wide ruled spiral notebooks
17. Ziploc bags

---

### PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS
The South Sioux City Community School District offers a free preschool program for four year olds who reside within our school district. This program is located at E.N. Swett Early Childhood Center. To learn more about our preschool program, please contact E.N. Swett Early Childhood Center at 402-494-3501.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS
South Sioux City Community Schools provides services for eligible children birth to age five. If a parent has concerns about his/her child's development (physical, social, communication, cognitive or self-help), please call 402-412-2884 to make a referral.
Greetings SSC Middle School!

Wow, what a crazy end to the 2019-20 school year! We have all missed you very much and are looking forward to a fresh start with the 2020-21 school year. One of the fresh new things happening is the start time for the Middle School, which will be **8:05 instead of 8:10**. The reason for this is so we can use the first five minutes of the day to have the Pledge of Allegiance and to make announcements. This way we will not be losing any instructional time due to announcements. So, the school day for the Middle School will run from **8:05 - 3:25**.

School safety has been and continues to be a top priority for South Sioux City Middle School. We will continue to practice drills throughout the school year to make sure everyone knows what to do in an emergency situation. After 8:10 am all outside doors in the Middle School will be locked. If you come to school after then, please use door #1 and immediately proceed to the front office to check-in before going anywhere in the building.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and we will see you soon!

Mr. Coviello

---

**ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL**

South Sioux City Middle School has approximately 850 students from sixth to eighth grade. Our schedule is uniquely designed to meet our students’ needs. We have 90-minute block classes in math and reading/language arts. Science, social studies, and exploratories run 45-minutes apiece. Each day, all of our students are engaged in two exploratory class periods and have a 30-minute WIN time to get the help they need.

**COMMUNICATION**

For a wealth of information about the South Sioux City Middle School go to:

http://www.ssccardinals.org/schools/middle-school/

**Facebook:** South Sioux City Middle School Cardinals and South Sioux City Community School District

**Twitter:** @SSCMiddle

Please like our pages for important updates and upcoming events.

**WIN (What I Need)**

WIN Time is an opportunity for students to get the additional support they need from teachers during the school day. It occurs Tuesday through Friday from 1:23 p.m. - 1:51 p.m. During this time, students have the choice to see the teacher they need to see and redo assessments, sit in the auditorium to read a book, or come to the commons and work on homework. This is also a time for enrichment. Due to the different student groupings, this is a difficult time to know exactly where your child is, so if you are making doctors’ appointments, or need to take your student out of school, it would benefit all parties to pick him/her up before or after this time.

---

**GRADING**

We have implemented Standards-Referenced Grading. Standards are written descriptions of what students are expected to know and be able to do in each content area and grade level. ‘Standards Referenced’ refers to using learning standards to guide what we teach and what we assess. Standards-Referenced Grading (SRG) is the practice of grading students’ work based on their performance according to those learning standards. SRG shows student progress toward proficiency on key skills within a subject area.

**CHROMEBOOKS (LAPTOPS)**

Chromebooks and backpacks will be provided for all students in the middle school. Chromebook insurance will be available for $25 and will be collected after school starts.

**WELL-MANAGED SCHOOLS (WMS)**

South Sioux City Middle School Staff are trained in the Boys Town Well-Managed Schools (WMS) classroom management program. This program emphasizes (1) building positive relationships and classroom climate, (2) teaching social skills, (3) reinforcing classroom expectations and social skills to increase appropriate behavior, and (4) responding to inappropriate behavior. WMS is founded on research-based practices. Additional information regarding this can be found on the website.
## MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

### Sixth Grade
- 3 - 1.5” 3-ring binders  
  *(Language Arts, Math)*
- 2 - 1 subject spiral notebook  
  *(Language Arts, Math)*
- 3 - pkgs. wide-ruled loose leaf paper  
  *(Math, Science, History)*
- 3 - Sets of tab dividers  
  *(Language Arts, Math, Science)*
- 1 - Manual pencil sharpener  
  *(History)*
- 3 - Boxes of tissues *(Advisory)*
- Dry Erase Skinny Markers *(Math)*
- Earbuds (no large headphones)  
- Pencils  
- Only red pens  
- 1 - Large eraser  
- 1 - Large zipper pencil bag

### Seventh Grade
- 3 - 2” 3-ring binders *(Language Arts, Math, History)*
- 2 - Jumbo Book Covers *(Math, History)*
- 3 - Sets of tab dividers  
  *(Math, Language Arts, History)*
- 3 - packages loose leaf paper  
  *(Math, Language Arts, History)*
- 1 - Notebook with folder *(Science)*
- 1 - Pencil bag  
- 1 - Pair Earbuds  
- 1 - Box of 12 colored pencils  
- 1 - 24-Pack (or more) of pencils  
- Large Pencil Erasers  
- 1 - Package of black or blue pens  
- 3 - Boxes of tissues *(Advisory)*

### Eighth Grade
- Mechanical Pencils
- 2 - Red pens
- 2 - Notebooks
- 1 - Pair Earbuds
- 5 - Pocket Folders with prongs  
- Highlighters  
- 1 - 1” 3-ring binders  
- 3 - Boxes of tissues *(Advisory)*

Please purchase extra school supplies at the beginning of the year to restock school supplies during the school year!

---

### SCHOOL HEALTH & HEARING SCREENING

Children in all grades are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height and weight. Parents are notified of any health concerns as they are identified. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in the school screening program must communicate this in writing to the school health office where their child attends at the start of the school year.

Because Nebraska statutes require school-age screening, parents who remove their child from the screening program must submit findings from an alternate medical provider to the school by December 1.

10/12/20 High School (AM)  
10/13/20 Harney (AM)  
EN Swett (PM)  
10/14/20 Covington (AM)  
Dakota City (PM)  
10/15/20 Cardinal (AM)  
Lewis and Clark (PM)  
10/16/20 Middle School

### UNIVERSAL SCREENING

The District may conduct various screenings (such as universal screening) throughout the year to identify students with academic and/or behavioral issues. The District will communicate with parents of students who are identified by the screening process. Any parent who does not consent to the screening of his/her student must notify the Director of Student Services at the beginning of the school year.

### STATE ASSESSMENT

The District is required to administer the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS), a state-wide assessment. More information about NSCAS can be found through the Nebraska Department of Education. If a parent does not consent to his/her student taking the NSCAS assessment, the parent must notify his/her building principal at the beginning of the school year.

### ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

Both the High School and Middle School each have an Achievement Center. The goal of our Achievement Centers (AC) is to ensure academic success by offering uniquely designed levels of supports which encourage all students to increase personal growth and attain higher levels of academic achievement. The AC is available to assist all students with homework and to provide opportunities for additional academic supports.

The Middle School AC is located in the Middle School Library. Hours are: Monday: 7:15 a.m. - 2:25 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday: 7:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Fridays: 7:15 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.

The High School AC is located by the Student Entrance. Hours are: Monday: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Fridays: 7:30 a.m. - 3:20 p.m.
ABOUT US
South Sioux City High School serves approximately 1200 students in grades 9-12. Our school operates on a 4x4 block schedule consisting of four 90 minute class periods. Each day our students are exposed to a comprehensive curriculum to prepare them for life after high school.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM
Principal - Ashley O’Dell
Assistant Principal - Ed Akins
Assistant Principal - Dr. Melissa Byington
Assistant Principal - Dave Clausen
Activities Director - Jeff Squiers

SCHOOL COUNSELORS
Linda Swanson - Last names A-E
Jason Craig - Last names F-Ln
Dannielle Panowicz - Last names Lo-Q
Steph Hames - Last names R-Z
Tammy Aitken - Guidance Secretary

OFFICE PERSONNEL
Connie Zeliadt - Secretary
Yadira Hernandez - Attendance Secretary
Anely Laguna - Attendance Secretary
Beth Horan - Secretary
Marla Moore - Secretary
Michelle Rapp - Activities Secretary

ATTENDANCE
One of the keys to student success is being in the classroom each and every day. If students are not in attendance they miss out on valuable instruction. When a student must be absent, please contact the school by 9:30 a.m.

SAFETY
School safety continues to be a priority for South Sioux City High School. We practice numerous drills throughout the year to ensure that we have safe routines in place in the case of an emergency. All exterior doors at the High School are locked. Please report to Door #12 on the east side of the building to gain entrance.

HOMECOMING
Coronation: Sunday Sept. 13, 4:00 p.m.
Parade: Friday, Sept. 18, 4:00 p.m.
Game: Friday, Sept. 18, 7:00 p.m.
Dance: Saturday, Sept. 19, 8:00 p.m.

CONTACT US
3301 G Street • South Sioux City, NE 68776
Phone: 402-494-2433 • Fax: 402-494-2464
Website: www.sscccardinals.org • Twitter: @SSC_CARDINALS

SCHOOL HOURS
Monday: 7:55 a.m. – 2:26 p.m.
Tuesday - Friday 7:55 a.m. - 3:26 p.m.

CLASS STATUS DESIGNATION
South Sioux City Community Schools is committed to recognizing the academic success of its students. Beginning with the class of 2021, a Laude Recognition Model will be used to honor academic excellence. Our research found that colleges and universities are adapting to more and more schools not having class rank by taking a closer, more comprehensive look at the overall student. For those institutions who still utilize rank, they have systems to holistically evaluate students based upon criteria such as rigor of curriculum, test scores, recommendations, activities, personal essays, and other qualifying indicators.

The Laude Recognition Model honors students based upon their Grade Point Average. Students have the ability to receive three status designations:

• Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor) 4.25 and above
• Magna Cum Laude (with great honor) 4.0-4.24
• Cum Laude (with honor) 3.75-3.99

We believe in high achievement for all students. Within the Laude Recognition Model, you will find students focused on the educational value of their class selection rather than choosing classes based upon potential increase in class rank. This system promotes students to pursue course work that better fits their passions and career goals. It rewards them for achievement against an established standard as opposed to having students compete against each other.

GRADING
South Sioux City High School has embarked on the process of implementing Standards-Referenced Grading. Standards are written descriptions of what students are expected to know and be able to do at each level of their education, year by year, or course by course. ‘Standards Referenced’ refers to using learning standards to guide what we teach and what we assess. Standards-Referenced Grading (SRG) is the practice of grading students’ work based on their performance according to those learning standards. Standards-referenced grades show student progress toward proficiency on domains of key skills within a subject area.
South Sioux City Community School District is proud to offer a wide range of student activities including but not limited to: robotics, football, Skills USA, dance, gaming clubs, basketball, swimming, choir, band, cheerleading, etc. We have over 30 activities and clubs for students and are always considering new clubs so all students feel connected and involved in school. Our goal is that 100% of high school students are involved in at least one club or activity. Please check our website for a full list of all clubs and activities and to learn more.

To see a full list of all scheduled events and sports please visit: www.rivercitiesconference.org. Schedules are updated throughout the school year.

---

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

The state of Nebraska has organized athletics in 3 separate seasons: Fall, Winter and Spring, with each of these seasons having a particular start day. Below you will find the list of sports offered at South Sioux High School and when the season begins. The school district will host three parent meetings for students who are going out for an activity and those dates are listed below. In addition, we have a variety of activities and clubs that meet throughout the year.

- **Fall Parent Meeting:** Monday, August 3 at the high school 7:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m. Sport specific meetings to follow.
- **Fall Activities begin on August 10 and include:** Football, Boys/Girls Cross Country, Volleyball, Boys Tennis, Girls Golf and Softball.
- **Winter Parent Meeting:** Monday, November 9 at the high school at 7:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m. Sport specific meetings to follow.
- **Winter Activities begin on November 16 and include:** Boys/Girls Swimming, Boys/Girls Basketball, and Boys/Girls Wrestling.
- **Spring Parent Meeting:** Monday, February 22 at the high school at 7:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m. Sport specific meetings to follow.
- **Spring Activities begin on March 1 and include:** Baseball, Boys/Girls Soccer, Boys/Girls Track, Girls Tennis and Boys Golf.

*Physicals will be TBA. All student athletes must have a sports physical on file, must be dated after May 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.*

Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook for additional information regarding parent meetings and up-to-date schedule changes due to weather and other circumstances.

Twitter: @SSCAactivities and @SSCcardinalnews.
Facebook: South Sioux City and South Sioux City Community School District

---

**BOOSTER CLUBS**

South Sioux City Booster Club is an organization that supports our teams. All community members and parents are encouraged to join. Please visit our district website for additional membership information. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month. For a complete schedule, please visit our website.

---

**GATEWAY TO LEARNING**

The school district also operates an alternative high school, Gateway To Learning. Its mission statement is “to provide an alternative educational setting for at-risk students aimed at removing barriers to student success in order to meet each student’s unique needs.” Gateway to Learning is guided by the following Core Beliefs:

- Every attempt will be made to maintain the dignity and self-respect of both the student and the teacher.
- Students will be guided, and expected to solve their problems, without creating problems for anyone else.
- Students should be given the opportunities to make decisions and live with the consequences, be they good or bad.
- Students should have the opportunity to tell their side of the story (due process hearing) when consequences appear to be unfair.
- Misbehavior will be viewed as an opportunity for individual problem-solving and preparation for the real world as opposed to a personal attack on school and staff.
Lunchtime Solutions, Inc. looks forward to the coming school year at South Sioux City Community Schools. The purpose of this communication is to provide you with an overview of the school food service program this year. If you have any questions or comments about our program, please feel free to contact Mike Penne, Food Service Director at 402-375-8717 or m.penne@lunchtimesolutions.com. For your convenience, our menu and additional food program information is posted on the school website.

### SCHOOL MEALS

Breakfast and hot lunch are served at all South Sioux City School locations. School lunch will offer a wide variety of choices for students and will include an entrée, a hot vegetable plus an unlimited fruits and vegetable bar and a milk.

### A LA CARTE AND EXTRAS

At an extra cost, students may purchase an additional entrée, milk or other a la carte items as part of the school lunch program. Extra purchases will be charged to the student's meal account and a student must have money in his/her account to purchase extra items. The fruit and vegetable bar is unlimited with the purchase of a regular school lunch.

### CHEF ENTRÉE

Each month, Lunchtime Solutions’ school chef will visit SSC High School and Middle School to prepare a special entrée, giving students an additional healthy, contemporary meal choice. The entrée is available as an a la carte entrée for $2.25. For this meal only, students have the option of purchasing the fruit and veggie bar separately for $1.85 and milk for $0.50. The entrée can also be purchased in addition to a regular complete meal. A student must have money in his/her account to purchase the Chef Entrée.

### DIET MODIFICATIONS

Families are responsible for notifying the School Food Service if their child requires a diet modification for medical reasons.

### MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
South Sioux City Community Schools

### FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

All families are encouraged to complete the Free/Reduced Lunch application form which can be picked up at any building or can be found on the district website.

### SCHOOL MEALS ACCOUNT

Each student is issued a unique PIN, used to access his/her meal account. Payments into your student/family meal account can be made at your student’s school or online via the district website.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
   Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
   1400 Independence Avenue, SW
   Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.
   This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

---

### 2020-2021 School Meal Prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Day (5 days)</th>
<th>Week (20 days)</th>
<th>Month (44 days)</th>
<th>Quarter (88 days)</th>
<th>Semester (176 days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School (9-12) Lunch</td>
<td>$3.10</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
<td>$62.00</td>
<td>$136.40</td>
<td>$272.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School (9-12) Breakfast</td>
<td>$1.65</td>
<td>$8.25</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
<td>$72.60</td>
<td>$145.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School (6-8) Lunch</td>
<td>$3.10</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
<td>$62.00</td>
<td>$136.40</td>
<td>$272.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School (6-8) Breakfast</td>
<td>$1.65</td>
<td>$8.25</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
<td>$72.60</td>
<td>$145.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary (PK-5) Lunch</td>
<td>$2.85</td>
<td>$14.25</td>
<td>$57.00</td>
<td>$125.40</td>
<td>$250.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary (PK-5) Breakfast</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price Lunch (PK-12)</td>
<td>$0.40</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>$17.60</td>
<td>$35.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price Breakfast (6-12)</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>$13.20</td>
<td>$26.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$0.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Lunch</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Breakfast</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TRANSPORTATION

Kindergarten – 12th grade students living more than four miles from their designated school attendance centers are entitled to transportation to and from their attendance center at the expense of the school district. Additional bussing services are offered at some school buildings for a fee. Please contact your child’s school for further information. Bussing is contracted through Durham Transportation, operated by Mr. Dan Trudell, Transportation Supervisor, phone 402-494-4338.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Bus Rates for 2020-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Student #1</th>
<th>Student #2</th>
<th>Student #3+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round Trip - Annual</td>
<td>$397.00</td>
<td>$129.00</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round Trip - Semester</td>
<td>$216.00</td>
<td>$79.00</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round Trip - Monthly</td>
<td>$62.00</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Way - Annual</td>
<td>$227.00</td>
<td>$79.00</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Way - Semester</td>
<td>$129.00</td>
<td>$48.00</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Way - Monthly</td>
<td>$36.00</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A temporary bus pass is $3.00 per ticket.

Education Foundation Creates Additional Opportunities for Students

Would you like to support youth in South Sioux City and Dakota City with a tax-deductible gift?

The Cardinal Education Foundation is a tax-exempt organization that accepts gifts on behalf of the 3,800 students attending the SSC Community School District. With the help of generous donors, like you, the Education Foundation can provide many additional learning opportunities benefiting the youth of our community. The Cardinal Education Foundation is known for its scholarships, hosting the SSC High School Honors Banquet and the Honors Convocation held each May at the Delta Marriott. The overall mission and goal of the foundation is to enhance the tax-funded education by creating additional opportunities for students through philanthropic means. As the foundation director, I plan to strengthen the scholarship offerings for SSC High School graduates, fund special projects such as Career Tech, and also create mini classroom grants for teachers. I will be working with the Cardinal Education Foundation to articulate a vision, create and strengthen partnerships and coordinate a strategic plan. For more information about making a donation or scheduling a presentation, please call 402-494-2425. On behalf of the students, I want to thank you for considering a gift.

Lance Swanson, Director of Communications and Foundation

“C It?, Say It!” is a new campaign we’ve started to help avoid school violence and reassure students that our schools are safe places. Students, staff, and parents all have an important role in promoting school safety.

To report suspicious activity, talk to any school official or contact law enforcement. For anonymous reporting please use the Let’s Talk link on the right-hand side of the District website.

Describe specifically what you observed, including:

- Who or what you saw;
- When you saw it;
- Where it occurred; and
- Why it’s suspicious.

If there is an emergency, call 9–1–1.
The safety of our students and staff is one of the most important factors to a successful school district. South Sioux City Community Schools is committed to ensuring our schools are safe and our staff is prepared. To enhance this, in 2017 we moved to a Standard Response Protocol (SRP) called “I Love U Guys”. We feel this protocol will give us the tools to be even more prepared for weather events, fires, accidents, intruders and other threats to student and staff safety.

The Standard Response Protocol is based not on individual scenarios but on consistent response to any given scenario. SRP demands a specific vocabulary but also allows for great flexibility. The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident.

- **Lockout** is followed by the Directive: “Secure the Perimeter” and is the protocol used to safeguard students and staff within a building.
- **Lockdown** is followed by “Locks, Lights, Out of Sight” and is the protocol used to secure individual rooms and keep students quiet and in place.
- **Evacuate** is always followed by a location, and is used to move students and staff from one location to a different location in or out of the building.
- **Shelter** is always followed by a type and a method and is the protocol for group and self protection.
- **Hold** is a “hold” in the classrooms. Students and teachers are directed to stay in their rooms and clear the hallways. This is typically used for medical emergencies.

In addition to our Protocols, we have several Specialty Teams in the District to further tighten our response systems. With all working in collaboration, we feel more prepared to handle incidents that may occur during the course of the year. The following teams are in place and have been trained:

**Safety & Security Team:** A team that includes representatives from all building safety teams and meets quarterly. This team is committed to and responsible for assessing any safety risks that could affect the schools, staff, and students. This group is responsible for safety and security planning, prevention, and disaster preparedness and response.

**Parent Reunification Team:** If a school would ever be forced to dismiss students from an alternate location, this team would coordinate efforts at the designated Parent Reunification Site. This District team responds to such an event and coordinates the dismissal procedures and to reunite students with their parents.

**District Communication Team:** Coordinating all communication efforts to our parents, staff, students and the community. This includes local media outlets, district website, twitter, facebook, email, phone, etc.

**District Crisis Team:** Led by our School Counselors, this team assembles any time there is a critical incident. This team is trained to provide trauma mitigation and education in the aftermath of a critical incident.

**District Threat Assessment Team:** A group of trained officials that convenes to identify, evaluate, and address threats or potential threats to school security. Our Threat Assessment team reviews incidents of threatening behavior by students (current and former), parents, school employees, or other individuals.

For more information on school safety, please visit: www.sscccardinals.org/resources/safety/
CAREER ACADEMY

CAREER EDUCATION CLASSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The South Sioux City School District is committed to all of our students graduating college and career ready. We define college and career readiness as being prepared to successfully complete credit-bearing college coursework or industry certification without remediation, having the academic skills and self-motivation necessary to persist and progress in postsecondary education, and having identified career goals and the necessary steps to achieve them.

The South Sioux City School District has Career Academies in the following Career Clusters:

- Business, Marketing, and Management
- Skilled and Technical Sciences
- Health Sciences
- Human Sciences and Education

WHAT IS A CAREER ACADEMY?

A Career Academy is a sequence of credit-bearing academic and career technical courses which reflect a Career Cluster selected in response to local, regional or state employment needs and demand for expertise.

In a Career Academy, students explore and learn about a career field by taking sequenced courses, get experiences in the real world of work, and earn college credit while still in high school.

SOUTH SIOUX CITY HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

As we embark on another school year, we hope to hear from and see our alumni (and parents of alumni). Please make sure we have your current information by visiting www.ssccardinals.org/alumnihistory/alumni-information and update us with your address, email, and phone number. With your contact information on file, we will be able to invite you to upcoming events and send you important updates.

The Cardinal Education Foundation is committed to keeping you connected to the South Sioux City Community School District and entire community. We plan events, assist with reunion plans, share milestones, and keep you updated on current happenings. Please keep us informed about college graduations, military and career paths, marriages, births and other highlights in your lives. We want to stay in touch with you and are always looking for stories to share.

To stay up-to-date with the latest in our alumni community, join the "SSChsAlumni" group on Facebook.

For more information, assistance with planning a reunion, or simply want to share school story, please contact my office at 402-494-2425.

Thank you,
Lance Swanson
Director of Communication & Foundation
South Sioux City Community Schools

www.ssccardinals.org
SCHOOL APPS

Apps are actual applications downloaded and installed on a smartphone or mobile device to seamlessly connect and interact with the District. Parents, students and patrons can visit Apple's App Store or the Google Play Store to find and download the new app. The app will pull content and data from the district website, district calendars, and district social media accounts to be viewed in one central location.

PowerSchool App
The PowerSchool Parent Portal and Mobile App are great for parents! Download the App to get instant access to real-time grades, attendance, comments, assignments and scores directly from the teacher’s gradebook. PowerSchool District Mobile App Code is: NGND. Call the Power School Help Desk @ 402-412-2859 for help.

Students succeed when parents are involved!

Let's Talk App
South Sioux City Community Schools invites you to be part of the conversation. Let's Talk! is an open feedback form where anyone can submit questions, concerns, suggestions and compliments directly to district staff anytime, anywhere, from any device.

Share your ideas with us at any time by selecting your topic, or by clicking on Anything Else? The form can be found by clicking the icon along the right edge of the district website and, if you include your contact information, we will follow up with you in a timely fashion.

www.ssccardinals.org  We look forward to hearing from you!

The Remind App
South Sioux City Community School District uses an app called Remind. If you’re not already familiar with Remind, it is an app that provides a safe way for teachers and coaches to send text messages. Basically it is a classroom communication tool that makes it easier to stay involved with your child's learning and other school activities. Remind is free to use, and you’ll be able to get and send messages safely on any device—even a simple text from your phone!

First, a teacher/coach adds his/her class/team, which generates a unique code. The teacher then shares that code with students or parents. At that point, any student or parent who sends a text message with the code will be “subscribed” to the teacher's class. Any time a teacher sends a message from Remind, all students and/or parents subscribed will receive it. Using this method, no one knows each other's cell phone number; the teacher only sees a name in his/her sign-up list online, not phone numbers.

Students today are very busy and they communicate primarily by texting. The purpose is to provide them with timely reminders of assignments or upcoming quizzes/tests/practices/game times as well as send them encouraging messages that hopefully motivate and uplift them. These messages typically travel one-way, from the teacher/coach to students and/or parents; you cannot respond to the entire group. Any responses will only go directly back to the teacher or coach that sent the original message, not the entire group. It is a safe and hopefully very effective way to communicate.

To sign up for these messages, you need download the Remind App and wait for your teacher/coach for the code.
We’re excited to make connecting with our families even more easy and engaging!

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE IN ALL SCHOOLS!
The South Sioux City Community Schools District has mental health therapists in all buildings. We have partnered with Heartland Counseling to have full time licensed mental health therapists in all school buildings. These therapists are employees of Heartland and work full time in our school. They are funded by grants and insurance. School-based mental health services allow us to provide services at no out-of-pocket cost to families. These services go beyond the direct delivery of mental health services. Therapists provide on-site consultation and training for school staff in the field of children's mental health. They establish and maintain links between educators, mental health professionals and human service resources, all of whom support the family and enhance the academic and functional development of children who need additional supports. These supports are available to all students. School staff and parents can make referrals if they see a need. Please reach out to your school counselor for additional information.

www.ssccardinals.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mo</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fr</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Calendar Legend**
- One hour early dismissal for staff PLC
- No School due to Professional Development
- No school due to holiday or break
- No school PK-08 due to P/T Conferences
- Designated grade level(s) schedule change
- District Registration Event
- Half day dismissal
- Makeup days

**Student hours**
- PK half day: 8:00AM - 11:00AM or 12:00PM - 3:00PM
- PK full day: 8:00AM - 2:00PM
- Elementary K-5: 8:00AM - 3:05PM
- Middle School 6-8: 8:05AM - 3:25PM
- High School: 9-12: 8:00AM - 3:20PM
- Half day dismissal: 12:00PM

Visit our website to find full staff lists, contact information, and more! [www.ssccardinals.org](http://www.ssccardinals.org)

For a full calendar list of all scheduled events and activities please visit: [www.rivercitiesconference.org](http://www.rivercitiesconference.org)

Follow us on Twitter: @SSCCardinalNews
Like us on Facebook: /sscCardinals

C It?, Say It! is a campaign we’ve started to help avoid school violence and reassure students that our schools are safe places. Students, staff, and parents all have an important role in promoting school safety.

To report suspicious activity, talk to any school official or contact law enforcement. For anonymous reporting please use the Let’s Talk link on the right-hand side of the District website.
Notification of Rights Under FERPA and Release of Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) affords parents certain rights with respect to their minor children’s education records:
1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records;
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights;
3. The right to file with the US Department of Education, a complaint concerning alleged failures by the South Sioux City Community School District’s student records policy. You can obtain a copy of the policy from the principal’s office in each school within the District.

The district procedure notifying parents is as follows:
The district may disclose directory information. The types of personally identifiable information that the district has designated as directory information are as follows: student’s name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, photograph, date of and place of birth, major fields of study, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status (e.g., undergraduate or graduate, full-time or part-time), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, accomplishments that promote excellence not limited to NSCAS, ACT, Graduation and MAP achievement and scores and most recent previous educational agency or institution attended. A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the district designate any or all of those types of information about the student as directory information.

A student, parent or guardian not wanting this information released must make an objection in writing to the principal by August 29, 2019. The information objected to shall not be released.

You need not respond to this letter unless you wish to make an objection to the release of any of the listed above. If you have any objections, please list the items and return by August 28, 2020 to the building principal.

4. The right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorized disclosure without consent.

Parent/Guardian Name:_______________________________________________________________________________________
Student Name:_______________________________________________________________________________________________
I object to the following items:_____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________         _____________________________
Parent Signature                                        Date