

# Southern Wells Raider Review

Southern Wells Elementary  
9120 S. 300 W. Poneto, IN 46781

September 2020  
765-728-2121

Student Motto: "Work Hard in Difficult Times...Stay Strong"  
Mrs. Cari Whicker - Principal

## SWES Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures

I am happy we are back in school this fall, and it has been good getting to know everyone here. Slowly but surely, I am meeting all of the parents and students. I have been helping with student drop off in the morning the past couple of weeks. I want you to know, I appreciate you all taking time out of your schedules to bring your children to school. The reactions I see from your children when you are dropping them off is priceless! The children love the fact that mom, dad, grandma, grandpa (or the special person that drops them off) cares enough to bring them to school.

That being said, I need your help with some things.

First – when you pull in to drop off, pull all the way to the north end of the sidewalk (near where you exit along with the buses). There is a white line indicating where we want you to stop.

Second – when you drop off, please use caution in exiting as some of our parents pull to the outside to pass the parked vehicle.

Third – if you are able, please have your children exit on the sidewalk side of the vehicle to keep them out of traffic. If this is not possible, we will do what we can to help get them promptly onto the sidewalk.

Fourth – we encourage you to utilize the entire sidewalk in front of the elementary. This will help us to move vehicles more efficiently.

You may ask, why do we need to move faster or unload faster? I have noticed at times we have several cars on the road waiting to pull in to drop off their students. I am concerned we are going to have an accident in front of the building. These measures are going to help us keep our community safe and get our kids to school in a timely manner.

If regard to the future of safety at SWCS, you may be getting information in the future on some other parking lot processes we are looking at to make it safer and more convenient to drop your student(s) off at SWCS.

Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation in keeping the school safe! I am attaching a guide I found for helping with student drop off and pick up.

Deputy Bradley  
SWCS SRO

## THINGS NOT TO DO

### Don't Park Or Get Out Of Vehicle

The drop-off and pick-up lane is for brief stopping to allow your child to get out. If your student needs help getting out of the car, use the school's parking lot.

## Don't Use Right Lane For Dropping Off

The drop off lane is a continuous moving lane. The line will move sporadically at times. Don't double park!

## Don't Use Your Phone

Don't use your phone in the drop-off / pick-up line, and try to keep yourself free from other distractions. Pay attention and make sure your kids are ready to hop out or in the car.

## Don't Cut The Line

This only jams up the flow, and it can make people pretty mad. Most importantly, though, it can make things dangerous for kids.

## Don't Walk Through the Car Line

If you have to pull into the parking lot to pick up your child, please wait until the last car is through before walking back and forth to the school. Waiting until the last car is through the line before pulling out, helps us to keep everyone safe.

## THINGS TO DO

### Move Swiftly

Make sure your kid is ready to get out with their backpack and jacket in hand. Don't put all their stuff in the trunk and then take five minutes unloading it. If you need to, use the parking lot. That's what it's there for.

### Pull To Farthest Possible Spot In Line

Don't just park where it's most convenient for you. Make sure you're pulling up and allowing for as many vehicles to pull in behind you as possible.

### Plan Ahead

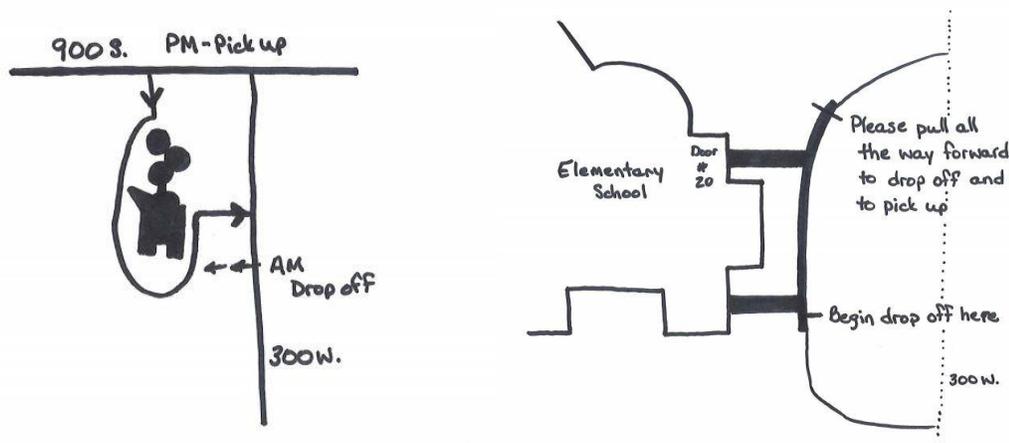
Say your lengthy and loving goodbyes and give them the hugs, kisses and their lunches at home — before you head out the door. Plus, if you attempt to give them love when dropping them off, you run the risk of embarrassing them.

### Be Polite

All parents have the same goal — to get their kids to and from school safely and in a timely manner. Do your part and be kind.

### Students Enter/Exit on the Driver's Side

Whenever possible students should enter and exit the car on the driver's side. This prevents them from being the position of being hurt by an oncoming car.





## **New Staff to SWES**

Southern Wells Elementary School is proud to welcome the following new staff members:

Mrs. Ivins ~ Art Teacher  
Ms. Inskip ~ Music Teacher  
Mrs. Stroup ~ 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher  
Deputy Bradley ~ Resource Officer  
Mrs. Miller ~ Resource Room Aide  
Mrs. Palmer ~ Classroom Aide

We are very fortunate to have these highly talented, enthusiastic, and dedicated staff members in our school. Please greet them when you have a chance.



## **Kindergarten Kick-Off**

Southern Wells Elementary held their annual Kindergarten Kick-Off on the first day of school. Although this year's celebration looked a lot different than in years past, the students all had a great time blowing bubbles and getting to know one another.



## **Girls Scouts Celebrate Teachers**

The Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana Michiana have very generously dropped off cookies for all of the Southern Wells Elementary teachers and staff. They have named all school staff members heroes! Girl Scouts are doing this to show appreciation to schools like SWES as they return to learning. Pictured are Girls Scouts Delinda Schortgen and Avery Geesaman along with Michelle Walters from the Girls Scouts of Northern Indiana Michiana.



## Grants Awarded

The Wells County Foundation awards “Teacher Creativity Grants” each year. The grants are given to projects/programs that support school curriculum and the Indiana State Standards. They are an opportunity for teachers to fund projects that challenge students to learn and to use critical thinking and 21st century skills. This spring the Wells County Foundation approved three grants – and two of them were awarded to Mr. Caleb Sleppy! The first grant is for an innovative projector that allows students to interact with what is shown on the projection. The iBEAM can be used on a screen, wall, or even the floor. This exclusive piece of technology encourages students’ love of movement by reacting to students’ actions. Students will be actively engaged with both their brains and their bodies during iBEAM lessons.

The second grant was an extension of a grant that was successful the previous year. It is for Virtual Reality headsets. These headsets allow students to take virtual field trips to national parks, foreign countries, and even space. This additional funding will allow SWES to have a set of the devices, giving a class an opportunity to experience this unique together. We appreciate Mr. Sleppy’s hard work in writing these grants. SWES is fortunate to have him on our team! We are also thankful to the Foundation for their support of local educators.



## Guidance Notes

Guidance Lessons ~ I am happy to be back in the classroom for guidance lessons! For the month of September we will address friendships and bullying. I look forward to getting to know all of our students this year!

United way is having a "Virtual Week of Caring." Some of our grade levels will be writing notes or drawing pictures to our essential workers and to local nursing home residents. Other ideas they have to help you and your family to make a difference:

- Read to a child. Be a guest reader on a Zoom call.
- Call a new mom or dad and encourage them to sign up their children on the imagination library-they can access that on the [unitedwaywells.org](http://unitedwaywells.org) website.
- Register to vote. Encourage your adult children. <https://www.indianavoters.in.gov>
- Make masks for your neighbors, family, and friends.
- Complete the Census 2020 form. <https://2020census.gov>
- Offer to pick up groceries for your neighbor with small children or an older adult.



## Garden Club

Garden Club had a brief meeting on Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> for any student in grades 4-6 who was interested in participating. If your student did not attend the meeting and would still like to join, please pick up a permission slip in the office or from Mrs. Barcus.

Meetings occur on the second Wednesday of the month with the first meeting after school on September 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:00 in Mrs. Barcus's room. A permission slip must be turned in on that day or BEFORE to be able to stay.



## Lunchroom News

Hope everyone is off to a good start this school year. Just wanted to make sure everyone is aware that we offer breakfast in the mornings. Your student would get off the bus and come directly to the elementary cafeteria. If your student is a car rider, they still need to come directly to the cafeteria to eat. They will be dismissed to go to their classroom. Breakfast price is \$1.50 for students and \$1.85 for adults. Reduced price is \$.30. If your student missed breakfast at home encourage them to eat at school. Breakfast has been proven to be the most important meal of the day.

Lunch prices are \$2.50 reduced \$.40 and adults are \$3.50. For lunch we are doing Offer vs Serve which means your child has to make some choices. They have to pick at least 3 out of the 5 components that make up a school meal. The 5 components are meat/meat alternate, grain, vegetables, fruit and milk. If they want all 5, they are welcome to pick those up. At lunch your student has 3 choices: the hot lunch, chef salad and sack lunch. The hot lunch is what is on the menu. The chef salad is a 6" plastic hinged container that has the lettuce, meat and cheese. The sack lunch is a jamwich, cheese stick and a bag of chips. Whichever meal your student chooses then they get to pick their fruits and vegetables and milk. They DO NOT have to pick up a milk, it is a choice. Kindergarten will be offered the sack lunch option after Christmas break and the chef salad option after Spring Break.

You can keep track of your student lunch account through Titan. It is accessible through the school website under Quick links. Please go in and set up an account for your student even if they don't eat regularly at school. This is your only way to see what your student is doing at lunch. You will be able to add all students in the household under one account. If you would like to make online payments to your student lunch account, you may. You can still send in cash or checks.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me with questions. I want this school year to be a great year in the lunchroom. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Chris Mossburg ~ Food Service Director, [cmossburg@swraiders.com](mailto:cmossburg@swraiders.com)



## Art Club

Art Club has had an overwhelming response to students wanting to join. Mrs. Ivins will be adding an additional Monday to the Art Club schedule to accommodate all students. She will be sending home information to students at a later date for the changes.



## PIE News

The Kindergarten Kick-off took place on August 7<sup>th</sup>. The teachers were able to go outside with the students and enjoyed blowing bubbles. Due to restrictions this year parents were not able to attend the bubble party. P.I.E would like to welcome the Class of 2033!

We will be having our annual Walk-a-Thon on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Papers will be sent home this month. Due to restrictions this year parents will not be able to walk with students.

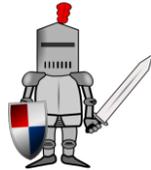
We are still collecting Box Tops. There have been a few changes to the Box Top program, but we are still accepting clean clipped Box Tops. Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. You can download the Box Tops for Education app through the Apple Store or Google Play. If you need more information please check out the website [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) or contact a PIE member.

Don't forget to register your Kroger card. Kroger donates 5% of its sales to customers who sign up for the community rewards program. Just go online to [www.kroger.com/account/enrollcommunityrewardsnow](http://www.kroger.com/account/enrollcommunityrewardsnow) and link your card to Southern Wells Elementary. You will know your card is linked when it shows on the bottom of your receipt that community rewards go to SW. Anyone can do this, so please share with your family and friends.

The Coffel's Market receipt program has been discontinued because of Coffel's Market changing ownership. Collecting receipts is no longer needed. Thank you to all who have done so in the past.

Our first meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p. Due to restrictions this year, the meeting will be held at Jenna Frauhiger's home. Please contact Jenna at (260) 827.8943 for the address. We would love to have you join us at the meeting and help us plan some fun events for the year. If you can't attend a meeting but have questions or ideas, please contact one of the officers.

2020-2021 P.I.E. Officers: President- Chella Leas (260) 804.0602, Vice President- Jenna Fraughier(260) 827.8943, Treasurer- Caryn Johnson (260) 417.2306, Secretary- Jessica Fiechter (260) 273-0534



## Raider of the Day

The follow students were awarded the Raider of the Day award: Rensmay Kochon, Carter Blinn, Maci Fox, Lilly Townsend, Adalynn Watson, John Osborn, Zayden Kratzer, Lana Simpson, Kendal Zavattaro, Micah Stults, Selic Bradley, Rowen Bennett, & Brooks Pryor