



Sandwich Community School District 430

"Learning Today, Shaping Tomorrow!"

It is hard to believe this, but we are a little over two months into the new year and I see smiling faces everywhere. We have had tons going on and it has been a great start to the year. Each building has had many opportunities for families to engage with our learning community as we continue to focus on creating a solid community foundation within our schools. From Literacy Nights, Curriculum Nights, Book Fairs, Fear Factor events, concerts, and athletics. We continue to provide opportunities and fun for students.

On the extracurricular side, we have many celebrations to highlight. Sunny Weber (sophomore) won Cross Country Regionals and Sectionals. She will represent Sandwich at the State meet on Saturday morning. Good luck to Sunny! It has been a spectacular season for our Varsity Football Team. They had a 6-3 regular season with a playoff win making them 7-3. Their next playoff game is at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday against Dyett at Gately Stadium in Chicago. We wish them all the best. We also want to recognize the Middle School Girls Cross Country team for qualifying for state and the Boys Cross Country runners, Eddie Ramirez and Logan Trigg for qualifying as individuals. We also had both Finley Taxis and Kendal Petre qualifying for the state golf meet at the middle school level. They are the first students to qualify for the MS state golf tournament from Sandwich. The district Renegade Regiment finished their season strong with placements including:

- 2nd Place in Class 1A at Plainfield South Marching Band Invitational
- 1st Place in Class 2A with best Music, Visual, GE, Auxiliary, and Percussion at the Normal Marching Invitational
- 1st Place in Class 2A with best Winds, Percussion, and Colorguard at the Metamora Band Invitational
- 1st Place in Class 2A with best Brass, Woodwinds, Marching, Percussion, and Colorguard at the Marengo Settlers Days

At the district level, we had record numbers of students (20) auditioning and making it into the ILMEA (Illinois Music Educators Association). This includes a rigorous audition on material prepared above and beyond the classroom. Congratulations to our fine arts department.

I would also like to acknowledge the donation of fireworks for our football game. This was a generous donation by a group of football fans. Finally, a big thank you to the donor who purchased the new weight equipment for SHS. This is the same donor who purchased the football scoreboard. These two donations completed both projects with no taxpayer funds and provided a significant improvement to our facilities. Thank you for all your support.

November is a busy month, but please don't forget to schedule time for a parent/teacher conference. Conferences will be held on November 20, 2023, from Noon until 8:00 p.m. and on November 21, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. until Noon. If you need to set up a conference outside of that time please reach out to your child's teacher or the main office.

Please join us on Facebook ([Click Here](#)). We post reminders about upcoming events, important new announcements, and celebrations that focus on our students and staff.

Unpredictable Weather is Coming

As we prepare for the weather in the midwest to change we want to communicate our plan for possible inclement weather days (snow days). Students will not have any academic tasks on inclement weather days (snow days). If we cancel school due to inclement weather, we will add a day to the school calendar. This year we added an “emergency makeup day” on April 1, 2024. This is a scheduled day off, but if we need to make up one snow day, it will be on this day. The district will communicate the last day of school once the winter season is over. This will allow us to maximize our in-person learning days for students.

Thomas Sodaro, Superintendent–Sandwich School District #430

Students Performance Celebration- School Report Cards

Each year the state of Illinois issues schools across the state a designation based on state testing, attendance, and survey data ([Illinois School Report Cards](#)). This year we are pleased to share that Woodbury, Haskin, PrairieView, Dummer, Sandwich Middle School, and Sandwich High School were rated with a Summative Designation of Commendable. This means these schools performed well compared to other schools within the state, including the performance of our subgroups. We want to take this opportunity to thank all of our staff for the support that they provide our students. Celebrations like this are not possible without a completely supportive system from Pre-K to 12. Thank you to all of our certified and non-certified staff!

We also know that the essential component to sustained success is home support systems. We want to thank all of our families who have helped support our students along the way. We will continue to rely on your support as we bring forward initiatives of positive change for our learners. Individual student assessment scores for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) will be sent home by individual buildings.

Veterans Day

As we prepare to honor our local Veterans on November 10 we wanted to share the importance of school on a day like this. Our goal as a district on Veterans Day is to ensure that all students have an authentic experience with our local Veterans. On Veterans Day we will have lessons across the district highlighting the service and dedication of our Veterans. Each building will also have a presentation/ceremony from local Veterans. We want this to be a day that students look forward to and we want students to appreciate the service of others. The day will begin at Sandwich High School for the raising of the flag and breakfast for the Veterans. Finally, thank you to our local service members for their dedication to our country and community!

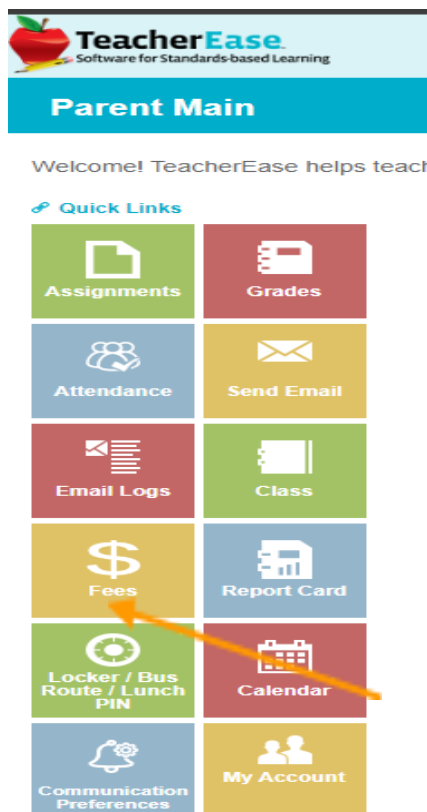
Important Dates

Please make sure you have the following important dates marked on your calendar.

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| • November 10 | Veterans Day (Ceremony at all schools with local Veterans) |
| • November 20 | No School-Parent/Teacher Conferences Noon-8:00 p.m. |
| • November 21 | No School Parent/Teacher Conferences 8:00 a.m.-Noon |
| • November 22 | No School |
| • November 23 | No School |
| • November 24 | No School |
| • December 1 | Student Fees Due |
| • December 13 | Holiday Choir Concert |
| • December 14 | Holiday Band Concert |
| • December 21 | Early Dismissal 1:10 p.m. |
| • December 22 | Winter Break Begins- No School |
| • January 9 | School Resumes |

Student Fees

We want to send a reminder to all families that it is time to pay your student fees for the 2023-2024 school year if you haven't already done so. All fees are due by December 1.



For those who would like to apply for free/reduced lunch, please do so using the following link: <https://www.freereducedlunch.com/sandwich430>. Families who qualify for free/reduced lunch will have their registration fees waived or reduced.

Food Service

Breakfast and lunch menus can be found on our website:

<https://www.sandwich430.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=65298&pageId=888511>

For those who would like to apply for free/reduced lunch, please do so using the following link: <https://www.freereducedlunch.com/sandwich430>. Families who qualify for free/reduced lunch will have their registration fees waived or reduced.

Sandwich School District Core Values

Last year our District Culture and Climate Committee created a set of district Core Values. These values are designed to be the cultural base of our learning community. We are using these core values as a set of expectations for staff and students. We want to ensure that our learning community not only supports academic growth, but that it embraces a high set of cultural expectations.

These District Core Values were presented to the District Leadership Team and the Board of Education for input. We also presented these traits to all staff on our first day back this year and we have started our implementation with students. Please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with our core values.

- [District Core Values](#)

Transportation

Currently, there is a shortage of bus drivers across the United States and Sandwich is no different. We continue to operate in an understaffed position this year. We are working hard to operate our service with a limited number of delays. If you are interested in a part-time job and would like to know how to become a bus driver, please call Transportation Director Sue Graham at 815-786-8325.

- Paid CDL Training
- Your children can ride along with you on your route.
- Flexible Scheduling
- Paid Holidays
- Starting pay over \$20.00 per hour

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