

JETSTREAM

A South-Western
City School
jcses.swcsd.us

“Providing the keys to unlock the future”

J. C. Sommer Elementary
3055 Kingston Ave., Grove City, Ohio 43123
(614) 801-8350



August Highlights

- 17 - Class list posted on the Parent Portal and in the building
- 21 - Open House and PTA Ice Cream Social
Last names A-M, please come 5:30-6:15
Last names N-Z come 6:15-7:00
- 22 - 5:30-6:15 Open House for Mrs. Colburns 4th graders
- 23 - (4th grade students continue to go daily from this day forward)
Staggered start for K-3:
Last name A-G, come today only.
- 24 - Staggered start for K-3:
Last names H-O today only.
- 25 - Staggered start for K-3:
Last names P-Z come today only.
- 29 - **All K-4 grade students** are attending
Daily now
- 30 - K vision screening

September Highlights

- 4- Labor Day - No School
- 6 - K Vision Screening
- 12 - 6PM PTA meeting in the Music Room
- 19 - School Pictures
- 20 - 3rd grade GOOD Program

As always please check the web site for our most current calendar.

<http://jcses.swcsd.us/>



Principal's Perspective

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! We have a few new staff members joining us this year. Kristine DeVore - K teacher, Christina Riggs - 2nd grade, Abigail Myers - ESL teacher, Ruth Johnson - Secretary, Laura Patton - ERC aide, Leah Parlagreco - Med Monitor. Danna Lotz has moved to a 3rd grade position.

For those of you who drop off or pick up your child(ren), please make sure you see the transportation form. There are different locations if your child is a car rider or a walker, be sure to check with your child's teacher.

Again, this year you will not be allowed to walk your child(ren) down the hallway to their classroom. You will need to say your good-byes at the doors. There are many staff members available to be sure your child gets to their classrooms. This is for the safety of your child(ren).

Another request that I have, involves again the safety of your boys and girls. If you need to change the way your student goes home the request must be submitted to us in writing or you must come in to the office. ONLY in an emergency situation would we expect you to call to request that your student's way to go home be changed. I REALLY appreciate your support in this. With 650 students I need to make sure that each and every boy and girl gets home safely.

Remember, again this year, we will be using the Parent Portal for our emergency medical information. Please update this important information as quickly as possible, if it is not complete, your child will be unable to go on field trips. Please see more information later in this newsletter.

Please check our website often for updates, on what is happening at our school. You will find all of our newsletters there, as well as a calendar of events. <http://jcses.swcsd.us/>

Enjoy your few remaining days of summer break - I can't wait for our kids to be back!!!!

Respectfully,

Elaine McLaughlin

School Times

8:00 a.m. - Our school opens for students. The children can come in to their classrooms or go to the cafeteria for breakfast.

8:20 a.m. - The tardy bell rings. All students are expected to be in their classroom. If they are not present in their room they will be counted as tardy.

2:30 p.m. - Our dismissal begins. All car riders are dismissed thru the parking lot. Bus riders and day care children are dismissed out the Kingston doors. Walkers are dismissed as soon as the buses leave also, out the Kingston doors. If you are a parent the drives and parks in the Bostic parking lot your kids will be dismissed with the walkers.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LINE & REMINDERS

614-801-8356

PLEASE call and let us know if your student will be absent. You may call anytime, this is a 24 hour hotline. We need to verify where each student is and your phone call will save us valuable time.

---Please help us stress the importance of being at school every day and being on time. When students are late, they miss important information, work, and routines that put them behind the rest of the day. Being late to school not only puts your child behind, but it disrupts the rest of the classroom. Your help in getting your child to school on time is greatly appreciated.

---Students that wish to eat breakfast at school need to arrive by 8:00 a.m., to assure they have time to eat and are not tardy to class.

Parking Lot Issues and Reminders

PLEASE remember these simple rules so everyone can get through the lot **SAFELY** and **QUICKLY**

In the **MORNING**-----

1. DO NOT GET out of your car, this causes backup in traffic flow. If you need to get out of your car please park in the lot.
2. While you are waiting in the line, please use that time to have your child gather their things and say your good byes so when it is your turn your child is ready to exit the car. For your child's safety HAVE YOUR CHILD EXIT ON THE CURB SIDE OF THE CAR.
3. Pull up as far as possible so other children can get out of their vehicles and the line continues to move. PLEASE FOLLOW DIRECTIONS FROM STAFF MEMBERS DIRECTING TRAFFIC.

In the **AFTERNOON**-----

1. DO NOT GET out of your car, this causes backup in traffic flow.
2. Please have your child's name in the window of your vehicle, this helps in having your child ready when you pull up.

KINGSTON AVENUE is NOT a drop off point for car riders or walkers. It is for bus drop off only! We have seen children dropped off and run across the street between cars and buses. Please consider the safety of your child and everyone else's children.

School Supplies and Instruction Fees

At the beginning of each school year, students are assessed a \$20 instructional fee. This pays for the purchase of classroom supplies for every student. **You do not need to purchase school supplies for your child.** If you think you may qualify for free or reduce lunch, please wait to see if you are approved before paying your fees. New this year, reduce lunch students do not have to pay school fees.

Some parents ask about donating items such as tissues, paper towels, markers, colored pencils, etc. Donations are always welcome, and teachers can provide you with guidance as to what items are most needed, if you wish to make a donation.

Online Payment of School Fees

As a convenience to parents, the South-Western City School District is now offering an online process for the payment of school fees. Please follow the steps below to pay your child's school fees online:

Step 1: Log into your Infinite Campus Parent Portal Account – click [here](#)

Step 2: Under the 'Family' on the left-hand sidebar, click on '**Payments**'
(This page will be pre-populated with your children's school fees. Select the one(s) you will be paying by entering the amount to be paid.)

Step 3: Click '**Continue**'

Step 4: Choose your payment method – Discover, MasterCard, Visa, or eCheck
(There is a convenience fee of \$1.00 charged to help defray credit card costs. The District is not making a profit on this. There is a minimum payment of \$5.00 required)

Step 5: Click '**Continue**'

Step 6: Review the information on your confirmation page.
(If a receipt is desired, enter a current e-mail address.)

Step 7: Click '**Make Payment**' to process the payment of fees.
(A receipt screen will appear. Click 'print' to print a copy of your receipt from this screen.)

Step 8: Log out of your Infinite Campus account.

Breakfast and Lunch at School

Mornings can be really hectic! The alarm doesn't go off...the kids don't want to get up...there's no time to eat breakfast before the bus comes...or they're just not ready to eat. If this sounds like your house, we have good news for you.

Breakfast is served at school! School breakfast will give your child a healthy start to the day. A nutritious breakfast helps students be more alert so they can learn more in class. Breakfast has vitamins and nutrients for a strong and healthy body.

Information on free and reduced lunches was sent home over the summer. If you did not receive one, we will be sending new ones at the beginning of the school year. Remember that we do not allow lunch charges. Parents may send in money to put in their child's account daily or for several meals or weeks at a time. Parents can also put money on their students' account using PayPams. (see info below)

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Breakfast is \$1.00 | Reduced \$.30 |
| Lunch is \$2.60 | Reduced \$.40 |
| Adult Lunch is \$3.25 | |

Milk is \$.50 per day

PayPAMS

Pre-Pay for Your Child's School Meals

- Pay for your child's meals via Internet or Telephone from the convenience of home of the office 24/7
- View your child's meal account balance
- Schedule automatic payments based on account balance
- receive low balance e-mail reminders
- View a report of daily spending and cafeteria purchases

There is now a [PayPAMS](#) Mobile App available to parents. This convenient app provides parents with the last three payment on account. Parents can also personalize the app by adding student pictures. The [PayPAMS](#) app is free for parents.

To download the app: Search for "[PayPAMS](#)" on your smart phone.

Log in with the same user name and password as you do on www.PAYPAMS.com.

Campus Parent Portal

One of the important features of Infinite Campus is the Campus Parent Portal. The Portal is available to every parent/guardian of a student enrolled within the South-Western City School District. Through the Portal, parents are able to access their students' information, such as class schedules, coursework, attendance and academic reports via the Internet. Parents will also be able to submit updates to emergency and family contact information via the Portal.

Parents can also determine how and where they wish to receive emergency communications, attendance calls, general announcement messages, and e-mail messages from teachers, school and the district.

Parents receive their Campus Portal Activation Key in the Back to School Letter mailed home in mid-August, prior to the start of school. Please keep this letter in a safe location and do not share your Activation Key with anyone – even your children.

If you have misplaced your Infinite Campus Activation Key, please call our school office and/or stop by the office with appropriate ID and we will provide you with the information.

Online Emergency Information Submission (formerly hand-written on green card stock)

- Step 1.** Log into your [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#) Account. The [link to the Portal](#) can be found under "Parent Resources" on the district Web site (www.swcsd.us).
- Step 2.** On the left hand side of your screen, click on "Annual Information Update."
- Step 3.** Select the correct button: "Click here to update current student information"
- Step 4.** Click on the "Begin Registration" button.
- Step 5.** Validate your account and click on the "Submit" button. This will load your previously entered Infinite Campus information.
- Step 6.** Follow the next six steps in succession. Each new screen will have information in yellow that needs to be edited (verified or changed). You will need to click on the "edit" button to review the information. Click on the "next" button to move to the next screen. You will need to click on the "save/continue" button throughout the process.
- Step 7.** Submit the final information.

DISTRICT INFORMATION SOURCES

For the most current information on your schools, please utilize the following district resources:

District Web Site

www.swcsd.us

Get information on school schedules, schedule pick up dates, open-house dates, lunch prices, upcoming events, community education classes, school board meeting dates and agendas, news alerts, and even directions to other schools in the district. Check back often for the most up-to-date information on your schools. Log into the Parent Portal to access your students' information, such as class schedules, coursework, attendance and academic reports as well as specify how and where you wish to receive home-school communications.

District E-mail Address

info@swcsd.us

Do you need to ask a question about the South-Western City School District or public education in general? Are you looking for online resources to help you? E-mail our information center to get an answer to your questions or ask about available resources.

Community Service Line

(614) 801-8981

Do you ever have a question that pops into your head and you don't know where you can call after hours? The district has a 24-hour voicemail box that you can call. Leave your name, message, and telephone number and someone from the district's communications office will call you back with the information you are seeking.

SWCSD Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/SWCSD

For good news posts, fundraising activities, alumni reunions, pictures and more, become a fan of the South-Western City School District Facebook page.

SWCSD Twitter Page

[@SWCSD](https://twitter.com/SWCSD)

We tweet live during all SWCSD School Board meetings. We also tweet school closings and good news. Follow us on Twitter for more information.

GIANT EAGLE

Shop. Scan. Support our School. Apples for the Students started again on October 1. This program is a great way for our school to earn funds for our schools overall educational needs. Is your Giant Eagle Advantage Card registered? Now's the time to check. All you need is our school code 5268 to verify a card or register a new card.

1. Visit www.gianteagle.com/AFTS.
2. Enter your Giant Eagle Advantage Card number (which appears under the bar code)>
3. Enter the school code. 5268
4. Done! Please encourage your extended family and friends to register too.

Box Tops for Education

Help our school earn cash by clipping Box Tops from products and sending them to school!

Each one is worth 10¢ and our school can use the cash for whatever it needs.

See a list of products at BTFE.com/products. Please consider sending in your box tops, they are very helpful.

The J. C. Way

Be Safe:

Be safe physically and emotionally
Maintain a non-threatening environment
Give put-ups and appreciations
Keep hands and feet to yourself

Be Responsible:

Do what you are supposed to do
Keep on trying
Use self-control
Think before you act
Be accountable for your choices
Clean up after yourself

Be Respectful:

Treat others how you want to be treated
Accept differences
Use good manners
Be considerate of the feelings of others
Deal peacefully with anger

Be Honest:

Be honest with self and others
Do what you'll say and you'll do
Have the courage to do the right thing
Take ownership of actions and words

Be Caring:

Be kind
Be compassionate and show you care
Express gratitude
Forgive others
Help people in need
Strive for growth
Always try your best
Ask questions
Make all you do worthy of pride
Continually working on your challenge areas
Move forward academically and socially

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Recognizing the efforts and achievements of students is important to all of us at J.C. Sommer Elementary. Noticing positive and constructive behaviors helps to reinforce these actions and encourages children to strive to meet their academic and social goals. This year teachers and staff in our school will be recognizing students who have done something commendable by sending Jet Mail to these students and their families. Families will receive a Jet Letter announcing the occasion and students will receive a certificate naming a particular behavior or accomplishment that the adult believes is noteworthy. We encourage families to celebrate this event with their children in some special way and to continue to support our students in all the ways that they are striving for growth here at J.C. Sommer.

J.C. SOMMER STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Our 4th grade students will be given the opportunity to become Student Ambassadors. Student Ambassadors are 4th grade students that have applied and been recommended by their teacher. These students will be greeting all of our children when they enter the school. In addition to offering a friendly greeting, ambassadors may help students with doors, give directions or gentle reminders to walk safely in the hallway. They also assist in the cafeteria during breakfast, helping younger children with milk cartons and breakfast supplies. If a new student arrives, a Student Ambassador will be available to give a tour of the building and introduce the new student to teachers and staff. When the selection is complete, we will list the names of new Student Ambassadors.

How Important is Reading at Home?

If your child reads 5 minutes at home each day, that totals 900 minutes for an entire school year. Your child will be exposed to 282,000 words and perform in the 50th percentile on reading tasks. If your child reads 20 minutes at home each day, totaling 3600 minutes for the school year, he/she will be exposed to 1,800,00 words! This will put your child in the 90th percentile in reading when compared to his/her peers. Please encourage your child to read nightly in order to reach the goal of becoming a successful reader and a life-long learner.

Tips for Listening to your Child Read

1. What can I do when my child stops at a hard word?

Say....

"That's a hard part, you found it!"

"What can you do to help yourself?"

"Try something"

"Go back and reread."

"Think about the story, what would make sense?"

"What's the biggest first part you know?"

"What word would sound right?"

"Could it be.....?" (suggest a word)

****Always have your child reread the sentence when he/she has worked on a word. This will help keep the meaning even when solving words.**

2. What can I do after a mistake has been made?

Let your child read on. He/She will either notice the mistake or not notice it.

If the mistake doesn't make sense, use one or more of tips listed under number 1.

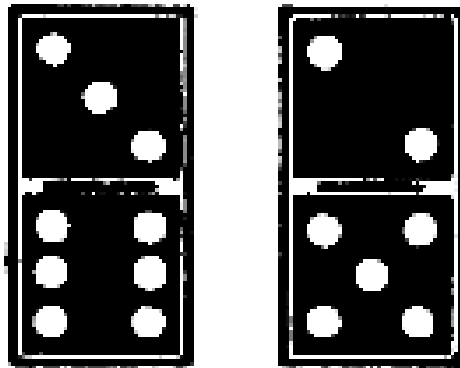
****Wait for your child to finish reading a whole sentence before pointing out that something tricked him/her. Sometime he/she will notice the mistake and reread.**

MATH IDEAS

Quick, Easy, and Correct

Whether your student is busy subitizing, unitizing, or decomposing, his goal is to solve the problem in the most efficient manner. I often describe efficiency to students as solving a problem in a quick, easy, and correct way.

For our kindergarteners, it is recognizing that I don't have to count all of the dots on a ten frame. If the top row is full, then I know that there are more than 5 dots so I can start counting at the number 5 and "count up" the dots in the bottom row. Same as with "6".



Student: "7,8,9" Student: "5, 6, 7"

For our older students, efficiency is being able to analyze a problem and decide which strategy to use so that they can mentally solve the problem with as little effort as possible. Adults usually use a traditional algorithm, so here is a peek at some other strategies. For example: Two addition strategies that students learn are called Friendly Numbers and Place Value.

$399 + 451$ would be decomposed into:

Hundreds ($300 + 400 = 700$)

Tens ($90 + 50 = 140$)

And ones ($9+1 = 10$)

The place value sums are then recomposed into:

$$700 + 140 + 10 = 850$$

While using this strategy, a student can arrive at the correct answer but it is awkward because of the new hundred and ten that is created. In this case the Friendly Number Strategy is much more efficient:

$$399 + 451 = (399+1) + (451-1) \quad 400 + 450 = 850$$

By subtracting 1 from the 451 and then adding it to the 399, the student creates two very "friendly" numbers that are easy to add mentally.

So it is important not only for your student to understand a wide variety of strategies but also for them to understand when to use each strategy so that their work is the most efficient.