

POINTER PRIDE

South Point
Local Schools

South Point High School Achievements

WELCOME MR. SANDERS

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SPHS would like to welcome Jeff Sanders as the new assistant principal. Mr. Sanders joins South Point after 16 years as band director at Ironton. He graduated from old OVC foe Buffalo High School, and received degrees from Glenville State College and Marshall University. He still lives in West Virginia with his wife and their six children. Mr. Sanders says he is excited to be a part of Pointer Nation and has quickly come to appreciate the staff and students. Being a WVU fan, wearing Blue & Gold has been welcomed.

PEP CLUB!

We've got SPIRIT, yes we do! We've got SPIRIT, how about you? The SPHS Pep Club is running in full swing. There are 48 students who are members of the Pep Club. At Pep Club meetings, the club sponsor hosts an open discussion to generate ideas for upcoming sporting events. Items up for discussion include the integration of student section themes, how the section can become more inclusive and how to encourage more students to attend games. The Pep Club also creates posters and banners to be displayed at the games and around the school building. We show our spirit so loud you can hear it!



SOPHOMORE EXCELLENCE!

A shout out to brag on my sophomores for their persistent effort in class, most notably working on their literary analysis and writing. The year is still young, but they are demonstrating sincere desire to enhance their reading and writing skills. Their most recent Argumentative Writing was a prompt ("Are the Mallards happily married?") based on a short story called "The Story of an Hour", written by Kate Chopin back in the late 1800's about a young lady (Louise Mallard) who is torn in her devotion to her husband and her desire for independence. English 10 students' writing is already showing serious growth. Keep up the great work, guys and gals--GO DAWGS!

Mr. Halcombe

BURLINGTON ELEMENTARY BRINGING BACK THE SCHOOL SPIRIT

Burlington Elementary has been working hard on building school spirit for our young pointers. Mrs. Bapst, our music teacher, continues to work with the students on learning the school song and ensuring that they stand, clap and sing the words. Each Friday, we follow the Pledge of Allegiance with "Hail to the Pointers".

Also on Fridays, we have created a competition between our primary and intermediate students on which group shows the most school spirit. Students are encouraged to wear their blue and gold, and whichever group has the most participation will earn the legendary "Spirit Stick!" The winner is announced at noon during the 2nd lunch where our primary students are invited into the cafeteria for a mini pep rally that concludes with the singing of the school song once again. Our students are proud to show their pointer pride!

SPMS ONE SCHOOL, ONE BOOK

In an effort to increase literacy and awareness of different cultures at SPMS, the entire student body will be reading and participating in activities related to the novel, *A Long Walk to Water*.

A Long Walk to Water begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home; she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way. Includes an afterword by author Linda Sue Park and the real-life Salva Dut, on whom the novel is based, and who went on to found "Water for South Sudan."

MATH TIPS FOR PARENTS

- 1.) Be positive about Math and praise your child's math abilities.
- 2.) Show Your student math at work in the real world. For example let them measure ingredients when you bake or allow them to watch you balance your checkbook.
- 3.) Make math a game. Math games are a fun way to learn.
- 4.) Communicate with your child's teacher about math skills to focus on.
- 5.) Ask questions and encourage student to share what they know about math.
- 6.) Make a quiet comfortable place in your home for learning.
- 7.) Show your child a list of careers and how each applies mathematics in their work.
- 8.) Allow your student to be the teacher.
- 9.) Spend time with word problems and math vocabulary.
- 10.) Incorporate technology into math studies at home.

Parent Information

If you or anyone you know is experiencing homelessness as defined below, please contact T.J. Howard—South Point Local Homeless Liaison at 740-377-4315.

Definition of homelessness:

The McKinney-Vento law says that homelessness includes individuals who do not have a fixed, regular and adequate home because they have lost their own home. This means:

- Individuals who have lost their own home, suffering a financial hardship or similar reason.
- Individuals who are sharing the housing of others based on the definition above.
- Individuals who are living in hotels or motels or in campgrounds or trailer parks that are not viewed as year round homes because they do not have accommodations, such as heat or running water.
- Individuals who are living in emergency shelters or who have been abandoned in hospitals.
- Individuals who are living in cars, parks, or public spaces.

Title One/IDEA

South Point Elementary and Burlington Elementary are both Title One schools. Title One is a federal assistance program that allocates resources to help schools better educate students. Both elementary schools have School Wide Programs which means they are schools with more than 40% low-income families. Title One programs offer districts opportunities for smaller classes, additional teachers and aides, additional training for staff, extra time for instruction, a variety of teaching methods, counseling and mentoring, and college and career readiness. IDEA funds are allocated for students with disabilities. If you have any input about how South Point Local Schools can use Title One/IDEA Part B funding to better meet the needs of your child, please contact Title One Coordinator T.J. Howard at 740-377-4315 or thoward@southpoint.k12.oh.us.

Reading Tips For Parents

- Read with your child everyday.
- Children who see their parents reading want to read too.
- Allow students to read and think aloud.
- Provide a variety of reading materials in the household.
- Allow more time for reading and less TV time and video games.
- Ask your child questions as you read with them
- Praise reading progress and skill development.
- Provide a quiet, comfortable place in the home for the student to read.

South Point Elementary Pointers Afterschool Program

South Point Elementary is excited to announce the start of the Pointers Afterschool Club (P.A.C.). The before and after school program began on Monday, October 4, 2021. The purpose of the program is to offer homework help to our students and to provide enrichment activities. Students staying after school enjoy a healthy snack before an instructional period which focuses on completing assignments, studying for tests, reading books and general tutoring in all content areas. The second half of every after school session offers students a chance to play games, do crafts, cook and participate in a variety of extra curricular activities. The after school program runs Monday through Thursday from 3:25-5:40 pm.

The P.A.C. before school program runs Monday through Friday from 7:10-8:25 am. Much like the instructional period after school, students focus on completing school work but may also participate in activities designed to enhance their learning experience at South Point Elementary. Students may utilize Chromebooks to access many of the digital programs offered in our school.

South Point Elementary, “A great place to learn!”

Burlington Elementary School Continues Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant

This program provides opportunities for students to receive academic supports as well as enrichment activities. The program supports high quality out-of-school time learning opportunities. For example students will receive extra support in Math and English Language Arts as well as activities such as learning to play guitar. Students will also be making stuffed animals from kits donated by Gallia-Vinton ESC as well as completing many art projects. Burlington Elementary has partnered with Briggs Library to provide a number of fun and exciting enrichment activities. The before school program runs Monday-Friday from 7:10am-8:25am. The after-school program runs from 3:25pm-5:40pm. Beginning our second year of the program we are looking for community partners who can provide resources to assist us in providing meaningful enrichment to our students. If there are local businesses who might like to partner with the school district please contact me at thoward@southpoint.k12.oh.us.

South Point Middle School Continues Nita M. Lowey 21st Community Learning Center Grant

South Point Middle School continues the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Learning Center Grant to operate before and after-school programs. South Point Local in collaboration with the Gallia-Vinton ESC applied for the competitive grant and received notice that SPMS was one of 47 new grants awarded last year in Ohio. The grant provides out of school opportunities for academic supports and enrichment activities. South Point Middle School is looking to partner with local businesses in the area to sustain the enrichment provided through the before and after school program. Before school runs 6:50-7:35 and afterschool runs 2:35-4:40.

South Point Preschool Staff and Students!

The time has come to enjoy our "spook-tacular" Preschool Halloween Parade and Party on Thursday, October 28 at both elementary preschool locations. Your classroom teacher will inform you of the goodies needed for the party. The children may wear their costumes to school that day as long as it is comfortable enough for them to interact in their classroom. Unfortunately due to COVID, parents will not be able to attend, but we will be sure to take pictures to share with you!!!!

Superintendent's Corner

Hello Fellow Pointers!

Welcome to another edition of Pointer Pride, the South Point Local District Newsletter. We are nine weeks into the school year and under the circumstances, things are going pretty well. This is my thirtieth year as an employee of South Point Schools, and my ninth year as superintendent. I have to admit, these last few years have been the most difficult. I am truly honored to serve the students, parents, and community of South Point, especially during these challenging and unprecedented times. I can assure you that everyone at South Point Schools, including myself, our staff, and the board of education are doing our very best to keep our students and staff safe. We are all working hard to adjust to this new normal in the school setting and are making every effort to provide a positive experience for our students. We have adapted quickly by providing Chrome Book Computers for every student in grades first through twelfth. We have purchased new online programs for our students to help them access and supplement the curriculum. We are very proud of our buildings, technology, transportation, and athletic facilities at South Point Schools. Our facilities are second to none in the county and/or the Tri State. I would like to thank all of our students, parents, and community members for being patient and supportive, but also for trusting us to educate your kids. As an elderly member of the South Point class of 1978, I can truly say that I am Proud to be a Pointer!

-- Mark Christian, Superintendent—South Point Local Schools

