

# POINTER PRIDE

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South Point  
Local Schools

## South Point High School Achievements

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- Meredith Riley represented South Point High School as she advanced to the State Tennis Tournament this year as a freshman. She was number one seed in the South-Eastern District. She went undefeated in both the sectional and district tournaments. She was top 16 in the state for division 2 singles. Meredith also earned all A's in the 1st nine weeks of this year. Congratulations to Miss Riley. We look forward to seeing her achievements both in the classroom and on the court.
- Austin Webb may no longer play football, but he's still a Heisman Award winner. Webb was selected by the Heisman Trophy Trust and presenting sponsor Acceptance Insurance as a 2020 South Point High School Heisman winner. The Heisman High School Scholarship program extends the Heisman prestige to the nation's most esteemed high school seniors by celebrating and rewarding outstanding male and female scholar-athletes. The Heisman High School Scholarship program honors the nation's most accomplished, community-minded high school senior athletes. Recipients of the High School Heisman realize that the most important victories happen not only on the field, but also in their schools and communities.



During his time at South Point High School, Austin has participated in football, basketball, and track. Austin excels in the classroom and is currently ranked first in his graduating class. He strives to serve the community through his basketball talents where he assists annually with the various athletic camps sponsored by the South Point High School athletic department. As a member of the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta, Webb also plays an important role each year in the South Point High School Christmas Project where high school students are paired with elementary-aged students for an unforgettable Christmas experience.

## (Continued)

Austin plans to sign a National Letter of Intent to continue his academic and athletic career at West Liberty University in West Liberty, West Virginia, where he has earned a full scholarship because of his academic and athletic talents. He selected West Liberty University because of the exceptional coaching staff and the winning tradition of the basketball program. Congratulations on your selection as a 2020 High School Heisman recipient for South Point High School.

- Serving others is always Jill Aylsworth's pleasure at her part-time job at Chick-Fil-A, but her community-driven mindset recently earned her the distinction of being selected as a 2020 High School Heisman recipient for South Point High School. Jill was selected for this award by the Heisman Trophy Trust and presenting sponsor Acceptance Insurance. For nearly thirty years, the High School Heisman Scholarship program has expanded upon the prestige of the collegiate Heisman Trophy to the country's most talented high school senior student-athletes. These service-oriented seniors understand that the most important victories do not simply happen in the athletic arenas, but also within their towns and schools through their contributions. Throughout her time at South Point High School, Jill has been a member of the volleyball and softball teams. Jill works hard in the classroom and participates in the College Credit Plus Program in conjunction with Ohio University Southern. Additionally, Jill is a member of the Student Council. Outside of school, Jill is employed at the Ashland Chick-Fil-A. She is a member of the Rho Kappa Society, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, IMPACT Prevention Club, Pep Club, and the Marshall University S.C.O.R.E.S. Team. Jill plans to attend college in Fall 2021 and is in the process of narrowing down her college decision. Based upon her high school performance, Jill will be a tremendous asset to any university she elects to attend. Congratulations on your selection as a 2020 High School Heisman recipient for South Point High School.
- The South Point Pointers JV Football Team finished the season 4-1-1 and enjoyed an undefeated record in the OVC. The defense led the way by only giving up 20 total points all season. Taylor Smith was a key figure for the Pointers defense recording multiple tackles for loss in every game. Jordan Ermolavich, the defensive secondary, had an interception in every game but one. Offensively, Blaine Freeman carried the majority of the rushing load and scored multiple touchdowns. Other athletes that played a significant role on the offense were Elijah Wilburn, Devin Magill, Jordan Ermolavich, Taylor Smith, Gage Chapman and JT Morrison. Towards the end of the season, many of these players saw playing time in varsity games. This amazing group of young men played with grit and determination all season and that earned them the nickname "The Future."

## 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.

## 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.

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## South Point Elementary Teacher Receives Grant

### **South Point Elementary School teacher Sheila Walter RECEIVES \$500 GRANT FROM AUTHOR JAMES PATTERSON AND SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS**

*Mrs. Walter's grant is part of a \$2.5 million personal donation from Patterson, and a Scholastic Book Clubs match of 2.5 million Bonus Points*

South Point – October 20, 2020 – Bestselling author James Patterson and Scholastic Book Clubs today announced that South Point Elementary teacher Sheila Walter is to receive a grant of \$500 and 500 Scholastic Book Clubs Bonus Points for the purpose of building classroom and at-home libraries for her students. Mrs. Walter is among 5,000 teachers throughout the United States who received a grant, part of a \$2.5 million personal donation made by James Patterson.

### South Point Elementary Receives Momentum Award

The Momentum Award is presented by the State Board of Education and recognizes schools for exceeding expectations in student growth for the year. Schools must earn straight A's on all Value-Added measures on the report card. The school or district must have at least two Value-Added subgroups of students, which includes gifted, lowest 20% in achievement, and students with disabilities. South Point Elementary was one of only 173 schools in the state to receive this award.

## Burlington Elementary School Receives 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.

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

South Point Middle School has been awarded 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 this year in Ohio. The grant provides out of school opportunities for academic supports and enrichment activities. South Point Middle School students are currently constructing a greenhouse as one of the after-school activities. They are also creating a broadcasting club with student led news and a book club which they are developing in partnership with Briggs Public Library in South Point.

## Welcome Preschool Staff and Students!

There have been many exciting changes this school year and South Point Preschool Programs are no exception. After moving all the staff, furniture and students to new locations from the Early Childhood Center (classes are now at each elementary building), all 5 classrooms are up and running. The Ohio Department of Education conducted an on-site visit in September and provided both locations with their license to operate. The maintenance staff has built new preschool playgrounds and spent countless hours moving and shuffling furniture and equipment. Everyone has worked together to welcome the preschool staff and students to their new locations. We are excited to provide these needed educational services to our youngest Pointers!

## Superintendent's Corner

Hello Fellow Pointers!

Welcome to another edition of Pointer Pride, the South Point Local District Newsletter. We are eleven weeks into the school year and things are going surprisingly well, all things considered. This is my twenty-ninth year of employment at South Point Schools, and eighth year as superintendent, and I must admit, this year has been the most challenging. I feel honored to serve the students, parents, and community of South Point, especially during these difficult and unprecedented times. I assure you that everyone at South Point, including myself, our staff, and the board of education are taking every precaution to ensure that our students are as safe as possible. We are working diligently to adjust to this "new normal" of school attendance. We are fortunate that we were able to provide Chrome Book Computers to every student in grades first through twelfth. We have provided approximately 1400 Chrome Book Computers to our students. We have purchased new virtual online programs for all remote/virtual students in all grades to help them access the curriculum when they are not able to attend school in person. We have provided "hot spots" around the district to help students connect to our Wi-Fi when they are not in school. We are proud to say that the buildings, technology, transportation, and athletic facilities at South Point are second to none in the county and/or the Tri State. I would like to close by thanking all of our students, parents, and community members for being patient and supportive, but most of all for trusting us to educate their kids. As a proud member of the South Point class of 1978, I can truly say without reservation, I am Proud to be a Pointer!

Mark Christian, Superintendent  
South Point Local Schools