



# SDA TODAY

Your connection to what's happening at District #27.

## SCHOOL OPENS AUGUST 15, 2024

Welcome Back to the 2024-2025 School Year! We are excited to welcome you back to the Syracuse Dunbar Avoca Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year! As we prepare to embark on another academic year, we look forward to the wonderful opportunities and experiences that await our students.

We are pleased to share some important details regarding the start of the school year:

**School Start Time:** School will begin for all students at 8:20 a.m.

**Dismissal Times:** Elementary school will dismiss at 3:15 p.m., while the secondary and middle schools will dismiss at 3:28 p.m.

**Meals:** Breakfast and lunch will be served daily.

**Transportation:** Buses will run their regular routes, and bus drivers will be contacting parents about expected pick-up times for students.

We understand that a strong partnership between home and school is essential for our students' success. We encourage you to stay engaged with your child's education, participate in school events, and communicate regularly with teachers and staff. Together, we can create a positive and enriching school experience for all our students.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. We look forward to a fantastic year filled with growth, learning, and memorable moments. Welcome back, and let's make the 2024-2025 school year our best one yet! Go Rockets!!!!

— Warm regards,  
David Kraus, Superintendent

### SCHOOL PICTURES

As in the past, we will be using the prepaid picture plan for all students. All pictures will be taken on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024. Additional details will be sent home with each student the first week of school. Picture retakes will be Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

## School Closing Information

There will be times due to inclement weather when it will be necessary to call school off or dismiss students early because of bad weather. Parents will receive a text and recorded message sent to your cell phone. Please ensure your phone number is updated and current in our system. School closing information will also be available on TV channels 3, 6, 7, 8 & 10 and B103 and posted on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

We also use a system whereby parents/guardians are called with school closing/early dismissal information. We have contracted with a company that can call each of our parents with a recorded message in a matter of five to six minutes. However, no system is perfect and you are still encouraged to listen for radio and TV announcements.

## Open House Scheduled for 2024-25 School Year

Elementary, Middle and High School offices will be open from **July 31st to August 2nd and August 5th-7th from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** for parents and students wanting to drop off school supplies, try out lockers and complete necessary paperwork. Teachers will NOT be available to visit with parents and students during these times. Please honor this expectation, so that teachers may prepare themselves for the start of the school year. Parents and students coming to school at these times should check in with the office secretaries upon arriving.

Teachers will be available to greet parents and students on **Tuesday, August 13th** at the following times.

Grades	Times
PreK & 1	4:30-6:00 p.m.
K, 2 & 3	5:30-7:00 p.m.
5 & 7	4:30-6:00 p.m.
4, 6 & 8	5:30-7:00 p.m.
9-12	5:30-7:00 p.m.

## School Phone Numbers

High School	402-269-2381
Middle School	402-269-2388
Elementary	402-269-2382
District Office	402-269-2383

# NEW SDA FACULTY

A special welcome is extended to all of the new faculty members who have joined our staff. Please take any opportunity you can to make the following newcomers feel welcome and part of the SDA family:

## **Mrs. Julie Beach – Language Arts**

- Mrs. Beach is a Syracuse alum and previously taught at Johnson County Central. She will be teaching 7th-8th grade English Language Arts. This will be her tenth year in education.

## **Mr. Kieren Feeney – Spanish**

- Mr. Feeney graduated from UNK in May of 2024 and will be teaching High School Spanish.

## **Mrs. Stacy Johnson – Special Education**

- Mrs. Johnson comes to us from Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools where she has taught High School Special Education for the past 6 years.

## **Mr. David Kay – Math**

- Mr. Kay most recently has taught at Quest Academy in Omaha and also teaches college classes for Metropolitan Community College.

## **Mrs. Andrea Kusek – Family & Consumer Science**

- Mrs. Kusek comes to us from Louisville Public Schools, where she has taught FACS for two years.

## **Mrs. Holly Mosel – Science**

- Mrs. Mosel comes to us from Johnson-Brock where she has taught High School Science for the past 7 years.

## **Mrs. Alexis Pavlik – Science/Math**

- Mrs. Pavlik previously taught at Papillion LaVista. She will be teaching 7th-8th grade Science and Math. She will also be coaching high school cross country and track. This will be her sixth year in education.

## **Mrs. Maryn Phillips – Counselor**

- Ms. Phillips previously was a school counselor in Homer. She will serve grades 4-8 as the Middle School Counselor. She will also be sponsoring the JH Student Council. This will be her second year in education.

## **Mrs. Morgan Richards – SPED Director**

- Mrs. Richards previously taught at Louisville Public Schools as an Elementary Resource Teacher. She earned her Master of Education, Education Administration in 2023 and will assume the Special Education Director position this year. She is in her 8th year in education.

## **Mrs. Debra Sears – School Nurse**

- Mrs. Sears will be our new school nurse for the district. She most recently worked at St. Mary's Community Hospital.

## **Mrs. Katie Tonkin – 5th Grade**

- Mrs. Tonkin previously taught in Syracuse and Conestoga as well as served as an SDA school board member. This year, she will be teaching 5th grade English Language Arts and Social Studies. She will also be sponsoring SOS. This will be her eighteenth year in education.

## **Mrs. Addie Wynn – 6th Grade**

- Mrs. Wynn previously taught 1st grade in Louisville. At SDA, she will be teaching 6th grade English Language Arts. She will also be coaching JH volleyball. This will be her second year in education.

## **Lunch App Available!**

You can find the lunch menus on our website at [sdarockets.org](http://sdarockets.org) or at the following link: <https://myschoolmenus.com/organizations/1961>, click on "Find a school..." and pick SDA Public Schools and under "Find a menu..." pick the menu you'd like to view, click "Go". It will then bring up the menu and you will have the option to download it.

## **Telephone Message Capability**

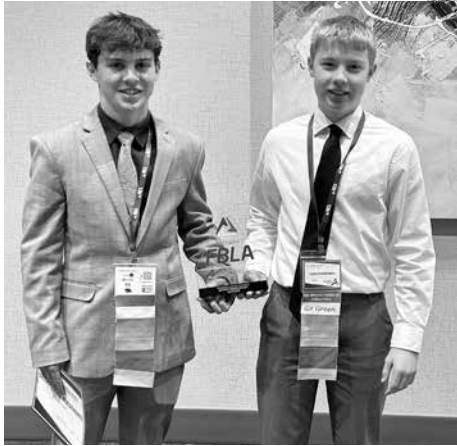
When calling the regular school number (**402-269-2381**), callers have the option of leaving a brief message when a school attendant is not available to answer the phone, i.e., early morning. When dialing this number from 4:00 a.m. until 7:00 a.m., patrons have the capability of leaving a message pertaining to their children. If you need information about either of the above services, please feel free to call the school.

**Parents/Guardians:** Please remember to call the school before 8:30 a.m. each day your student is absent, whether for illness or any other reason. It is necessary for us to make contact with a parent/guardian when a student is absent in order for us to keep accurate attendance and to provide you with the assurance that your student has arrived at school safely. Thank you for your cooperation.



# FBLA State Leadership Conference

Syracuse High School FBLA students competed in the State Leadership Conference from April 11th-13th. This is an invaluable experience for students interested in the business world! Colton Sprague and Isaac Hestermann placed 1st in the Entrepreneurship competition. Colton Sprague, Jayden Meyer, and Griffin Bokamper placed 5th in Business Plan. Colton Sprague placed 8th in Securities and Investments. Jace Stinson placed 4th in Financial Statement Analysis. Griffin Bokamper placed 5th in spreadsheet applications. Aselen Farley and Jace Stinson placed 8th in the American Enterprise project presentation. Reagan Wilhelm received honorable mention awards in Introduction to Business Communication and Mayson Sprague received honorable mention awards in Introduction to Marketing Concepts.



*Pictured at left: Colton Sprague and Isaac Hestermann, 1st Place Team in Entrepreneurship. Pictured above: All conference attendees from SDA.*

## Senior Picture Guidelines and Deadline

### Recommended Composition:

- Color only, No black and white photo.
- Head and shoulders, no full body and no lying down.
- Background should be neutral, try to avoid a cluttered background.
- Remember your picture will only appear as 1.5 x 2 inches in the yearbook.

### Photo Submitted:

- If you submit a photo it should be wallet size.
- The photo should be in the form of a professional print or a **JPEG image with at least a 300 dpi resolution (please save the senior's name, with last name, first name, studio initials in parenthesis ( ). If digital images are sent, please send a separate request to verify it was received.**
- Submit color pictures.
- If a photo is not received, or you submit a poor quality photo, the yearbook staff reserves the right to use your school ID picture.

To provide the school with your senior picture, you can do the following:

- Photographer will submit photo for you
- Place in Pam Pfeiffer's mailbox via the school office
- E-mail to [ppfeiffer@sdarockets.org](mailto:ppfeiffer@sdarockets.org)
- Deliver to Mrs. Pfeiffer's room.

**Senior pictures are due no later than December 15, 2024.**

**Baby pictures may also be submitted at the same time as the senior portrait. Baby pictures will be scanned and saved for the senior video. Please send in the picture to be scanned if it isn't already digital. Taking a picture of a picture is usually a poor-quality image.**

Please give this information to your photographer at the time of your portrait sitting.

If you have any questions about the specifications, please contact the journalism advisor, Pam Pfeiffer at school 402-269-2381 or [ppfeiffer@sdarockets.org](mailto:ppfeiffer@sdarockets.org)



# IMMUNIZATION LAW

In 1994, a revised law pertaining to immunization of students went into effect. The revamped law calls for parents/guardians to document the immunization dates for pupils before they enroll their child/children in school or have signed waivers before they enroll. Previously, pupils were allowed to enroll while their parents and school officials dealt with getting the proper immunizations or paperwork. The only exception in the law now is for active-duty military personnel, who have 60 days after enrollment to present immunization dates.

In addition, parents who do not want to comply with the immunization requirements will no longer be able to simply sign a general waiver. They will need to have a doctor's signature saying the immunizations would be medically risky or a notarized affidavit saying immunizations conflict with the family's religious beliefs. A summary of the School Immunization Rules and regulations is provided with this newsletter.

## Senior Citizen Passes Available in District #27

Senior citizen passes are available for all people residing in Affiliated School District #27 who are 60 years of age or older. These passes can be obtained from the high school principal's office upon proof of age.

## Birth Certificate Requirements

Students enrolling for the first time in School District #27 (kindergarten and other first-time enrollees) must provide either (1) a copy of the student's birth certificate or (2) other reliable proof of the student's identity and age accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.

# Nebraska School Immunization Requirements

- Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (whooping cough)) Vaccine: 1 dose
- DTaP, DTP DT or Td Vaccine: 3 doses, **one given on or after the 4th birthday**
- Polio Vaccine: 3 doses
- Hepatitis B Vaccine: 3 doses
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella), or MMRV (Combination Shot of Measles, Mumps, Rubella & Varicella (Chickenpox)) Vaccine: 2 doses, given on or after 12 months of age; separated by at least one month
- Pneumococcal: 4 doses
- Varicella (Chickenpox) or MMRV Vaccine: 2 doses, given on or after 12 months of age; written documentation (including year) of Varicella disease from the parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had chickenpox, they do not need any Varicella shots.

## Shots that are strongly recommended by CDC (Centers for Disease Control):

- Menactra/Menveo; Bexero/Trumemba (Meningitis): 1 dose starting at age 11-15 and/or one dose after 16 years of age. Meningitis is rare, but can be very serious. In as little as 12 hours, meningitis has been known to cause permanent brain damage, limb amputation and death. It is spread by coughing, kissing or sharing drinking glasses. It's not worth the risk. (Older students, ask your medical provider about Bexero or Trumemba.)
- Gardasil (Human Papillomavirus (HPV)): \*(NEW Schedule) 2 doses, 6 months apart; when done before age 15. Gardasil is a safe and proven way to prevent future cancers caused by HPV infection. Studies have shown there is a better immune response by the body when given at a younger age. This shot can be given as early as 9 -10 years of age.
- Hepatitis A: 2 doses; 6 months apart. Hepatitis A is a contagious liver disease that can range in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks, to a severe illness lasting several months. One way Hepatitis A can spread is by eating foods prepared by someone that did not wash their hands well after using the bathroom.



### Information provided by:

Southeast District Health Department  
2511 Schneider Ave | Auburn, NE 68305  
**Phone: 877-777-0424 or 402-274-3993**  
**Fax: 402-274-3967**

**REMINDER: For more information on immunizations, contact your Health Care Provider, Southeast District Health Department, or [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)** You can contact Southeast District Health Department at 402-274-3993, ext 101 to set up an appointment. The health department provides vaccinations for children who qualify for Vaccine for Children (VAC).

You can also check your child's current immunization record by going to the following website: [www.dhhs.ne.gov/nesiis](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/nesiis)



# Reporting Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school, the parents or guardians of that student is responsible for contacting the office of the school that your child is in (402-269-2381 **HIGH SCHOOL**, 402-269-2388 **MIDDLE SCHOOL**, 402-269-2382 **ELEMENTARY**). Voicemail is available for you to leave a message if there is no answer. If your child is going to be gone for any length of time (ie-vacation, surgery, etc.) and you are going to email their teachers please be certain to include the office for the building in which your child is in on your email (shsoffice@sdarockets.org **HIGH SCHOOL**, smsoffice@sdarockets.org, **MIDDLE SCHOOL**, sesoffice@sdarockets.org **ELEMENTARY**). We appreciate your help in this matter.

## Athletic Passes

Athletic passes will again be available to parents, students, and patrons this year. The cost is \$40.00 per person for SDA students in grades K-12 and \$60.00 per person for all adults. Each adult will be required to buy a pass, but families will only pay for a maximum of two student passes per family. Student passes are only for students in grades K-12 that attend SDA Schools. Students and adults purchasing athletic passes will be permitted to attend all athletic events exclusively sponsored by District #27 during the 2024-25 school year. Athletic passes can be purchased at either of the principal's offices.

### ADMISSION PRICES FOR 2024-25

	<u>ADULT</u>	<u>STUDENT</u>
Varsity & Jr. Varsity Events	\$7.00	\$5.00
Jr. Varsity/Reserve Events Only	\$5.00	\$4.00
Jr. High Events	\$5.00	\$4.00
Adult Passes (per person)	\$60.00	
Student Passes (per person)		\$40.00

**\*\*Maximum of 2 student passes paid per family.\*\***

## 2024-2025 Cheer Team

**Seniors:** Captain Eliza Bennett, Captain Destiny Jazbec, Captain Olivia Leonard, Maddy Nannen, Brenna Sayer, and Chessa Tompkins.

**Juniors:** Autumn Behling, Kendra Dowland, Braylin Pettit and Rilynn Whitney.

**Sophomores:** Natalie Campbell and Madi Kailing, Payton Ohlsen.

**Freshmen:** Grace Badgett, Taylor Griepenstroph, Calla Masters.

The team is coached by Trisha Babbel.

## Rocket Cheerleaders Attend Camp



This summer the Rocket cheer team once again attended a cheerleading camp to keep increasing their knowledge and skills. The team opted to have staff from Level Up Cheer come to Syracuse for a home camp in June. Level Up Cheer is a competition cheer gym located in Wahoo, NE. They have worked with numerous Nebraska high school teams to provide a very intense and highly personalized camp experience. All of the team members showed up every single day with great attitudes and ready to give their all.

On the final day of camp, the instructors selected some individual team members for special recognition. Those individuals were; Seniors Olivia Leonard (Leadership/Spirit) Eliza Bennett (Overall Top Athlete) Chessa Tompkins (Jumps) and Juniors Braylin Pettit (Dance) and Rilynn Whitney (Motions/Placements).

***Pictured at left: Members receiving special recognition.***



## Syracuse-Dunbar- Avoca Public Schools Administrative Team

**David Kraus, Superintendent**

[dkraus@sdarockets.org](mailto:dkraus@sdarockets.org)  
402-269-2383

**Jarred Royal, High School Principal**

[jroyal@sdarockets.org](mailto:jroyal@sdarockets.org)  
402-269-2381

**Leslie McIntosh,  
Middle School Principal**

[lmcintosh@sdarockets.org](mailto:lmcintosh@sdarockets.org)  
402-269-2388

**Megan Gilkey, Elementary Principal**

[mgilkey@sdarockets.org](mailto:mgilkey@sdarockets.org)  
402-269-2382

**Morgan Richards, SPED Director**

[mgilkey@sdarockets.org](mailto:mgilkey@sdarockets.org)  
402-269-2388

# Check this out!

The Syracuse elementary, middle, and high school libraries have a number of ways for students to access books. Visit the app store and download the following apps to access physical books, eBooks, and audiobooks:

With **Destiny Discover**, students can search for books in the library collections.

**Axis 360** and **Sora** provide free access to thousands of eBooks and audiobooks. Students should search for their school libraries and log in using their Google credentials.



Destiny Discover



Axis 360



Sora

## Want More Resources?

Scan the QR codes to access the library websites. Here you'll find links to electronic resources, pictures of library activities, and so much more. You can also find links to these sites on the school website. If you reach an online resource that requires a password, contact: [jhstermann@sdarockets.org](mailto:jhestermann@sdarockets.org) or [broyal@sdarockets.org](mailto:broyal@sdarockets.org).



PK-3 Site



4-12 Site

# New Middle School Principal

Hello! I am Leslie McIntosh, and I am thrilled to serve as your new Middle School Principal. Many of you know that Syracuse has always been my home. I am a 2007 Syracuse alum and lifelong community member. My husband, Ryan, and I love our community and chose to plant our roots here so that our four children (Oliver, Reagan, Calvin, and Teddy) have a positive childhood and receive an outstanding education. I have a passion for continuing the longstanding excellence of our school and being part of the rich service this community exemplifies. We live in a very special place.

Some of my favorite things about Syracuse Public Schools are the school spirit, high expectations, and camaraderie of the entire community. I love the phrase "We are the Rocket family" in our district's new mission statement. We are blessed to have your support in providing an excellent learning environment. Together, we can maximize the potential of each student in our school.

At the middle school, it is my goal that each student improves their confidence, grows socially and academically, and is prepared for their high school years. Our teachers and staff are top notch, and we work continuously to improve our practices so that the kids make solid learning gains. My leadership approach includes always doing what is best for kids.

I am looking forward to seeing staff, students, and families in our building very soon as well as our Rocket fans at the first games of 2024-2025. Go Big Green!



— Leslie McIntosh  
[lmcintosh@sdarockets.org](mailto:lmcintosh@sdarockets.org)



# Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

*David Kraus, Superintendent, (402) 269-2383  
550 7th Street, Syracuse, NE 68446*

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at: 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, (816) 268-0550 (voice), or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).

## USDA/Nutrition Services Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- 1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## From the Athletic Director

As we look to kick off our 2024-2025 school year and our fall sports seasons I wanted to pass on some information. I first want to thank everyone in advance for all their efforts to support our students. We are constantly looking at ways to give our students the best possible experience while ensuring a safe environment for everyone involved. We are proud of our school and community and want to represent both in a positive manner. As we host and travel to other schools, we want to display the positive culture that Syracuse is known for. We will pass along all pertinent information through our school website, Twitter® and Facebook®. Sport specific information will also be communicated to athletes through their respective coaches. We are excited to get back on the field and court and watch our Rockets compete with pride!

## Athletic Physicals

A reminder that all students in grades 7-12, must have a physical in order to participate in athletics this year. The physical must be administered after May 1st, 2024.

## Important Dates:

(All dates and activities are subject to change)

**Fall Sports Practice: 8/12/24**

**Booster Club Fall Sports**

**Kickoff: 8/23/24**

— Justin Royal, Athletic Director  
402.269.2381 | [juroyal@sdarockets.org](mailto:juroyal@sdarockets.org)

## 2024 Yearbook Delivery!!

If you need to pick up a yearbook that you purchased last year, they will be delivered at homecoming on September 20. If you are unable to pick it up then, please

contact the Syracuse High School office or Pam Pfeiffer. If you did not get a 2024 yearbook from last year and would like to purchase one, there are a very limited number still available, cost is \$65, please contact Pam Pfeiffer at [ppfeiffer@sdarockets.org](mailto:ppfeiffer@sdarockets.org)





## Hot Lunch Prices

SDA Board of Education approved the lunch prices at their July 15, 2024 meeting. The charge for lunch will be \$3.20 for students grades PK-3 and \$3.45 for students 4-12. Breakfast will be \$2.25 for all students. The adult lunch price is \$5.00 and adult breakfast is \$3.00. An application for free and reduced meals is enclosed in this mailing. Students who qualify for free lunch, also qualify for free breakfast.

## Extra Entrees & Ala Carte

We would like to make parents aware that ala carte and extra entrees are available to students on a daily basis and they can charge these to their lunch accounts with parent permission or pay cash. Just send a note or call the office to let them know your child has permission if you would like them to charge extra items to their lunch account. Please also be aware that if your student is free or reduced lunch, that all extra entrees or ala carte will be charged at full price to their account. The free or reduced price only applies to their first lunch through the line.



## Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools Child Find

In compliance with Nebraska State Statutes and the Nebraska Department of Education rules and regulations, the Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public School District #27 does provide Special Education Services and Educational Programs for students with disabilities (birth to age 21) who are residents of the Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca School District #27.

If you, as a district resident, believe that you have a child who may need special education services, please contact the Office of the Superintendent at 402-269-2383 for more information regarding these services.

## Student Fees Policy

In accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the Board of Education of School District # 27 has adopted a student fees policy that generally provides students with a free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska Constitution.

District does provide activities, programs, and services to children that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Students and their parents have historically contributed to the District's efforts to provide such activities, programs, and services. Such student and parent contributions have included: students coming to school with the basic clothing and personal supplies to be successful in the classroom (clothing, shoes, pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, calculators, and the like), students bringing their own or paying the reasonable cost of specialized equipment or supplies for the personal preference or personal retained benefit of students (for example, band equipment, locker deposit or rental fees, shop class materials where the student keeps the product, and college tuition or fees for college credit for advanced placement courses or correspondence courses), students providing their own specialized clothing and equipment to be prepared for the extracurricular activities in which they choose to participate (sporting apparel, including shoes, undergarments, and the like), and assisting with special programs, such as field trips, summer school, school dances and plays. The District's general policy is to continue to encourage and to require, to the extent permitted by law, such student and parent contributions to enhance the educational program provided by the District. The specific District policy may be found in the student/parent handbook or may be viewed in the office of the building principal or superintendent.

## Waiver Policy

The District's policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, and (2) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for free or reduced-price lunches for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials. Materials for course projects to be provided to free or reduced-price lunch eligible students shall be required to be approved by the administration in advance. An application for the waiver is enclosed with this newsletter and is titled SHARING INFORMATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS. This form should be completed and sent along with the application for Free and Reduced Lunch.





# Elementary MTSS-B Back to School Update

An update from the elementary school of how AMAZING our first year went with our MTSS-B initiative!

Here are some celebrations from our FIRST year of implementation...

**OVER 40,000** tickets were given out to our students. This means 40,000 times our students were given positive feedback in our building.

Each student visited the school store **20** times this year! This means our cart had **240** different shopping times throughout the year.

Students purchased over **1500** experiences and bought over 2500 items.

**100%** of our students asked if the school store cart was coming back next year!

HUGE thanks to our parents and community members helping us to provide items for our school store. If you would like to support our school store, visit the Amazon link below.



SCAN ME

<https://bit.ly/elementaryschoolstore>  
or scan the QR code to the left!

**A select group of students from each grade level answered some questions from Mrs. Pellatz about our new initiative this year. Here are some highlights of their feedback:**

"Our school is better when you bring the school store cart. It's my favorite thing all day. I've even dreamt about it" -A Kindergarten Friend

"The coolest thing is if you get so many tickets—you get to pick out the best things EVER" -A Kindergarten Friend

"To earn tickets you have to be respectful so that's good for our WHOLE school" -A First Grade Friend

"It helps us do the right thing and then everyone learns more" -A Second Grade Friend

"I miss the school store cart on the weeks it doesn't come visit us" -A Second Grade Friend

"I love that you can earn tickets from everyone in the school" -A Third Grade Friend

"Our school is a better community because of this system. We all work together as one team" -A Staff Member

Scan the QR code to the right to check out a video of our successful first year of all of our fun experiences and prizes we earned!



SCAN ME

## Rocket Band News



Fourteen members of the high school pep band, Super-sonic, performed in Branson in May. Congrats on a wonderful trip and performance. Thank you Ronda Stinson and Larisssa Diekmann for being fantastic chaperones!

Congratulations to our 2024 JH Marching Band drum majors Maddie Parde, Tyleigh Miller, and Aubrey Higgins. Way to go!

Congratulations to guard captain Samantha Cordray for performing with the Madison Scouts drum and bugle corps in Wisconsin on July 6. Samantha worked with the group all day during a leadership and flag retreat which ended with the joint performance in the evening.

## 2024-2025 DANCE TEAM

**Sophomores:** Hayden Berner - Captain & Zoey Sieck - Captain

**Freshman:** Annalynn Beach, Kamryn Manley, Emma Owens & Sharley Thompson

## 7th/8th Grade Rocket Football Information for 2024 Season

All Middle School Students interested in participating in Football for the 2024 school year must have a physical on file in the office prior to the first day of official practice on Monday, August 26th. There will be various handouts set out at Back to School Night pertaining to information for the 2024 middle school football season.

On Monday, August 26th, we will start official practice at the Elementary School, immediately following school each day. There will also be a parents/guardian meeting at 5:30 pm on Monday, August 26th following practice.



# Counselor Connection - Summer Update

The counseling department is excited to take on our third year as a three-person team with one counselor at each building. We are excited to announce that this will be our district's official plan moving forward as the school board approved three full-time counselors this past spring.

As school counselors, we spend our days working with ALL students to help find academic success, plan for the future, and to grow/maintain social and emotional skills. These services are provided through whole classroom instruction, individual counseling, small groups, consultation with teachers and parents, and connections/referrals to outside resources.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Megan Pellatz | 402-269-2382 | mpellatz@sdarockets.org

My name is Mrs. Pellatz and I am excited to begin my third year as the school counselor at the elementary school. Previously, I taught 6th grade here at Syracuse. This will be my 11th year of working in education. I graduated in May 2022 with my Masters degree in School Counseling from Doane University. My five-year-old labrador retriever, Belle, also joins me at school as an Edu-Pup to help support students. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my new family of THREE. I have loved every minute of learning about the elementary school, meeting all of our students, and building relationships with our families. I am excited to start another year as your school counselor!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL – Maryn Phillips | 402-269-2388 | mphillips@sdarockets.org

My name is Ms. Phillips, I am the new Middle School Counselor at Syracuse! I have a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology with a minor in psychology and a leadership credential from Grand View University. While in college, I had the privilege of doing an internship with middle school and high school kids and loved it. This propelled me to decide to go back to school and become a school counselor. I previously worked at the Homer Community School and received my master's degree in school counseling last December from Wayne State College. When I am not at school, I enjoy watching sports, being outside, and spending time with my family. *Fun Fact: I was a college track and field athlete and threw the hammer, discus and shot put.* I am very excited to join the community and get to know all of you!

## HIGH SCHOOL – Jacqueline Mohr | 402-269-2381 | jmohr@sdarockets.org

My name is Mrs. Mohr, and I am the school counselor here at Syracuse High School! I have been the school counselor here in Syracuse since the fall of 2020. Before that, I spent 12 years as the high school Spanish teacher. During my time here as a Rocket, I have worn many coaching hats. This year you will find me on the sideline for the high school varsity volleyball team! I am excited to start this new school year as your counselor, and can't wait to get a chance to meet with all of you throughout the year!

# Top 10 Tips for a Successful School Year

- 1. Come to school every day!** - The best learning happens in the classroom with the classroom teachers.
- 2. Get involved!** - Studies have shown that involvement in extracurricular activities is linked to success in school and beyond. We have many sports, clubs, and organizations to choose from!
- 3. Don't be afraid to ask for help!** - Often, students tend to be shy when it comes to asking for help. Don't be! Teachers are willing to help, and we have students who are also available to provide tutoring and assistance. (P.S. Chances are when you have a question in class, someone else has the same question!)
- 4. Study 10 minutes a day!** - A little bit goes a long way. The best studying is done in chunks on a regular basis. Cramming will not lead to long term learning.
- 5. Supplies and Materials** - Make sure you come to school every day with the necessary materials. This will make sure that you are prepared for the day! \*\*If you are missing something, talk to your school counselor!
- 6. Be Organized** - Whether it is your supplies, desk, or locker, when you are organized life is much calmer.
- 7. Be an Active Participant** - Join in on class discussions, share an idea, participate in classroom activities and games. By being an active participant, you are increasing your knowledge of the content being covered in each class.
- 8. Practice Self-care** - Get enough sleep, make healthy food choices, and learn ways to help you relax when you are stressed.
- 9. Relax and Have Fun!** - Transitioning to a different grade can be a very nervous time for everyone. Know that we have teachers and staff excited to meet you and help you start off your year on the right foot!
- 10. When in Doubt, Be Kind.** - Above all these tips, remember to always be kind. Being kind to others goes a long way to having a successful school year with friends, teachers, and other school staff.



# Student Use of Medication

The school recognizes that many children are only able to attend school because of the effective use of medication in the treatment of chronic disabilities or chronic and acute illnesses. Any student who is required to take medication during the regular school day must comply with the following regulations:

1. A written order from a physician detailing the name of the drug, dosage, and time interval must be on file in the office of the school nurse.
2. Written permission from the parent or guardian of the student requesting that the school district comply with the physician's order must also be on file in the nurse's office, and
3. Medication must be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.

## Athletic Physicals, Student Insurance & Activity Calendars

Parents are reminded that in order for students, grades 7-12, to participate in athletics, they must have a physical. All 7th and 9th grade students getting an athletic physical will need to also complete the NSAA student and parent consent form. This form is included with the physical form, found on our school website under the Physical Form tab. A copy of the physical examination must be presented to the school prior to students partaking in practice or games.

Student insurance from Student Assurance Services, Inc. will again be available. This insurance is optional and information pertaining to this will be posted on the school website. A QR code will be included there with the information that will take you to their website to sign up for the insurance.

Each month a calendar of school events and lunch menu's will be posted on our website ([www.sdarockets.org](http://www.sdarockets.org)). Enclosed is a copy of the August and September calendars of events and the 2024-2025 school calendar. The activities calendar is also available the following link: <https://www.nebraskacapitolconference.org/public/genie/475/school/193/view/month/>

Also enclosed is information pertaining to free and reduced priced lunches, and the lunch menus for August.

## Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) Model Notice for Directory Information

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings

or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require public schools receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the public school that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. If you do not want Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by the end of the first week of the first semester, or for new students, within the first week of enrollment. Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools has designated the following information as directory information:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| - Student's name   | - Address                 |
| - Telephone listing  | - Date and place of birth |
| - Electronic mail address                                      | - Photograph              |
| - Major field of study   | - Dates of attendance     |
| - Grade level  |                           |
| - Degrees, honors, and awards received                         |                           |
| - Participation in officially recognized activities and sports |                           |
| - Weight and height of members of athletic teams               |                           |
| - The most recent educational agency or institution attended   |                           |



# New Elementary Principal

Hello! I am beyond excited to introduce myself as the new principal of Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Elementary School. My name is Megan Gilkey, and I am honored to join this wonderful community in a different capacity. I am committed to fostering an environment where every student can thrive, and I can't wait to get started.

Communication is at the heart of a successful school. I believe in open, honest, and transparent communication with students, parents, and staff. I am here to listen, learn, and work collaboratively with each of you. Together, we can create a supportive and dynamic learning environment that meets the needs of all our students. Partnerships are essential for the success of our students. I am eager to build strong relationships with parents and the broader community. Your insights and involvement are invaluable, and I look forward to working closely with you to ensure our students have the best possible educational experience. I believe that when we work together, we can achieve great things.

As a servant leader, my primary focus is on serving our students and staff. I am committed to putting their needs first and creating an inclusive, supportive environment where everyone feels valued and respected. I am here to support our teachers in their professional growth and to ensure that our students receive the highest quality education.

Education is about more than just academics; it's about nurturing the whole child and preparing them for a successful future. I am dedicated to making sure every student feel seen, supported, and challenged. I am passionate about creating a school culture that celebrates diversity, encourages curiosity, and fosters a love of learning.

I am thrilled to be a part of Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Elementary School and am looking forward to an exciting year ahead. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or ideas. Together, we can make Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Elementary School an even better place for our children to learn and grow.

Thank you for welcoming me into your community. I am honored to serve as your principal and am excited about the journey ahead.

Warm regards,  
Megan M. Gilkey  
mgilkey@sdarockets.org



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR RMB 'HEARTLAND 2024'

The Rocket Marching Band has already started working on the 2024 field show called 'Heartland.' Be sure to check them out at home football games and the following marching contests:

- Saturday, Sept 21 - Applejack parade
- Saturday, Oct 5 - Capitol City Marching Band Contest at Seacrest field
- Wednesday, Oct 9 - Palmyra contest
- Saturday, Oct 19 - Ashland Oxbow contest
- Saturday, Oct 26 - RMB community show a.m. then @ Seacrest Field for NSBA contest

## Yearbooks on Sale NOW!

The 2025 yearbooks are on sale now for \$50, until January 5, 2025. After January 5, Yearbooks will be \$65. You can purchase a yearbook from a member of the yearbook staff or Adviser Pam Pfeiffer. Watch for yearbook sales at different events throughout the school year. Checks should be made out to SDA. You can also use a debit or credit card and order online. Go to [www.sdarockets.org](http://www.sdarockets.org), click on the "Buy Yearbook" button and follow the directions. **There will be a \$2 service fee for all online orders.** Yearbooks will be delivered in the fall of 2025.





## Syracuse Junior High School Supply List 2024-2025

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BURR:	Folder 1 composition notebook pens or pencils 2 highlighters different colors Personal pair of headphones or ear buds
LACKEY:	<b><u>ALL MATH CLASSES</u></b> Pencils (mechanical or wooden with own sharpener) 1" or 2" 3-Ring binder <b><u>ALGEBRA</u></b> Scientific calculator Graph Paper
BAKAN:	3-ring binder w/loose leaf paper 5 dividers for binder Pens & pencils Scientific calculator 2 Composition notebooks
BEACH:	1.5" 3-ring binder w/notebook paper (7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> English) 5 tab dividers for binder (7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> English) Pencils (7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> English; 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Reading) Colored pens *black blue & red (7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> English; 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Reading) Folder (7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Reading)  *Optional: Scissors, Glue Sticks, Colored Pencils or Markers, sticky notes & lead for mechanical pencils
ANDERSON:	Pencils & pens Optional: Highlighters, markers, colored pencils, notecards, loose leaf paper
PAVLIK:	3-Ring binder at least 1 inch thick (one for each 7 <sup>th</sup> math & 7 <sup>th</sup> science) 5 dividers for each binder Notebook paper Pencils & pens Composition notebook (7 <sup>th</sup> grade Science) Scientific calculator (7 <sup>th</sup> grade math)
PE:	Clean pair of PE shoes





2024-2025

# High School Supplies



## MRS. BROCKMAN

- \* Notebook or loose leaf paper
- \* Folder
- \* Pencils & pens (blue & black only)
- \* Highlighters – (green, pink, yellow, blue, orange or purple)

## MR. FEENEY

- \* 1" or 1 1/2" Binder
- \* 5 Dividers
- \* Loose leaf paper for Binder
- \* Pencils & Pens

## MRS. HALL

- \* Pencils
- \* Highlighters
- \* Instrument Supplies

## MR. ISKE

- \* Loose leaf paper or notebook
- \* Folder
- \* Pens & Pencils
- \* Good Attitude

## MR. KAY

- \* Scientific calculator
- \* Notebook or 3 ring binder
- \* Folder
- \* Pencils
- \*\*Calculus – Graphing Calculator

## MR. KRECKLOW

- \* 2 Spiral notebooks
- \* Folder
- \* Pencils

## MR. KUHL

- \* Clean PE shoes
- \* T-shirt & athletic shorts

## MRS. MOWRY

- \* Loose-leaf paper or notebook
- \* Folder
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MRS. MOSEL

- \* 3 ring binder 1" or larger
- \* Loose leaf paper
- \* Pens, pencils, highlighters
- \* Headphones helpful (optional)

### **\*\*Human Anatomy**

Everything listed above plus:

- \* Headphones (required)
- \* Jumbo book cover
- \* Colored Pencils (optional)

## MRS. NICHOLS

- \* 3 Ring Binder
- \* Loose-leaf paper
- \* Scientific Calculator (TI-30XIIS)
- \* 1 Spiral Notebook
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MR. PAVLIK

- \* Folder
- \* Writing utensil
- \* Calculator

## MRS. PFEIFFER

- \* Sketchbook
- \* Headphones

## MR. REESE

- \* Notebook or loose leaf paper
- \* 1" black binder
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MR. SAYER

- \* List is posted on Canvas

## MRS. SIMON COMP

- \* 1" Binder
- \* 1 Subject notebook or loose leaf paper
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MRS. SIMON-ENGL4/LIT

- \* 2 – 1" Binders
- \* 1 Subject Notebook
- \* Pens & Pencils
- \* Highlighter set (yellow, green, pink, orange)

## MRS. SIMON-AMER LIT

- \* 1" Binder
- \* 1 Subject notebook or loose leaf paper
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MRS. SIMON-ENGL4/LIT

- \* 1" Binder
- \* 1 Subject notebook or loose leaf paper
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MRS. SIMON-ENG 2

- \* 1" Binder
- \* 1 Subject notebook or loose leaf paper
- \* Pens & Pencils

## MR. STANLEY

- \* Spiral bound or loose paper in 3 ring binder
- \* Folder
- \* 1 subject spiral notebook
- \*\*Physical Science -calculator to do square roots
- \*\*Physics/Chemistry -Scientific Calculator

## MRS. WATERMEIER

- \* 1 Subject Notebook

## MR. WIEBUSCH

- \* Clean PE Shoes
- \* T-shirt & athletic shorts



# August 2024

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Jul 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Sep 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						1	2	3
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25	26 Softball: Girls JV & V Games @ Valparaiso vs Raymond Central 5pm & 6:30pm	27 Softball: Girls JV & V Games vs Milford @ home 5pm & 6:30pm	28	29 Cross Country: Varsity Invitational vs Weeping Water @ Cass Co. Fair Grounds 10am  Golf: Girls Varsity Invitational vs Multiple Schools @ home 9am  Softball: Girls JV & V Games vs Ft. Calhoun @ home 5pm & 6:30pm	30 Football: Varsity Game vs Milford @ home 7pm  Post Prom Tailgate	31 Softball: Girls Varsity Invitational vs Multiple Schools @ home 9am																																																																																				





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05	06	07	08	09
12	13	14	15	16
			<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Creamy Macaroni & Cheese with Dinner Roll * Crispy Chicken Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Cheese Pizza * Pepperoni Pizza * Hot Dog <b>Vegetables</b> Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk
19	20	21	22	23
<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Pizza Casserole * Mini Corn Dogs <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Chicken & Noodles * Baked Pork Fritter <b>Vegetables</b> Mashed Potatoes with Chicken Gravy <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Soft Shell Beef Tacos * Chicken Parm Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Zesty Black Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Rice Crispy Treat <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Loaded Hash Browns with Biscuit * Traditional Sloppy Joe * MoJo Loose Meat Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Cheese Pizza * Pepperoni Pizza * Made Fresh Cheeseburger Macaroni Skillet with Breadstick <b>Vegetables</b> Golden Corn <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk
26	27	28	29	30
<b>Lunch Entree</b> Polar Bear Pasta * Toasted Combo Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Beef Taco in a Bag * Crispy Chicken Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Crinkle Cut Fries <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Cookie Dunker <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Pepperoni Sub * Cheeseburger <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Pizza Pasta Bake * Chicken Nugs <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Cheese Pizza * Pepperoni Pizza * Twisted Dog <b>Vegetables</b> BBQ Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk



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05	06	07	08	09
<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School
12	13	14	15	16
<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Macaroni & Cheese with Breadstick * Crispy Chicken Sandwich * Ham & Cheese Deli Round <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Dog * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk
19	20	21	22	23
<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Pizza Casserole * Mini Corn Dogs * Combo Deli Round <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Chicken & Noodles * Baked Pork Fritter * Grilled Cheese Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Mashed Potatoes with Chicken Gravy <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Soft Shell Beef Tacos * Chicken Parm Sandwich * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Zesty Black Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Rice Crispy Treat <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Loaded Hash Browns with Biscuit * Traditional Sloppy Joe * Turkey Combo Deli Wrap <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Cheeseburger Macaroni Skillet with Breadstick * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Golden Corn <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk
26	27	28	29	30
<b>Lunch Entree</b> Polar Bear Pasta * Toasted Combo Sub * Made Fresh Breakfast Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Beef Taco in a Bag * Crispy Chicken Sandwich * Grilled Cheese Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Crinkle Cut Fries <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Cookie Dunker <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Pepperoni Sub * Cheeseburger * Grilled Chicken Deli Wrap <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Pizza Pasta Bake * Chicken Nugs * Ham & Cheese Deli Round <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Twisted Dog * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> BBQ Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk

			01	02
05 <b>Misc.</b> No School	06 <b>Misc.</b> No School	07 <b>Misc.</b> No School	08 <b>Misc.</b> No School	09 <b>Misc.</b> No School
12 <b>Misc.</b> No School	13 <b>Misc.</b> No School	14 <b>Misc.</b> No School	15 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Macaroni & Cheese * Crispy Chicken Sandwich * Fresh Baked Ham & Cheese Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	16 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Dog * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk
19 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Pizza Casserole * Mini Corn Dogs * Fresh Baked Combo Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	20 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Chicken & Noodles with Dinner Roll * Baked Pork Fritter * Grilled Cheese Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Mashed Potatoes with Chicken Gravy <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk	21 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Soft Shell Beef Tacos * Chicken Parm Sandwich * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Zesty Black Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Rice Crispy Treat <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	22 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Loaded Hash Browns with Biscuit * Traditional Sloppy Joe * Turkey Combo Deli Wrap <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	23 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Cheeseburger Macaroni Skillet * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Golden Corn <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk
26 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh White Macaroni & Cheese with Breadstick * Toasted Combo Sub * Made Fresh Breakfast Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	27 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Beef Taco in a Bag * Crispy Chicken Sandwich * Grilled Cheese Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Crinkle Cut Fries <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Cookie Dunker <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk	28 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Pepperoni Sub * Cheeseburger * Grilled Chicken Deli Wrap <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	29 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Pizza Pasta Bake * Chicken Nuggets * Fresh Baked Ham & Cheese Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	30 <b>Lunch Entree</b> * Twisted Dog * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> BBQ Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk

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<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Misc.</b> No School	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Macaroni & Cheese with Dinner Roll * Crispy Chicken Sandwich * Fresh Baked Ham & Cheese Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Dog * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk
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<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Pizza Casserole * Mini Corn Dogs * Fresh Baked Combo Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Chicken & Noodles with Dinner Roll * Baked Pork Fritter with Dinner Roll * Grilled Cheese Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Mashed Potatoes with Chicken Gravy <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Soft Shell Beef Tacos * Chicken Parm Sandwich * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Zesty Black Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Rice Crispy Treat <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Loaded Hash Browns with Biscuit * Traditional Sloppy Joe * Turkey Combo Deli Wrap <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh Cheeseburger Macaroni Skillet with Garlic Breadstick * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Golden Corn <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk
26	27	28	29	30
<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Made Fresh White Macaroni & Cheese with Breadstick * Toasted Combo Sub * Made Fresh Breakfast Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> Peas <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Beef Taco in a Bag * Crispy Chicken Sandwich * Grilled Cheese Sandwich <b>Vegetables</b> Crinkle Cut Fries <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Desserts</b> Cookie Dunker <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Hot Pepperoni Sub * Cheeseburger * Grilled Chicken Deli Wrap <b>Vegetables</b> Green Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Pizza Pasta Bake with Garlic Breadstick * Chicken Nugs with Garlic Breadstick * Fresh Baked Ham & Cheese Sub <b>Vegetables</b> Steamed Carrots <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk	<b>Lunch Entree</b> * Twisted Dog * Made Fresh Cheesy Pizza * Made Fresh Pepperoni Pizza <b>Vegetables</b> BBQ Baked Beans <b>Fruit</b> Fruit and Veggie Bar <b>Milk</b> 1% Unflavored Milk Chocolate Skim Milk Skim Unflavored Milk



# September 2024

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
1	2	3 Football: JV Game @ Falls City 6:00pm Golf: Girls Varsity Triangular vs Multiple Schools @ home 1pm Softball: Girls JV & V Games vs Nebraska City @ home 5pm & 6:30pm Volleyball: Dual @ Yutan R-5pm, JV- 6pm, V- 7pm	4	5 Softball: Girls JV & V Games @ home vs Centennial 5pm, 6:30pm Volleyball: Dual vs Ft Calhoun @ home R-5:00pm, JV- 6:00pm, V- 7:00pm	6 Football: Varsity Game @ Boys Town 7:00pm	7 Cross Country: Varsity Invitational @ Beatrice 9:00am Softball: Girls Varsity Invitational @ Auburn 9:00am Volleyball: Girls Varsity Triangular @ Ashland-Greenwood 9:00am																																																																																																		
8	9 Football: JV Game vs Lincoln Christian @ home 6pm Softball: Girls JV & V Games vs Southern @ home 5pm & 6:30pm	10 FFA Husker Harvest Days Trip Golf: Girls Varsity Triangular @ Lincoln Christian 1pm Softball: Girls JV & V Games @ DC West 5pm & 6:30pm Volleyball: Girls Dual @ Bishop Neumann R-5pm, JV-6pm, V- 7pm	11	12 Cross Country: Varsity Invitations @ Mahoney State Park 9am Football: JH Game vs Raymond Central @ home 4:30pm Golf: Girls Varsity Invitational @ Plattsmouth 9am Range-Judging Butler Co. Softball: Girls Varsity Triangular @ Mt ans 5pm	13 Football: Varsity Game @ Logan View 7pm School Pictures Volleyball: Girls Varsity Tournament @ Bellevue East 4pm	14 Softball: Girls Varsity Invitational vs Falls City @ Fieldler Complex 9am Volleyball: Girls Varsity Tournament @ Bellevue East 8am																																																																																																		
15	16 Football: JV Game vs Lincoln Lutheran @ home 6pm Golf: Girls Varsity Invitational @ Fairbury Country Club 9am Volleyball: Girls JH Dual vs Pathryra @ home 4:30 Volleyball: Girls JV Tri @ Conestoga 5pm	17 Football: JH Game @ Lincoln Lutheran 4:30pm Softball: Girls JV & V Games @ Arlington 5pm & 6:30pm	18	19 Football: JH Game @ Auburn 4:30pm Golf: Girls Varsity Invitational vs JCC @ Kearney Country Club 9am Softball: Girls JV & V Games @ Wilber-Clatsop 5pm & 6:30pm Volleyball: Girls: JH Dual @ Conestoga 5pm Volleyball: Girls: JV Triangular @ home 5pm Volleyball: Girls Varsity Triangular @ home 5pm	20 Football: Varsity Game vs Lincoln Christian @ home 6pm Homecoming Dance	21																																																																																																		
22	23 Football: Reserve Game vs Shanandoah @ home 6pm Golf: Girls Varsity Invitational vs HTRS @ Kirkmans Cove 9am Softball: Girls JV & V Games vs Logan View @ home 5pm & 6:30pm Volleyball: Dual @ Beatrice R-5pm, JV- 6pm, V- 7pm Volleyball: Girls JH Dual vs Falls City @ home 4:30pm	24 Cross Country: Varsity Invitational vs Malcolm @ Branched Oak Lake 10a Volleyball: Dual @ Conestoga R-5pm, JV- 6pm, V- 7pm	25	26 Football: JH Game vs Falls City @ home 4:30pm Softball: Girls JV & V Games @ Auburn 5pm & 6:30pm Volleyball: Girls: JH Dual vs JCC @ home 4:30pm Volleyball: Girls Varsity Triangular @ Falls City 5pm	27 Football: Varsity Game @ Fairbury 7pm	28 Softball: Girls Varsity NCC Conference Meet @ Valparaiso 9am Volleyball: Girls Reserve Tournament @ Conestoga 8:30am																																																																																																		
29	30 CC: Varsity @ Kearney Country Club 1pm Football: JH Game @ Malcolm 4:30pm, Reserve game 6:30pm Golf: Girls Varsity @ Auburn 9am Softball: JV & V Games @ Falls City 5pm & 6:30pm Volleyball: Dual vs Lincoln Lutheran @ home R- 5pm, JV- 6pm, V- 7pm	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Aug 2024</th> <th colspan="7">Oct 2024</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Aug 2024							Oct 2024							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3			1	2	3	4	5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31		
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## Syracuse-Dunbar-Avooca Public Schools

August 1, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Syracuse-Dunbar-Avooca Public Schools offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$2.25; lunch costs \$3.20 (PreK-3); \$3.45 (4-12). **Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals.** Reduced price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. If your child(ren) qualified for free or reduced price meals at the end of last school year, you must submit a new application by **September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, in order to avoid an interruption in meal benefits.

This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits and a set of detailed instructions. Applicants who qualify for free or reduced price meals also qualify to receive Summer EBT, which provides \$120 in grocery funds on an EBT card mailed to the household during summer break. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

### 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail David Kraus at 402-269-2383 or [dkraus@sdarockets.org](mailto:dkraus@sdarockets.org).

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **[name, address, phone number]**.

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact Roxanne Schutz, PO Box P, Syracuse, NE 68446 immediately.

5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? This option is not available at this time.

6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.



7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.
8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Barry Janssen, Board President, 3259 H Rd, Syracuse, NE 68346. Phone 402-297-6107.
11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact Roxanne Schutz, PO Box P, Syracuse, NE 68446, 402-269-2383 or rschutz@sdarockets.org to receive a second application.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits, please go online to ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov or call 1-800-383-4278.

If you have other questions or need help, call 402-269-2383.

Sincerely,



**David Kraus**  
Superintendent



## Instructions for Completing the Free & Reduced Price School Meals Family Application

**For households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), follow these instructions:**

- Part 1:** List each child's name, the school they attend and their grade.  
**Part 2:** Enter household's Master Case Number if the household qualifies for SNAP, TANF or FDPIR.  
**Part 3:** Skip this part.  
**Part 4:** Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.  
**Part 5:** This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.

**For households with FOSTER, HOMELESS, MIGRANT or RUNAWAY CHILDREN, follow these instructions:**

**If all children in the household are foster children:**

- Part 1:** List all foster children, the school they attend and their grade. Check the box indicating the child is a foster child.  
**Part 2:** Skip this part.  
**Part 3:** Skip this part.  
**Part 4:** Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.  
**Part 5:** This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.

**If some of the children in the household are foster children or are homeless, migrant or runaway children:**

- Part 1:** List all children, the school they attend and their grade. Check the appropriate box.  
**Part 2:** If the household does not have a Master Case Number, skip this part.  
**Part 3:** Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.  
**Column 1 – Household Members:** List the first and last name of **each** person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share income and expenses. Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.  
**Column 2 - Gross Income and How Often it was Received:** Gross income is the amount earned **before taxes and other deductions**; it is not your take-home pay. For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must also report how often the money is received – weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly.

**Earnings from Work** includes the following:

- Salary, wages, cash bonuses
- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)

If you are in the U.S. Military, include:

- Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) payments or privatized housing allowances)
- Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing

**Do not include income** from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster care payments.

**Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony** includes the following:

- Unemployment benefits, Worker's compensation
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash assistance from state or local government
- Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), Strike benefits
- Child support payments, Alimony payments

**Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income** includes the following:

- Social Security payments (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)
- Private pensions or Disability benefits
- Regular income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income and *Regular* cash payments received from outside the household.

If you have no income, write "0" or leave the income field blank. By doing this, you are certifying there is no income to report.





**Household Size:** Enter the total number of people in your household.

**Social Security Number:** The adult signing the form must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN) or check the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

**Part 4:** Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.

**Part 5:** This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.

**Please note:** Children who meet the definition of homeless, migrant or runaway, are eligible for free meals. However, the school district must have documentation on file from a migrant coordinator, homeless/runaway liaison or the district's Direct Certification list to approve the child for free meals.

**For ALL other households, follow these instructions:**

**Part 1:** List all children, the school they attend and their grade.

**Part 2:** If the household does not have a Master Case Number, skip this part.

**Part 3:** Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.

**Column 1 – Household Members:** List the first and last name of **each** person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share income and expenses. Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.

**Column 2 - Gross Income and How Often it was Received:** Gross income is the amount earned **before taxes and other deductions**; it is not your take-home pay. For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must also report how often the money is received – weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly.

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- Salary, wages, cash bonuses
- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)

If you are in the U.S. Military, include:

- Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) payments or privatized housing allowances)
- Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing

**Do not include income** from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster care payments.

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- Private pensions or Disability benefits
- Regular income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income and *Regular* cash payments received from outside the household.

If you have no income, write "0" or leave the income field blank. By doing this, you are certifying there is no income to report.

**Household Size:** Enter the total number of people in your household.

**Social Security Number:** The adult signing the form must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN) or check the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

**Part 4:** Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.

**Part 5:** This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.



Return Completed Application to: Syracuse-Dunbar-Avooca Public Schools, PO Box P, Syracuse, NE 68446

**Part 1: Children in School**

List names of all children in school (First, Middle Initial, Last). If <u>all</u> children listed are foster, skip to Part 4 to sign the form. If some of the children are foster or are homeless, migrant or runaway children, complete all steps of the application.	Grade	Name of School Child Attends	Check all that apply: Foster Child Homeless, Migrant, Runaway	
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Part 2: Assistance Programs – SNAP, TANF or FDPIR Benefits**

Enter **MASTER CASE NUMBER** if household qualifies for SNAP, TANF or FDPIR:   
(Social Security numbers, Medicaid numbers and EBT numbers are not accepted.) Skip to Part 4

**Part 3: Total Household Gross Income – You must tell us how much and how often.**

<b>1. Household Members</b> List <b>everyone</b> in the household, current income each person earns in <b>whole dollars</b> (no cents) & how often. Entering "0" or leaving the income field blank certifies no income to report. A foster child's <b>personal</b> use income must be listed.	<b>2. Gross Income (before taxes) and How Often it was Received</b>					
	Earnings from Work before deductions		Public Assistance, Child Support, Alimony		Pensions, Retirement and All Other Income	
	Income	How often	Income	How often	Income	How often
Total Number of Household Members: (Children and Adults) _____	Last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of the adult signing this form: XXX – XXX – _____				Check if no SSN <input type="checkbox"/>	

**Part 4: Adult Signature and Contact Information – An adult household member must sign the application.**

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Sign here: \_\_\_\_\_ Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address (if available): \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 5: Children's Ethnic and Racial Identities – Optional**

**Check one Ethnic Identity:** – and – **Check one or more Racial Identities:**

Hispanic or Latino       Asian       Black or African American       Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander  
 Not Hispanic or Latino       White       American Indian or Alaskan Native

**Do Not Fill Out the Section Below - For School Use Only**

Annual Income Conversion:      Weekly X 52;      Every 2 weeks X 26;      Twice a month X 24;      Monthly X 12

Total Household Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Income: \_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_

Free       Reduced       Denied  
 Income       Income      Reason for denial:  
 Categorically eligible:       Income too high  
 SNAP/TANF/FDPIR       Incomplete application  
 Foster Child  
 Homeless/Migrant/Runaway:  
 (Official Documentation Required at School)

Signature of Determining Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR THE VERIFICATION PROCESS ONLY:**

Signature of Confirming Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Verifying Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Verified: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Withdrawn From School: \_\_\_\_\_

Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL INCOME CHART for School Year 2024-25					
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	27,861	2,322	1,161	1,072	536
2	37,814	3,152	1,576	1,455	728
3	47,767	3,981	1,991	1,838	919
4	57,720	4,810	2,405	2,220	1,110
5	67,673	5,640	2,820	2,603	1,302
6	77,626	6,469	3,235	2,986	1,493
7	87,579	7,299	3,650	3,369	1,685
8	97,532	8,128	4,064	3,752	1,876
Each additional person:	9,953	830	415	383	192

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number are not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We may share your eligibility information with education, health and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

**Non-Discrimination Statement:** This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Computing Income for Self-Employed Individuals

Individuals who are self-employed or engaged in farming may experience variations in cash flow and cannot easily report a monthly income. These individuals can use their 2020 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return Form 1040 to report self-employment income for the free and reduced-price meal application. The income to report is income derived from the business venture less operating costs incurred in the generation of that income. Deductions for personal expenses such as interest on home mortgages, medical expenses and other similar non-business items are not allowed in reducing gross business income.

When completing this form, **losses** (negative numbers) reported on any of the lines below are included when determining the **total** self-employed income. If the total income is a negative number, it is to be recorded as zero on the meal application in the column labeled "All Other Income".

Zero income resulting from use of the 1040 Form does not require follow-up.

### Important Reminders from the U.S. Individual Income Tax Return Form 1040:

Line 1 cannot be used to report current income. Income from wages or salaries must be reported on the application for the most recent month.

Line 9 (Total Income) and line 11 (Adjusted Gross Income) cannot be used for the purpose of applying for free and reduced-price meals.

The five line items listed below are used to determine allowable self-employment income.

### From the first page of the U.S. Individual Income Tax Return Form 1040:

Line 7 Capital Gain or (loss) \_\_\_\_\_

### From the U.S. Individual Income Tax Return Form 1040 – SCHEDULE 1 - under Part 1 - Additional Income:

Line 3 Business Income or (loss) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 4 Other Gains or (losses) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 5 Rental Real Estate, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Line 6 Farm Income or (loss) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total of the above five lines:** \_\_\_\_\_ **equals annual self-employed income \***

\* Report this figure on the meal application in the column labeled "All Other Income".

**If the total of the above lines is a negative number, it must be changed to zero before it is transferred to the meal application.**

**NOTE:** This form is used only to report income from self-employment and/or farming. If any members of the household have income from other jobs, the gross income from those jobs must be reported on the meal application form.



## Sharing Information with Other Programs - Optional

Dear Parent/Guardian:

To save you time and effort, the information you gave on your Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application may be shared with other programs for which your children may qualify.

**For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information. Sending in this form will not change whether your children get free or reduced price meals.**

- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Preschool.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Band/Vocal Music.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Sports/Activities.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Field Trips.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Scholarships.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Clubs.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Post-Prom.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Gifts 4 Kids.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Back Pack Program.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Luther Memorial Church Swimming Pool Pass Program.**
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Syracuse Food Pantry.**

**If you checked "yes" to any or all of the boxes above, complete the following form to ensure that your information is shared for the child(ren) listed below. Your information will be shared only with the programs you checked.**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, you may call **Roxy Schutz** at 402-269-2383 or email at [rschutz@sdarockets.org](mailto:rschutz@sdarockets.org).  
Return this form to: **Syracuse Public Schools, PO Box P, Syracuse, NE 68446** by **September 26, 2024.**





### CREATING A NEW ACCOUNT

1. Visit <https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/56558>
2. Click on **Create an Account**.
3. Provide Requested Information.
4. Click **Create Account**.



### ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT – STUDENTS

1. Log into your account.
2. Select **Manage Students** under **Manage Account**.
3. Enter student Last Name and Family or Student ID#.
4. Select **Add Student(s)**.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 to add additional students.



### ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT - PAYMENT INFORMATION

1. Log into your Account
2. Select **Payment Methods** under **Payment Settings**.
3. Select **New Credit Card** or **New Direct Debit** to add new payment information.
4. After entering all required information, read Consent and select **Add** to save information to account.

### MAKE A PAYMENT

1. Select type of payment you would like to make.
2. Select student.
3. Enter amount of payment.
4. Select **Begin Checkout**.
5. Choose payment method or enter new method.
6. Review items and total.
7. Select **Pay Now**.



# 2024 – 2025 SDA School Calendar

( Approved: 02 / 19 / 2024 r1.0 )

**AUGUST '24**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

12 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)  
 13 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)  
 14 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)  
 15 First Day of School

**SEPTEMBER '24**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2 No School  
 18 Elementary 12:45 Dismissal  
 MS and HS 1:00 Dismissal  
 25 Elementary 12:00 Dismissal  
 MS and HS 12:15 Dismissal  
 25 Parent Teacher Conferences  
 27 No School

**OCTOBER '24**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

18 End of Quarter 1 (45 days)  
 18 Elementary 12:45 Dismissal  
 MS and HS 1:00 Dismissal  
 21 Start of Quarter 2

**NOVEMBER '24**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

1 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)  
 27 No School  
 28 No School  
 29 No School

**DECEMBER '24**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

20 Elementary 12:45 Dismissal  
 MS and HS 1:00 Dismissal  
 20 End of Quarter 2 (41 Days)  
 20 End of Semester 1 (86 days)  
 21 - 31 No School

**JANUARY '25**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1 No School  
 2 No School  
 3 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)  
 6 Start of Quarter 3

**FEBRUARY '25**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

17 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)

**MARCH '25**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

12 End of Quarter 3 (47 days)  
 13 Teachers Only (SIP/Work)  
 14 No School  
 17 Start of Quarter 4  
 19 Elementary 12:45 Dismissal  
 MS and HS 1:00 Dismissal  
 19 Parent Teacher Conferences  
 21 No School

**APRIL '25**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

18 No School  
 21 No School

**MAY '25**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

10 Graduation – 4:00 pm  
 23 Elementary 12:45 Dismissal  
 MS and HS 1:00 Dismissal  
 23 End of Quarter 4 (47 Days)  
 23 End of Semester 2 (94 days)  
 27 Teachers Only

180 student days are built into the calendar. We will only use 177. Days in excess of 177 will be removed from the end of the calendar.

<b>Start of Term / Students Return</b>	<b>Early Student Dismissal</b>	School Times: Elementary School 8:20 - 3:15 Middle School and High School 8:20 - 3:28
<b>Teachers Only</b>	<b>Parent/ Teacher Conferences</b>	
<b>No School</b>		



Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools  
P.O. Box P  
Syracuse, NE 68446-0520

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LINCOLN, NE

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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# INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- New SDA Faculty & Administration
  - School Supply Lists
  - 2024-25 School Calendar
  - And More!
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*The Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca School does not discriminate because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or handicaps.*

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## Importance of School Attendance and Being to School On Time

Good attendance and being on time are two characteristics that most successful students exhibit. Yet schools overall report that student attendance and tardiness are major problems. Research indicates that students who are chronically late or absent to school are more likely to drop out of high school. Additionally, these students fall increasingly behind due to missed instruction that forms the foundation of their learning. Students who are chronically late also disrupt instruction that has already begun in their classes, interfering with the learning of their peers as well. Finally, this behavioral pattern is carried with these students into the work world as indicated by employers who report similar problems with their employees.

The State of Nebraska now requires schools to report information regarding excessive absenteeism and to report students who are absent more than twenty days per year to the county attorney (excluding school activities). It is very important that parents reinforce the importance of good attendance and being on time. These are life skills that will improve their child's academic achievement and develop behavioral patterns of responsibility and discipline.

## SDA Rocket Vision

SDA is proud to bring you LIVE school events online. The next time you can't attend in person, check to see if you can view it from home at: [www.sdarockets.org](http://www.sdarockets.org)! Just click this icon on the home page.



## Check Out SDA Schools via Twitter® & Facebook®

SDA Schools are now on Twitter® and Facebook®. Get quick news updates on the latest game scores, upcoming events and more. Follow SDA via Twitter using @sдарockets or on Facebook as SDA Public Schools.

## Kindergarten & 7th Grade Physical Exams

Parents of students entering kindergarten or seventh grade are reminded that a physical examination or a signed waiver is required by the Board of Education prior to entering either grade. If you misplaced the form given to you earlier this year, contact Mrs. Gilkey, elementary principal or Mrs. McIntosh, middle school principal.

