



# SUPERINTENDENT'S BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

August 2011

**First day  
for all students in  
grades 4-12**

**Wednesday  
August 24, 2011**

**Students in Kindergarten  
follow this schedule:**

**Kindergarten–Green**

(last names A-L) attend August 24 only  
(last names M-Z) attend August 26 only

**Kindergarten–Blue**

(last names A-L) attend August 25 only  
(last names M-Z) attend August 29 only

**Regular Green kindergarten  
schedule begins August 30.**

**Regular Blue kindergarten  
schedule begins August 31.**

**Students in grades 1-3 follow  
this schedule:**

**1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students**

(last names A-G) attend August 24 only  
(last names H-O) attend August 25 only  
(last names P-Z) attend August 26 only

**Daily first, second, and third  
grade classroom schedules  
begin August 29.**

**Look for open house and  
schedule pick-up  
information in your  
school's newsletter this  
summer or at [www.swcs.us](http://www.swcs.us).**

## *From the Superintendent*



*Dr. Bill Wise  
Superintendent*

Welcome back to school! Whether you are new to our district or a veteran South-Western parent, everyone looks forward to the start of the school year. It's a time of anticipation, excitement and it brings a great deal of positive energy with it. We are confident that this will prove to be an outstanding year for your family and for the South-Western City School District.

As American financier Bernard Baruch once said, "Most of the successful people I've known are the ones who do more listening than talking." We've spent a lot of time listening over the summer months. We have listened to parents, grandparents, staff members and community members talk about their children and school district. We've heard a variety of perspectives. As we continue to gather input to ensure that our planning efforts capture the vision for the future that our community wants for its children and capitalize on the diverse strengths we have to offer, we want to keep the lines of communication open. If our staff can be of help in any way, please let us know.

As a district, we are proud of the academic progress we've made over the past few years and continue to make. Our staff has worked hard to help our students be successful. For that, they are to be commended. Success requires countless hours of dedication with everyone working together to ensure our children have the quality of life they deserve in the future.

Families play a key role in that success. Our students and schools want and need your involvement and support to continue to help our students make academic progress. We value you as a partner in your child's educational journey. Research shows that family involvement promotes student success resulting in improved academic performance, regular school attendance, better social skills, and students continuing on to post secondary education.

I hope to meet many of you as we work together to help our children reach for their dreams and be successful. Here's to a great school year full of exciting opportunities for our children!

Sincerely,

Bill Wise  
Superintendent

## School Contact Phone Numbers *(Attendance Line in parenthesis)*

### Elementary

**Alton Hall** – 801-8000 (801-8001)  
**Buckeye Woods** – 801-8025 (801-8026)  
**Darby Woods** – 801-8075 (801-8076)  
**Darbydale** – 801-8050 (801-8900)  
**East Franklin** – 801-8100 (801-8101)  
**Finland Elem.** – 801-8125 (801-8126)  
**Harmon** – 801-8150 (801-8920)  
**Highland Park** – 801-8200 (801-8930)  
**J.C. Sommer** – 801-8350 (801-8356)  
**Monterey** – 801-8250 (801-8255)  
**North Franklin** – 801-8275 (801-8277)  
**Prairie Lincoln** – 801-8300 (801-8301)  
**Prairie Norton** – 801-8450 (801-8451)  
**Richard Avenue** – 801-8325 (801-8950)  
**Stiles** – 801-8375 (801-8376)  
**West Franklin** – 801-8400 (801-8401)

### Intermediate

**Franklin Woods** – 801-8600 (801-8602)  
**Galloway Ridge** – 801-8850 (801-8852)  
**Hayes** – 801-6200 (801-6205)  
**Holt Crossing** – 801-8700 (801-8702)  
**Park Street** – 801-8800 (801-8802)

### Middle

**Brookpark** – 801-3500 (801-8869)  
**Finland** – 801-3600 (801-8874)  
**Jackson** – 801-3800 (801-8884)  
**Norton** – 801-3700 (801-8879)  
**Pleasant View** – 801-3900 (801-8889)

### High

**Central Crossing** – 801-6500 (801-3395)  
**Franklin Heights** – 801-3200 (801-8854)  
**Grove City** – 801-3300 (801-8859)  
**Westland** – 851-7000 (801-8979)  
**SWCA** – 801-3400 (801-8864)

### District

**Student Enrollment Center** – 801-6280  
**Preschool Center** – 801-8448  
**District Service Center** – 801-3000

For more info, visit our  
Web site at [www.swcs.us](http://www.swcs.us)

## School Times

- **Elementary School (Grades K-4):** 8:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- **Intermediate (Grades 5 & 6):** 9:10 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.
- **Middle School (Grades 7 & 8):** 9:10 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.
- **High School (Grades 9-12):** 8:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
- **South-Western Career Academy (Grades 11 & 12):** 7:57 a.m. to 3:01 p.m.

## School Fees

### Student Instructional Fee — \$20 per student

- Additionally middle school students will need a combination lock for their lockers.
- High School students may have additional fees. These are noted on student schedules.
- Upon acceptance into South-Western Career Academy programs, letters will be sent home listing lab fees and uniform costs.

## Food Service Information

### School Lunch Prices

Lunch will be available for purchase on the first day of school.

Elementary School: \$2.25/day (\$11.25/week), 40¢/day reduced\*

Intermediate School: \$2.50/day (\$12.50/week), 40¢/day reduced\*

Middle School: \$2.50/day (\$12.50/week), 40¢/day reduced\*

High School: \$2.75/day for lunch combos (\$13.75/week), 40¢/day reduced\*

Breakfast at all levels: \$1.00/day and 30¢/reduced\*

\* Information on free and reduced lunches is available at the Student Enrollment Center or at your child's school.

### PayPAMS

With PayPAMS, from the convenience of your home, you can pay for your child's meals, view your child's account balance, schedule automatic payments based on your child's account balance, receive low balance e-mail reminders, and view a report of your child's daily spending and cafeteria purchases.

Visit <http://www.swcs.us/home/FoodService/PayPAMS.htm> for more information on PayPAMS and to take a tour of the system.

## Transportation Information

### School Bus Services

Students eligible for transportation services from the South-Western City School District will receive school bus route and bus stop information as follows:

- Students in grades K-8 will receive this information in the mail the third week of August, prior to the start of school.
- Students in grades 9-12 will receive information at their schedule pick up day.

NOTE: Please retain this letter as it also contains your student's PAM and Global Connect notification system log in information.

Please notify your child's school of any change of address or childcare changes before school starts. Due to late enrollments and bus route changes, please allow flexibility the first week of school.

**Please do not call the Transportation Department for school bus numbers and/or route information. Contact your child's school.**

### High School (Grades 11 & 12) Opt In Information

In an effort to continue to fully utilize all of our school buses, we ask the parents of 11th and 12th grade students to reserve their child's seat on the bus by filling out the Opt In form found in the Transportation area of the District Web site at [www.swcs.us](http://www.swcs.us).

# 2011-2012 South-Western City Schools Master Calendar

06.01.11

## August

M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

- 8/24 First Day of School for Students in grades 4-12
- 8/24 gr 1-3\* (Last names A-G Only)
- 8/25 gr 1-3\* (Last names H-O Only)
- 8/26 gr 1-3\* (Last names P-Z Only)

\*for kindergarten dates, please view the kindergarten calendar at [www.swcs.us](http://www.swcs.us).

## September

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

- 9/5 Labor Day (No School)

## October

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

- 10/3-10/7 3rd Grade Reading Ach. Test
- 10/7 End Six Weeks
- 10/10 Begin Six Weeks
- 10/19 Early Dismissal Day
- 10/21 No School
- 10/24-11/6 OGT Testing
- 10/28 End Nine Weeks
- 10/31 Begin Nine Weeks

## November

M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

- 10/24-11/6 OGT Testing
- 11/18 End Six Weeks
- 11/21 Begin Six Weeks
- 11/23 Parent/Teacher Conferences (No School)\*
- 11/24-11/25 Thanksgiving (No School)

## December

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

- 12/7 Early Dismissal
- 12/22-1/3 Winter Break (No School)

## January

M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

- 12/22-1/3 Winter Break (No School)
- 1/13 End First Semester
- 1/16 Martin Luther King Day (No School)
- 1/17 Begin Second Semester

## February

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29		

- 2/13-2/17 OTELA (ESL) Testing
- 2/20 Parent/Teacher Conference Day (No School)\*
- 2/22 Early Dismissal
- 2/24 End Six Weeks
- 2/27 Begin Six Weeks

## March

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

- 3/12-3/16 OGT Testing
- 3/16 End Nine Weeks
- 3/19 Begin Nine Weeks

### High School Graduation Dates

- Grove City . . . . .May 26 (11 am)
- Central Crossing . .May 26 (3 pm)
- Franklin Heights . .May 26 (7 pm)
- Westland . . . . .May 27 (12 noon)

### Make-up Calamity days (if needed) will be:

February 20, April 16, June 1, 4, 5, 6.

\*Parent/Teacher conference days will be scheduled by each school.

## April

M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

- 4/5 End Six Weeks
- 4/6-4/13 Spring Break (No School)
- 4/16 Ordering Day (No School)
- 4/17 Begin Six Weeks
- 4/18 Early Dismissal Day
- 4/23-5/4 Grade 3-8 Ach. Test

## May

M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

- 4/23-5/4 Grade 3-8 Ach. Test
- 5/28 Memorial Day (No School)
- 5/31 Last Day of School for Students



**South-Western City Schools**  
3805 Marlane Dr.  
Grove City, Ohio 43123  
(614) 801-3000

- = No School
- = Early Dismissal
- = Testing Dates
- = Begin/End School



**South-Western City Schools**  
 3805 Marlane Drive  
 Grove City, OH 43123  
 www.swcs.us

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT No. 9  
 Grove City, Ohio  
 43123

**Important  
 2011-2012  
 School Year  
 Information  
 Enclosed**

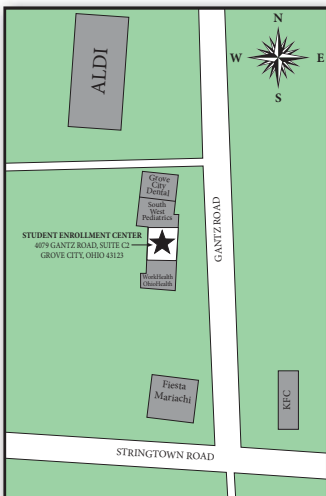
**Student Enrollment Center.....801-6280**

**Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

4079 GANTZ ROAD, SUITE C2, GROVE CITY, OHIO 43123  
**CALL 614-801-6280 FOR AN APPOINTMENT!**

All new student enrollments will be taken by APPOINTMENT (614-801-6280). Walk-ins will be served as time allows. All students new to the district must be enrolled at the Student Enrollment Center prior to attending classes at any South-Western school location. All students whose families move within the district must also change their address at the SEC. **Students do not need to be present during the registration process.**

**NOTE: Parents are required to show a state-issued photo ID at the time of registration.**



SWCS Student Enrollment Center Map

**The following student documents are required at registration:**

- Original birth certificate, (or) original hospital certificate, (or) original Baptismal certificate.
- A current lease, deed, or two current utility bills (in the parent or guardian's name) to prove residency. Cable and cell phone bills are not accepted.
- Custody documents, signed by a judge, designating the custodial parent (in cases of divorce).
- Immunization (shot) records.
- If enrolling from a foreign country for the first time, proof of a negative tuberculosis (TB) test is required.

**Parent Assistant Module (PAM)**

Last school year, the District implemented a new service allowing parents to view their child's educational information. - the Parent Assistant Module. PAM allows parents to view a variety of educational data including:

- Student's schedule of classes
- Credits earned toward graduation
- Detailed attendance information
- Emergency contact information
- School calendar, showing non-school days
- Medical screening information
- Student discipline information
- Assignments, tests and grades (grades 5-12 only)

Please review your child's emergency contact information for accuracy and submit any changes through the PAM system ([www.swcs.us/Home/parentresources/PAM.htm](http://www.swcs.us/Home/parentresources/PAM.htm)).

**Parent Notification System (PNS)**

This school year, the District will be instituting a new parent notification system (PNS), which will allow our schools to communicate general announcements, attendance information and emergency messages to families quicker and more effectively. The PNS will keep parents better informed about important activities, dates and events at school.

In order for this type of system to be most effective, we need to have current phone numbers and e-mail addresses on record at the school. Please remember to submit changes and/or updates to your contact information via the PAM system. If you do not remember your PAM username from last year, it will be provided to you again prior to the start of school.