

Parent Announcements
February 2018
D. Todd Fox, Superintendent
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FEBRUARY SCHOOL CALENDAR.

Monday, February 19, 2018 - No School (Presidents Day)

SCHOOL CALENDAR FORMULA. State Requirement: Pupil Attendance Days + Interrupted Days + Full Day of PT Conferences + 4 Teacher Institute Days = 180. Must build in 5 emergency days. Emergency days must be "made up" at the end of the year. We have used two emergency days (January 2 and January 4). At this time, the last day of student attendance will be Wednesday, May 30, 2018, with the last day for teachers being Thursday, May 31, 2018. If we would happen to exhaust all of our emergency days, the last day of student attendance would be Thursday, May 31, 2018, with the last day for teachers being Friday, June 1, 2018.

IMPORTANCE OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE. Nothing is more important than the education of your child. And attendance at school is a vital part of your child's success. Our student attendance rate is 95% (which is very good). Our school calendar is provided to our community months in advance. What am I getting at? I understand emergencies or real sickness, but taking your children out of school for vacations, trips, or simply giving them permission to skip school, hurts your child's education and nothing is more important than the education of your child. There is no way collecting homework for the week can replace the educational value of being in class with their teacher. In addition, it is the responsibility of parents and the school system to teach our young people the importance of "just showing up." The "just showing up" philosophy is a key ingredient to having a successful life. As we prepare our young people for the "real world," it is critical we do not teach them it is ok to "blow off school." "Blowing off school" will eventually lead to "blowing off a job" or other responsibilities. This attitude and mentality does not play out well in the real world when they have a job. The hard skills we teach our young people will help them get a job; however, it is the soft skills that we teach them that will help them keep that job. Attendance might be a soft skill, but it is also a critical skill.

GRADUATION 2018. The unofficial date of Graduation 2018 will be Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 2:00 PM.

BOARD EXCELLENCE. At every monthly board meeting, the board of education recognizes students, staff, and organizational accomplishments. It is called "Board Excellence." The cumulative list can be found at all times on the homepage of our district website. We have so many good things going on at SE337.

This is a tribute to our students, our teachers, and our parents. Overall Winners have included: 2014-2015=Dakota Limkemann. 2015-2016=Maddie Ramsey. 2016-2017=John Cramsey. Three of those on the list are:

Jadyn Henry - National FFA Agriscience Fair Power, Structural, and Technical Systems Division 1 National Winner.

Isaac Weese and Natalie Nanninga - ILMEA All-State Choir.

Boys Basketball - First Junior High Boys Basketball Regional Championships since 2005-2006.