



**SOUTH**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

# South Middle School Newsletter

**February 26th, 2023**

## Quick Links

**[South Middle School Website](#)**

**[South Middle School Facebook page](#)**

**[Daily Announcements](#)**

**[Community Events and Resources](#)**

**[Breakfast and Lunch Menus](#)**

## Upcoming Events

March 9<sup>th</sup> JA in a Day

March 10- Action City Fundraiser

March 13-17- Dress Up Days

March 16<sup>th</sup> - Variety Show 7 pm

March 20<sup>th</sup>- March 24<sup>th</sup> Spring Break

March 30<sup>th</sup> - Quarter 4 Sports Begin

## South Middle School Action City Fundraiser

### Price:

**\$40/per person**

### Details:

Time: 5:00 – 9:00 pm

Date: Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Price includes 4-Hour Combo Pass 2-Hour Pizza & Soda Buffet**

(\$3 required trampoline grip socks not included)

**Event Admission Open to Everyone**

**\$7.50 of Every Admission is Donated to South Middle School!**

2402 Lorch Ave. Eau Claire WI 715-852-6000 ActionCityFun.com



## We appreciate you!

The conference meal of Mancino's pizza, salad, and dessert was much appreciated by staff members. Thank you to all who contributed!



## Open Enrollment Begins February 6

### What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows students and families who don't live in our district to open enroll into the Eau Claire Area School District.

### Who May Participate?

Wisconsin residents in grades K-12 may apply to participate in open enrollment. Students in pre-kindergarten may participate in limited circumstances; parents should call the Executive Director of Administration's Office at 715-852-3003 to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify.

### How and When May Parents Apply?

The regular open enrollment application window will be February 6, 2023, through April 28, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year. Parents may submit online applications beginning February 6, 2023, at the Wisconsin Department of Instruction website at <https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>. Please call 715-852-3003 or email [districtadministration@ecasd.us](mailto:districtadministration@ecasd.us) for more information.

### Have you moved out of the district during the 2022-2023 school year?

If so, you must apply for a Tuition Waiver to continue attending the Eau Claire Area School District for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. Contact the Executive Director of Administration's Office at 715-852-3003 or email [districtadministration@ecasd.us](mailto:districtadministration@ecasd.us) for an application.

### Students Currently Attending the ECASD Through a Tuition Waiver

Students who have moved outside of the district during the 2022-2023 school year and are currently attending school under a Tuition Waiver must apply for open enrollment during the regular application window, February 6, 2023, through April 28, 2023, to continue attending during the 2023-2024 school year.

### Current Open Enrollment Students

Students currently attending the Eau Claire Area School District under the open enrollment law do not need to reapply.

### Other Information

Students that move into the district after January 2023 and anticipate moving out of the district before the 2023-2024 school year will not be eligible for a Tuition Waiver. Students must apply for open enrollment during either the regular open enrollment or alternative open enrollment period to be eligible to attend the Eau Claire Area School District during the 2023-2024 school year.

### School Placement

By completing an open enrollment application, you are applying to attend the Eau Claire Area School District. You can indicate which school your child would prefer to attend; however, the district will determine placement based on space availability.

### Questions?

If you have any questions about open enrollment or the application process, please contact the Executive Director of Administration's Office at 715-852-3003 or email [districtadministration@ecasd.us](mailto:districtadministration@ecasd.us).

## Navigating Mental Health Services in the Chippewa Valley

Getting access to mental health services can be challenging and confusing to do on your own. The “[Navigating Mental Health Services](#)” packet makes it easier to find help. The packet includes phone numbers for local services, commonly asked questions, and a mental health wellness check tool.

This information is provided by The Alliance for Substance Misuse Prevention coalition, which works to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and other drug misuse. For more information or to sign up for the Alliance’s Parent/Guardian Newsletter, visit [www.getinvolvedasap.org](http://www.getinvolvedasap.org)



## News and Announcements

### Free Drive-Up COVID-19 Testing

Beginning December 5, 2022, through a partnership with Wisconsin Department of Health Services, free drive-up testing for COVID-19 for ECASD students, staff and families will be offered Monday-Thursday at the following locations:

- **Locust Lane Elementary, 3:30-6:30 pm**
- **Putnam Heights Elementary, 4:30-7:30 pm**
- **Sherman Elementary, 4:30-7:30 pm**

**\*Drive-up testing will only take place on days when school is in session.**

### Free and Reduced Lunches

You can find answers to your questions regarding the free and reduced price meal application **HERE**. This is a great FAQ page, and you can also see if you qualify for free or reduced lunches.

## Food & Nutrition Workers Needed!

Are you or is someone you know looking for a job with daytime hours only? Weekends and Holidays off? Summer break, winter break, and spring break off and the ability to earn some extra income while still being home with your school age children? If yes, please consider applying to the Eau Claire Area School District Food and Nutrition program as a substitute or regular employee! Some positions are benefit eligible. Food service experience preferred, but not required. Interested candidates should submit an online application. For open positions and application instructions visit our Employment Opportunities section at <http://www.ecasd.us/District/Departments/Human-Resources/Employment-Opportunities>. Please contact Josh Guckenberger, Food and Nutrition Director, at 715-852-3021, with questions.



## Summer Programs 2023



Program Guide release date, February 20, 2023  
[https://www.ecasd.us/District/Departments/Teaching-and-Learning/Summer-Programs-\(1\)](https://www.ecasd.us/District/Departments/Teaching-and-Learning/Summer-Programs-(1))

## Summer Programs

ECASD Summer Programs release date for the summer school program guide will be **February 20, 2023**. Check out the offerings for summer school programs that will be offered for your child at the following link  
[https://www.ecasd.us/District/Departments/Teaching-and-Learning/Summer-Programs-\(1\)](https://www.ecasd.us/District/Departments/Teaching-and-Learning/Summer-Programs-(1)) . Register early as classes fill quickly.



## DRESS-UP DAYS

**MONDAY, MARCH 13: COLOR OUT**  
(6TH GRADE WHITE, 7TH GRADE -PINK, 8TH GRADE -RED)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14: DECADES DAY**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15: COLLEGE WEAR**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 16: BEACH DAY**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 17: GREEN DAY**



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## Counseling Corner

As many more students and young adults are experimenting with vaping in this newsletter, we share some information from Change to Chill about how it can be a risk to even your mental health.

**Whether you are a teen or young adult, a parent, or even an ex-smoker, you've probably wondered:**

**Is vaping bad for you?**

Although some of this data is still up for debate, recent mental health findings show that vaping has negative side effects on a user's mental health. Use our resources to get a grasp on how vaping could affect you or a loved one's mental health and well-being.

# IS VAPING BAD FOR YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

Vaping with or without nicotine has been shown to impact impulse control, especially in young adults whose brains have not fully developed yet. Some of these risks include mood disorders and permanent damage to parts of the brain responsible for memory, emotion and critical thinking. [View our informative videos](#), as well as the resources below to understand the full impact of vaping on mental health and the brain.

## Helpful PDFs & Resources on Vaping

- [What You Need to Know About E-Cigarettes](#)
- [How Tobacco and Nicotine Affect Youth and Young Adults](#)
- [MN Department of Health Student Survey](#)
- [A Guide About E-Cigarettes, 'Vapes', and JUULs for Parents](#)
- [A Guide About E-Cigarettes, 'Vapes', and JUULs for Teachers](#)
- [School E-Cigarette Tool Kit](#)
- [My Life My Quit](#)

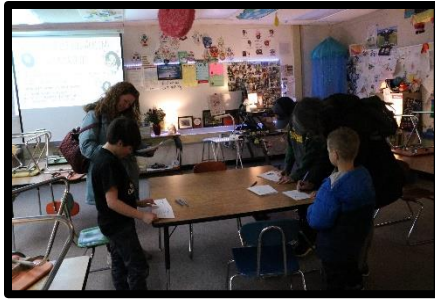
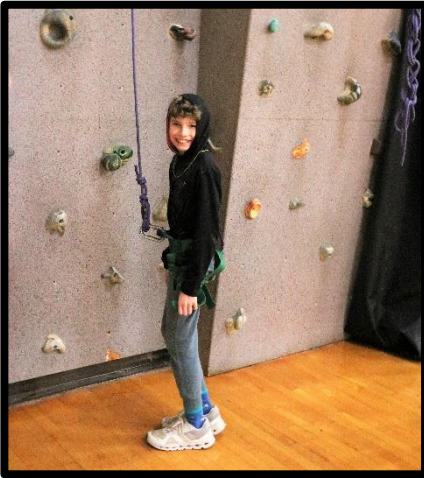
You can find more information here: <https://www.changetochill.org/mental-health-vaping/>

Check out the ECASD Family Services page to find helpful ECASD and community resources.

[WWW.ECASD.US/FAMILYSERVICES](http://WWW.ECASD.US/FAMILYSERVICES)



# Inside the Walls of South



**Showcase  
of  
Learning**





### **Congratulations!**

South Science Olympiad team competed at the Regional Competition on Saturday, Feb. 18th and brought home 12 medals! Congratulations to the team on qualifying for the state tournament.

### **8<sup>th</sup> grade Academic and Career planning event: Junior Achievement in a Day (JA in a Day)**

On Thursday, March 9th, 2023, eighth graders at South Middle School will participate in a career day. This event represents a partnership among several groups including Junior Achievement, the Eau Claire Area School district, Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce and many other local businesses and organizations.

In the morning, students will engage in workshops regarding education and career opportunities throughout the Chippewa Valley. They will attend a panel presentation with local entrepreneurs, an expo with representatives from multiple career clusters and learn about career-related skills from volunteers in our community.

In the afternoon, students will visit two business sites within the community. Students will tour the businesses to learn more about career options. Busses will leave South after lunch (11:30) and return prior to the end of the school day.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the field trip, please contact the student services office. We are looking forward to a great day of activities to assist you child in planning for their future.