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WELCOME

On behalf of the district and the parent-teacher organization, **welcome to South Shore!** This mailing provides some basic information for families who are new to the district. You will receive a more comprehensive packet from the district a couple weeks before school starts, but hopefully the information here helps you prepare for the upcoming school year and the new routine. Please feel free to contact the district office if you have other questions that we haven't answered here. Contact info is provided on the last page.

South Shore offers 4K–12th grade in Port Wing, WI. The district is approximately 300 square miles. Enrollment has been increasing slightly in recent years. There are approximately 190 students enrolled.

District Information



School Schedule

School typically starts the day after Labor Day, and ends the last week of May. The school day runs from 8:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

4K/Preschool & Daycare

4-year-old kindergarten (4K, or preschool) is offered to students who are 4 years old at the start of the school year. 4K lasts the full school day and takes place 2 days a week. For the remaining 3 days of the week, South Shore provides free daycare during the school day. This is available to any student as soon as they turn 4 – *even if they are not 4 when the school year starts* (different from 4K).

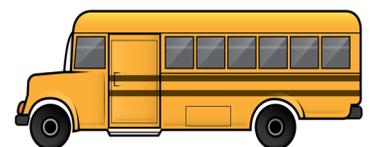


Bus Schedule

There are 4 bus routes, each originating in: Oulu, Iron River, and Cornucopia. The first students to get on in the morning are those at the edge of the district, boarding around 6:35 a.m. The last students to board (closer to the school) get on about 7:55 a.m. In the afternoon, those closest to school are the first to be dropped off. The first students get off about 3:25 p.m. The last students are dropped off about 4:30 p.m.

See “Latchkey” on the next page for info about the late bus. Note: pick-up/drop-off times can vary 10 minutes +/- depending on road conditions and which students are on the bus that day.

The registration packet you receive before school (see next page) will include a list of students on your child’s bus, their address, and the order on which they board the bus. This will give you an idea of when your child will get on/off the bus. However if you need more detail, you may contact Roger at JR Motorworks (715-209-2030) and he may be able to give you more info.





Latchkey

Latchkey is designed to offer a safe place and informal educational opportunities for students after school if an adult is unable to be home when children arrive from school. Activities that students can expect during Latchkey include reading, games, free play, and snack. Currently it is offered Mon-Thurs until 5:15 p.m. The Late Bus is available for students to ride home. Note: students may be dropped off at a different location than where they board in the morning.

Special Education

Some children have unique learning needs that require specially designed instruction. If you suspect your child has a disability, you can make a referral to the local school district. There are many agencies, organizations, and educational resources to help families. Children with disabilities and their parents have certain rights under IDEA (WI Dept of Public Instruction <https://dpi.wi.gov/sped>). South Shore welcomes parents with questions or concerns about their child's educational needs to contact the Director of Special Education and/or the School Psychologist. The school district will accept referrals of students with suspected disabilities from all persons who have reasonable cause to believe that such needs exist. Specific state criteria will be adhered to in determining eligibility for specific conditions.

South Shore provides breakfast and lunch for all students at no charge. You can help ensure this program continues by filling out the form regarding free/reduced lunches in the registration packet *even if you think you don't qualify*.

Breakfast & Lunch



Families receive packets from the district about two weeks before school begins. There are a lot of forms to fill out — a lot! — so plan some time for this. Also included: school policies, bus info, school orientation date, much more.

Registration Packets



Parent Teacher Organization

That's us! The PTO is a group of parents and teachers working together to support opportunities for our students. We provide volunteers and funding for student activities, special events, classroom supplies and much more. We meet once a month at the school. Meetings are informal, dinner is provided, and there is no cost to participate. Everyone is welcome, just bring your energy and ideas!

Contacting the School

If you need to reach your child or their teacher during the school day, call the main district phone at 715-774-3500. E-mail is another good way to reach teachers, they can respond as they have time. And don't forget to call the school if your child will miss school that day (ex. out sick or on vacation).

SSEF has provided support to students and staff in the South Shore School District, most notably by providing a personal computer to every student. The Foundation has supported music, forensics, civics, athletics and other activities through grants. Find out more about this organization at www.ssef.us.

South Shore Education Foundation

School Board

The school board has the general responsibility for management and supervision of the school district. School board members are elected from each municipality within the district. Meetings are currently held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the high school library.

▶ DID YOU KNOW ?

South Shore Elementary *Exceeds Expectations* based on average scores for student achievement, school growth, closing gaps and post-secondary readiness (WI Dept. of Public Instruction).

The school has also been designated as a *New Wisconsin Promise School of Recognition* for eleven years in a row!



QUESTIONS ? ◀

A couple weeks before school starts there will be an orientation night where you'll have a chance to meet with your child's teacher, see their classroom and ask questions. Watch for the date in the school newsletter or registration packet. If you have questions before then, please don't hesitate to contact us.

The district office can be reached at 715-774-3500 extension 6, or email dreijo@sshore.org (Diana) or lkavajecz@sshore.org (Linda).

To speak with other South Shore parents, contact the PTO. Our president, Dani Kobie, can be reached at 715-372-XXXX.



SEE YOU AT SOUTH SHORE !