

GETTING READY TO START THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR
SUPERIOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

August is here and that means school is right around the corner!
Students start school on August 21, 2023, and the day starts at 8:05 for all students. The first day is scheduled for a regular out -
Elementary out at 3:35; 6-12 out at 3:38.

On Fridays, elementary dismisses at 2:35 and Middle School/High School dismisses at 2:38.
(end of day subject to change pending board action)

*** NO BREAKFAST THE FIRST DAY ***

****MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL – USE ENTRANCE DOOR #27****

Pre-K ORIENTATION – By Appointment August 9, 10 & 11

Pre-K starts August 21, 2023

ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE

The elementary will have an open house on August 17. Students and Parents PK–5 at 6:00 p.m.

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

The middle school will have an open house on August 17. Sixth graders at 6:30 p.m. and Seventh and Eighth graders at 7:00 p.m.

DAILY BUS DROP OFF LOCATION

The school has one drop off area which is located at the East entrance to our Elementary.

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP STUDENTS:

PRE KINDERGARTEN

Please **drop off your student** at the East entrance to our Elementary. A staff member will be at the East entrance to help them to their classroom. Drop off at East doors if no buses present or pull as far west as possible north of the gym. School starts promptly at 8 AM for morning class and 12:15 PM for afternoon classes. Please **pick up your student** by entering the parking lot north of the Elementary gym.

ELEMENTARY K-5

Please **drop off your student** at the East entrance to our Elementary. Drop off at East doors if no buses present or pull as far west as possible north of the gym. Please **pick up your student** by entering the parking lot north of the Elementary gym.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/SENIOR HIGH

Please **drop off your student** at the North entrance of the Middle School/Senior High School. Please **pick up your student** at the North entrance of the Middle School/Senior High School. **DO NOT** block students in who are trying to leave.

***If you are dropping off students in both Elementary and Middle School/Senior High, please have all students enter through the East Elementary entrance.**

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

TO AVOID TRAFFIC, THINK ABOUT TAKING FOURTH STREET THROUGH THE PARK TO GET TO THE NORTH PARKING LOT.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION

TRANSPORTATION

If you are new or have moved and will be riding the bus, please contact Jeff Kimberly, Transportation director-so he can coordinate with the appropriate driver. Please call 402-879-3257, ext. 204.

PICK UP TIMES: (WILL ADJUST AS NEEDED)

GUIDE ROCK-6:45 AM

NELSON-6:55 AM

HARDY-7:20 AM

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DRIVERS NEEDED

The school is always in need of substitute route drivers and activity trip drivers. If you are interested in obtaining your license, please contact Jeff Kimberly at 402-879-3257, ext. 204.

ROUTINE

With the start of school coming, parents we need your help. Please get the family into a school routine. If your family is like most, a regular routine in the summer is impossible. Set a regular bed time (if your kids have cell phones, make them check the cell phone into you before bed time so they are not texting all night). Students need a solid eight hours of sleep.

Parents - please check your children's overall health and their temperature. If their temperature is 100.4 or higher, they will need to stay home.

Get to the library and find some good books for the kids to read. Give them some math problems to do. Kids need to get back in the mind set of learning. It is vital for students to be in school at all times. Getting school work made up is hard. We have enclosed a calendar with scheduled breaks. Please plan accordingly. Teach your child to be organized. Show your child some of the techniques you use to keep yourself organized. Sit down with your child on Sunday night and compare calendars. Have your child put everything needed for school the next day by the door or in a designated sport the night before.

STUDENT SUPPLY LIST

Local retailers will have the list for suggested school supplies. The list will also be posted on Social Media and on our website.

NEW STAFF

Kindergarten ~ Emma Fynbu
First Grade ~ Kara Dael
Second Grade ~ Abby Williams
Third Grade ~ Tori Schoof
Fifth Grade ~ Judi Roach
Secondary Principal ~ Jennifer Cady

Ag ~ Brent Thomas
Secondary Business ~ Cletus Corman
Secondary Art ~ Cheneal Benne
Athletic Director ~ Stephanie Corman
Counselor ~ Audrey Parks
Superintendent ~ John Whetzal

CHILDFIND

The Early Development Network serves children from birth to age three and their families. A child is eligible for Early Development Network services if he or she is not developing typically, or has been diagnosed with a health condition that will affect his or her development. Identifying such delays or disabilities usually involves both the family and a team of professionals. To find out more, contact Mrs. Fierstein, Elementary Principal at 402-879-3257, Ext. 225.

PHYSICALS REQUIRED

All kindergarten students are required to have a physical. All seventh grade students need a physical and all out of state students, regardless of grade, need a physical before they can register.

ATHLETES

Fall practices start August 7 for football, volleyball, cross country, and girls golf. Before being allowed to practice, all athletes, regardless of grade, must have a physical form to the school. If an athlete does not plan on participating in the fall, they should still get a physical and be ready for the season of their choice. The physical form from the school has information on the backside that must be signed by the athlete's parents.

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DRESS CODE

All students are expected to maintain a desirable manner of appearance and conduct. Spaghetti strap shirts or halter-tops are not permitted. Shirts that do not cover up the belly button are not allowed. Articles of clothing that make reference to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or any other unacceptable activity or product will not be permitted in school. **Shorts must be hemmed and of an appropriate length. Decency and modesty should prevail.**

CALENDAR ENCLOSED

The yearly calendar is enclosed with activities scheduled to date. Please check the webpage, social media or watch for the monthly Express page to keep updated on any changes.

BREAKFAST

Breakfast is available from 7:40 AM to 8:00 AM. Please encourage your children to eat breakfast. PLEASE DO NOT SEND OUTSIDE FOOD WITH YOUR CHILD TO EAT IN THE CAFETERIA UNLESS IT IS A SACK LUNCH. THIS APPLIES TO BREAKFAST AND LUNCH.

LUNCH

The federal program rules limit total calories available to 800 calories for lunch. Again, kids have choices to make when they come through the line, but students are required to take a fruit or a vegetable every day. If you get a chance, come out and eat lunch and see what we have to offer.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES

K-12 Breakfast = FREE

K-12 Lunch = FREE

Snack and Second Milk = \$.45

À la carte items = Price varies (\$1.00 - \$2.50)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer> or at any USDA office or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PLEASE NOTE: As stated above, all protected bases do not apply to all programs, the first six protected bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex are the six protected bases for applicants and recipients of the Child Nutrition Programs.

WEBPAGES/SCHOOL INFORMATION
ONLINE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

If you have a student enrolled at Superior Public Schools, you can keep track of how they are doing. Our Student Information System-JMC-allows parents to log in and see how things are going. You may also access your lunch account balance. Contact the office for the webpage and log-in information.

SUPERIOR SCHOOLS WEBPAGE

The school website is: www.superiorwildcats.org. You can find daily announcements, school calendar, lunch menu, etc. This is a great way to stay in touch. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

****JMC ALERT****

The school will utilize JMC Alert for mass notification. This is a system that we can utilize through our student information system. The system will call and/or text with school closing information. The student handbooks will have more information on how to sign up.

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FLASHLIGHT

The Flashlight is the name of the student publication put out each month. The Flashlight is distributed around the community to businesses that advertise in the publication and all Middle School and Senior High students get a copy.

WELLNESS POLICY

The school district is committed to providing a school environment that enhances learning and the development of lifelong wellness. The Policy focus is on Nutrition Education and Physical Education. One of the changes is what is brought to school for celebrations. Celebrations that involve food will be limited during the school day. Please ask your child's teacher about what is acceptable.

KEYLESS ENTRY

The district transitioned to keyless entry at all buildings. We updated and put the school buildings on the same system. We will be able to track who and when someone enters the building. At the main entrance at the high school, you will have to buzz the office to be able to get in the building. At the elementary building, you will still be able to get to the office area to check in before entering the building.

NEW DRIVER SAFETY

Getting a driver's license is an exciting time for teenagers. But driving comes with serious responsibilities. Help your teen be safe on the road with these rules:

****Always buckle up and insist that your passengers wear seatbelts, too. Follow the law and your parents' rules about how many friends you can have in the car.**

****Focus all your attention on the road. Music can be distracting, so keep the radio low or off. Don't use cell phones for talking or text-messaging while driving-it is unsafe and it is against the law in Nebraska.**

****Never drink and drive or ride with someone who is under the influence of any drug. Remember that over-the-counter drugs, like antihistamines, can make you drowsy.**

****Educate yourself on organ donation.****

TECHNOLOGY

Technology is a wonderful thing and at the same time, tragic if used improperly. How many of you are texters? Bloggers? If you understand those questions, then you are part of the connected generation. Have you ever seen the acronyms lol, Jtlyk, paw? Texting can be addictive. Some students (and some adults as well) have a hard time putting down the phone. They are always connected. If they are not on the phone, they are on the computer, checking in with their Instagram or Facebook account (or whatever site they use) and friends. For the record: lol = laugh out loud; jtlyk = just to let you know; paw= parents are watching. Parents need to be more aware of what children are doing on the cell phone or social media accounts. As parents, ask the child to whom they are talking. Put the computer in an area that you are in. Look over their shoulder. They may get mad, so be it, but be aware of what is out there. Discuss the dangers and future repercussions with your child. Employers are starting to look into applicants' history by checking out possible social network spots. Something an applicant thinks is cool, may allow a future employer a chance to reconsider if this is someone they can have in the office. If, as a parent, you are having trouble starting that conversation, there are many resources out there that can give you information to help with the discussion. Remember: your job is to protect the child. If the child is upset about it, then they are probably doing things that are questionable.

CYBER BULLYING

Another aspect of technology that school officials are required to be more aware of is cyber bullying. Cyber bullying is bullying with the use of technology. The forms of technology used for cyber bullying include social networking sites (Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok Facebook), web blogs, emails, instant messaging, cell phones (calling, texting, photographs and videos), iPads, PDA are all commonly used for cyber bullying. Again, parents need to be aware of what your child receives or sends to help keep this out of the technology world.

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TOLERANCE

Ralph W. Sackman, the great American pastor, writer and broadcaster once said "the test of courage comes when we are in the minority. The test of tolerance comes when we are in the majority." Tolerance is not about giving up any of your own beliefs, but accepting differences in others. It is about seeing the other side to every story. Parents and teachers have an opportunity to teach tolerance to our children and to let them see for themselves that difference is not a bad thing and that when we celebrate our religious, cultural, or other differences, we are much stronger as individuals and as a community. There are many ways we can teach tolerance, but perhaps the most important way is to be aware of our own attitudes and subtle prejudices against others who are not the same as us. Children learn by imitating the adults in their lives. If we practice fairness and tolerance, they will try to be fair and tolerant. If, however we reinforce stereotypes and intolerance children will pick up that behavior as well. Another thing that we can do is to help identify negative portrayals of minority groups that we see in the media or popular effect. We need to monitor what they are watching and listening to so that we can point out intolerance and show them a different path to follow. It is also important starting in children's early years, that we have open discussions with them about the differences in people and that we answer their questions as honestly as possible. America has not always been a fully tolerant society and we need to acknowledge that but that doesn't mean that we cannot be a better society today and into the future. Tolerance does not mean that we have to accept inappropriate actions or behaviors but it does mean that everyone deserves a measure of respect. Children who learn to respect themselves first will have an easier time respecting and accepting others. Perhaps the greatest lesson we can pass on to our children is to help them learn tolerance and to fully accept the other side of the story. (from cut and paste volume 11/#4/April 2010)

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF PARTICIPATION IN TITLE I OF THE ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA)**

Pursuant to the Requirements of Title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) of 1994, the public is hereby notified that the Superior Public Schools, whose official address is 601 West 8th Street, Superior, NE, has been approved for funding under Title 1 IASA for the express purpose of serving students with special needs in the areas of mathematics and reading/language arts to help insure that all children acquire the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in the 21st century. John Whetzal, whose official title is Superintendent, has been authorized by the Board of Education to serve as its representative for all matters concerning Title 1 ESEA for the 2023-2024 school year.

The public is further notified that a council composed of parents, teachers, and interested citizens may be established for the purpose of advising the school on matters relating to the Title 1 program. Under the regulations the school must host an annual meeting open to all parents of eligible students.

Persons interested in any aspect of the Title 1 ESEA program including but not limited to the application and budgets and complaint procedures, or other information and data concerning Title 1 which is not subject to the Family Rights and Privacy Act are requested to contact the Office of the Superintendent, Superior Public Schools, Superior, Nebraska.

SUPERIOR BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The Superior Public Schools offers the following career and technical education programs for all students regardless of race, color national origin, including those with limited English proficiency, sex or disability in grades 9-12: *Construction Science, Business Education, Agricultural Education and Industrial Arts*. Persons seeking further information concerning the career and technical education offerings and specific pre-requisite criteria should contact: John Whetzal, Superintendent, Superior Public Schools, 601 West 8th Street, PO Box 288, Superior, NE 68978, (402) 879-3257, jwhetzal@superiorwildcats.org. To obtain this information in a language other than English, call (402) 879-3257.

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