



...Attendance

Connected and Involved Parents...

Parent Portals

The district continues to evaluate software that allows parents to access student progress, attendance, and other records online. RHS is using the the "TSIS" version of this type of software while the other high schools are evaluating a system named "Campus". You can view your SES student's progress through this "Campus" system. If the student is taking classes at AVHS, EHS, EVHS similar records can be viewed for those schools as well. RHS students will access the TSIS system using a process sent home by RHS or available through the counselors there.

If you have been using the Campus system the login and password that worked last year will continue to work at SES this year. If you did not use the system password requests were collected during "back to school" night. Requests can be filled out at the September 13 open house or by stopping by the office during business hours. To receive a password you will need to be listed as a legal parent or guardian of the student and have a government issued picture ID with you.

Those with a login can continue to access the site from the portal link on the SES main page at: www.district196.org/ses/

The address for connecting directly to the portal is:-
<https://sis.district196.org:8443/campus/portal/district196.jsp>

SES Website www.district196.org/ses/

Announcements and reminders will be sent home electronically this year using the district's Backpack Online service. We are anticipating sending out information about every two weeks. Click on the link near the top of our web page to subscribe.

Attention Junior Parents

We need experienced adult canoeists willing and able to provide additional supervision and support to our juniors as they canoe on the Cannon River on Wednesday, October 10. We leave SES at 7:45, travel by bus to Cannon Falls, canoe to Welch, and return to SES by 2:00. Interested? Please contact Mr. Haisting in the Rose House at scott.haisting@district196.org or Ms. Unzicker in Blue House at jean.unzicker@district196.org.

SES Site Council

An important informational meeting will be held for parents interested in serving on the SES Site Council. Mr. Bodette will provide a site council overview on October 4 from 5:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the forum. Because of great parent involvement, we have divided our site council into three smaller groups that include: graduation, building the SES community, and the School of Environmental Studies Foundation (SESEF).

School of Environmental Studies Education Foundation (SESEF) - www.SESEF.org

The School of Environmental Studies Education Foundation (SESEF) will have a booth set up during the open house on September 13. Please stop by and learn how you can assist the foundation. SESEF is currently looking for new board members. Please see Mr. Bodette if you are interested in serving in this capacity. The ninth annual SESEF campaign drive will occur during the fall. Information will be mailed in a few weeks.

Student - Parent - Teacher Conferences

The School of Environmental Studies (SES) will hold first-trimester parent conferences on October 4th and October 9th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. As always, we recommend parents bring their son or daughter with them to the conference. Please note that teachers leading field study meetings will be unavailable during their thirty-minute field study meetings on October 4th (please see the Field Study Insert for meeting times).

Daily attendance is very important at SES. Please call the office at 952-431-8750 before 10:00 a.m. (the earlier the better) to report an absence or to inform us that the student needs to leave school during the day for an appointment. We do not accept notes.

During the school day our attendance secretary will call parents of absent students lacking a matching parent phone call from home.

Students with unexcused absences are assigned a detention for each block of the school day they miss. All detentions must be completed before the end of each trimester. Students with outstanding detentions at the end of the trimester will receive incompletes or may be suspended from school.

The learning experience at SES is highly interactive and participatory. We appreciate your help to ensure that students at SES have good attendance in all classes.

Please monitor attendance through the parent portal.

Intensive Theme

The Trimester One Intensive Theme time period is from November 8th through November 16. During this time, SES students will either participate in one of several day-long SES classes such as Marine Biology, or they may be off on a field study in one of our fall locations. Regular trimester classes will then resume on November 19th and end on November 29. All schedule changes for trimester two will need to be completed at that time.

Senior Information

Information will be coming shortly about SES senior graduation announcements. Most SES seniors have ordered SES announcements in the past, while some have chosen to order announcements from their home high school. All SES seniors order their high school caps and gowns at SES through Jostens. The Jostens representative will come to SES to take orders for all announcements, caps, gowns and more. Graduation will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wed., June 11th, at the Minnesota Zoo Amphitheater- weather permitting.

Testing

SES scored a composite score of 23.8 on the ACT. This matches the 196 district average of 23.8, and is well above state and national averages. Year-after-year SES students excel on National College Entrance Exams. Brochures for the ACT test-prep sessions held at SES were mailed home during the summer. These brochures will be available at the open house September 13 and online at our web site. Many of our students take the ACT class at SES to improve upon their ACT scores. Please sign up early due to limited space.

SES will host the annual PSAT exam on the morning of Wednesday, October 17. Only SES juniors will be eligible to take the PSAT. The PSAT, which is optional, gives students valuable experience in taking college admissions tests like the SAT and the ACT. A copy of the registration information is enclosed. We highly encourage SES juniors to take the PSAT exam. Completed forms can be returned to the counselling office at SES.

United Way Contributions

Please note that you can designate your United Way contribution to the SES Foundation (SESEF). Simply list the School of Environmental Studies, 12155 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124 on your form.

Art Department donations requested.

If you are looking for ways to support the visual arts at SES the following are current needs from the art room. Check your closets and garages for items in good repair and consider sending them in!

- 1"-2" three ring binders
- 1/8" Masonite boards
- Food blenders, wood utensils, flatware
- Plastic dry cleaning bags, shirt cardboard
- Fabric remnants, thread, bobbins, needles
- Film Cameras with capability of changing lens
- Easels
- Yarns, small looms, knitting needles, crochet hooks
- Digital Cameras manual capability preferred, point and shoot ok, used CF cards
- Plastic coffee lids, plastic wrap, aluminum foil

Self-Administration of Non-Prescription Pain Medication (7-12th grade)

This school year 7-12th grade students are allowed to carry over the counter pain medication based on the following:

- Parents sign off on the emergency card
- The medication must be in the original container
- The student is determined to be knowledgeable in the proper dose, use and administration of this medication in a manner consistent with labeling
- Students may not carry any medication containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine
- Students cannot share medication with others
- If school administration determines these rules have been abused, the school may revoke these privileges

All prescription medications with the exception of Epi Pens and inhalers must be kept in the nurse's office. Generic Tylenol and Ibuprofen will still be available to all students with a signed emergency card.

Call Jane Schleisman, School Nurse, with any questions: 952-431-8796.

SES Yearbook

The SES 2007 yearbook is underway! At SES we do not use mass marketing techniques to sell the book. Instead, newsletters like this one, announcements during the school day, and the school web site are the ways that parents receive yearbook news.

Yearbook orders were collected during the "back-to-school" day in August. Orders are still being taken in the SES office. Simply place a check made out to SES for \$33.00 in the envelope marked YEARBOOK ORDERS. Be sure to include the student's name on the memo line. Deadlines are

December 20	\$33.00
January 28	\$40.00

During the last week of school we will sell a *limited* number of extra copies for \$50.00.

Senior pictures are printed in color and should be turned in by December 2. Any reasonable size picture can be turned in to the folder in the office marked SENIOR PICTURES.

School pictures were taken during the "back-to-school" day in August. Students not able to attend will have the opportunity to have their picture taken on retake day- October 9. The pictures are used for the school ID which is needed to allow the student access to outside agencies (MN DNR, ZOO, Fish and Wildlife...) and SES resources during the year. They may also be used by the yearbook staff.

Grad Ad forms are available for parents in the office and during open houses and conferences. Grad Ads are a great way for parents to congratulate their graduate and are due December 2nd. Turn in completed forms with a check for \$20.00 to the folder in the office marked GRAD ADS. See past yearbooks for great ideas of how to create meaningful ads.

THE FIELD STUDY



INSERT

Field Study Prep meetings occur during parent conferences and open houses. During these meetings itineraries are reviewed, forms are collected, deposits are collected and past adventures are shared. The meetings are important for students and parents. Be sure that someone from the family attends each meeting.

2007 - 2008 Field Study Dates

Fall Trimester:	November 8 - 16
Winter Trimester:	Feb. 21 - 29
Spring Trimester:	May 21 - 30

Field Study Meetings During Open House

September 13 - 30 minutes each

New Zealand	6:00	Forum -	\$1200 payment due
Fall Curacao	6:00	Library -	\$950 payment due
Yucatan	6:00	Gold House -	\$775 payment due
Florida	6:00	Blue House -	\$380 payment due
Peru	6:00	Green Science	\$1300 payment due
Missouri Bike	6:00	Rose Science -	\$250 payment due
Australia	6:30	Library -	\$600 payment due
Galapagos	6:30	Conference rm	\$2200 payment
Kilimanjaro	6:30	Forum -	\$600 payment due
Alaska	7:00	Green Science	information only
South Africa	7:00	Forum -	\$800 payment due
Iceland	7:00	Gold House -	\$800 payment due
France/Spain	7:00	Blue Classrm	\$900 payment due

Meetings During October 4th Conferences

Teachers will be out of the classroom during each 30 minute session

Time	Study	Place	Payment	Staff
5:30	Summer Norway	Forum	\$600	Mr. Bodette
6:00	Yucatan	Gold House	\$775	Mr. Carlson
	New Zealand	Forum	\$Bal.	Mr. Bodette
	Peru	Rose Sci.	\$Bal.	Ms. Tunseth
	So. Florida	Rose Lab	\$380	Ms. Unzicker
	Mo. Biking	Green Sci.	\$245	Mr. Haisting
6:30	Curacao	Forum	\$990	Ms. McBrien
	Winter Expedition	Green Sci.	\$145	Mr. Paulsen
	Costa Rica	Rose Sci	\$925	Ms. Tunseth
	Belize	Gold House	\$925	Mr. Carlson
	Australia	Blue House	\$1000	Ms. Oppelt
7:00	Kilimanjaro	Library	\$1000	Mr. Bodette
	Iceland	Green Sci.	\$800	Mr. Johnson
7:30	Glacier	Library	\$350	Mr. Bodette
	South Africa	Forum	\$700	Mr. Bodette
	Alaska	Gold class	\$400	Ms. Clements

Options for Hepatitis A immunization

If a Hepatitis A series is needed for an SES Field Study there are several ways to accomplish this. When a field study requires a prescription for malaria medication along with a Hepatitis A immunization, the most efficient way is to go to your doctor or travel clinic and receive the prescription and 1st immunization for Hepatitis A. When a Hepatitis A immunization alone is needed or when you are receiving your 2nd/booster Hepatitis A you might find these options **helpful**:

Dakota County Public Health Department on the corner of Galaxie and Co. Rd. 42 offers Hepatitis immunization to students 18 years and younger by appointment or at 3rd Tuesday of the month Walk-in Clinics. The time is 4:00- 6:30pm for walk in or call 952-891-7528 for an appointment. A parent must accompany the student or send a signed note requesting Hepatitis A. Students without insurance coverage or students with a copay on vaccines will be asked for a donation of \$14 per immunization. If your insurance covers vaccines, you should go to your doctor or travel clinic to receive the vaccination.

Hepatitis A will soon be offered through ISD 196 Nursing Service at SES for students 18 years old and younger who do not have insurance or would have a copay for immunizations through insurance. Parents need to fill out appropriate forms and return it to the nurse with \$10.

Call Jane Schleisman, SES Nurse, with any questions at 952-431-8796.

SES Summer 08 Norway Backpacking Experience

SES is planning a first-ever summer backpacking trip to Norway the summer of 08. Please stop by to learn more about the field experience on the October 4th night of parent conferences.

Students will backpack in one of Norway's most famous national parks (Jotenheimen). They will have the opportunity to visit fjords, glaciers, snow-cap mountains, and stay in many of the classy huts overnight along the trail. The scenery is spectacular.

This field study will be limited to ten students traveling on the approximate dates of 6/24/08-7/3/08. The cost of the trip is \$1600 plus airfare. A down payment of \$600 will be collected at the October 4th meeting.

School of Environmental Studies

Early Fall Newsletter, 2007



September 4, 2007

Dear Students and Parents of SES:

A special thanks to all parents and students for getting SES off to a successful start for the 2007-2008 school year. For the thirteenth year we will be combining our best efforts with our great students to create the wonderful learning environment that is SES. Dan Bodette, *Principal*

Found Inside...

Stay Connected

Open House
Backpack Online
Parent Portals
SES Website and E-mail

Stay Involved

SES Site Council
Education Foundation (SESEF)
Parent/ Student Conferences
Call for parent canoeists!

Be Informed

Parent Portals
Attendance
Site Council
New Medication Policy
Intensive Theme
Senior Information
Testing Results

SES Yearbook

Field Studies

Payment Schedules
Hepatitis A

Odds -n- Ends

Parking
Honors Ranking
Much More...

Forms to Return

PSAT Registration
College Fair Permission
Poinsettia Order

Open House

Please take note of a few important dates during trimester one at SES. An Open House will be held on September 13, 2007. All parents and students are encouraged to drop in any time between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. to meet the teaching staff, be introduced to the curriculum and to stay informed. Several field study meetings will also occur during the open house. Please note the times and room locations printed in the field study insert. Also note the payment schedule for all 2007-2008 field experiences.

School Safety Drills in 2007-08

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety of students, staff and visitors to our school is a top priority that is under constant review. One of the ways we stay prepared for possible emergencies is by conducting annual drills like fire drills, tornado drills and lockdown drills.

Again this school year, a revised Minnesota law requires that all schools statewide conduct at least five fire drills, one tornado drill and five lockdown drills during the year. The recent changes in this law increases the number of required lockdown drills from one to five each year and decreases the number of required fire drills from nine to five.

In our school district, all five required fire drills will involve students and will be held throughout the year. The tornado drill will also involve students and will be held during severe weather awareness week in April. Three of the five lockdown drills conducted this year will involve students and staff, and the other two will involve staff only. The three lockdown drills involving students will be held in October, March and the last one during summer school in 2008.

All of the lockdown drills will involve our school's emergency planning team and staff working in close cooperation with the Apple Valley Police Department. The purpose of these drills is to help students and staff prepare to respond appropriately in the event of an emergency such as an intruder in the building. Students will be informed in advance when a lockdown drill is scheduled to be held and will be reminded that it is an important drill for us to practice.

If you have any questions about the emergency drills planned at our school this year, please call my office at 952-431-8750.

Sincerely-
Dan Bodette, *Principal*

Stay informed and connected with SES emails and Backpack Online

It takes less than a minute to join the SES email news list and Backpack Online, School District 196's news list. Just go to the school's web site at www.district196.org/ses/ and click on the "click to sign up.." link near the top of the page under **email lists!**. On the next page you will click the academic house of your child. Then, you will be asked to give your name and the E-mail address where you would like to receive the messages – at home and/or the office – and simply check the list(s) you would like to join including the SES news list.

Backpack Online is just one example of how District 196 schools are making greater use of electronic communication to share important information quickly, inexpensively and directly to you.

Some Odds -n- Ends

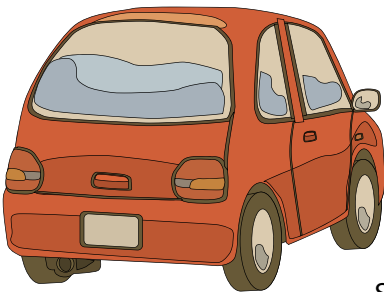
Students received an SES student calendar on the first day of school that lists a number of important dates at SES. Please refer to the calendar for future events. If you wish, you can download the entire calendar as a PDF file from the SES home page.

For you and your child's privacy our school nurse, Jane Schleisman, has a direct phone line at 952-431-8796. Her voicemail is: 651-683-6969 Mailbox # 38796.

We are interested in having volunteers help out in the career/guidance and main office area. Please give Mr. Nelson or Mr. Bodette a call (952-431-8750) if you can volunteer your time to SES.

The annual college fair will be held on October 9th for SES students. Note that this is earlier than last year. SES students are excused to attend during the day with a signed parent permission slip. This excused absence will count as one of the nine (five for elective classes) allowed during the trimester. A copy of the permission slip is enclosed with this newsletter. We encourage SES students to attend the college fair in the evening so they will not miss instruction during the day. The following day (October 10) is an all-day field study at the school and much of the 9th will be spent planning and preparing for the study.

All ISD 196 high school students have the opportunity to participate in an "honors ranking" program. Please note that all SES Advanced Placement and Honors classes in the four core areas (math, science, English, social studies) will be applied to the "honors ranking". Many honors classes are available at SES. Please consider participation to take advantage of college entrance and scholarship opportunities that these classes create.



During special event nights at SES, the Johnny Cake Ridge Road parking lot fills early. Please use the SES parking lot on the zoo side of the building as well. Drive through the main zoo entrance and stay to the right until you find the first road that veers to the right. This will take you to the parking area on the backside of our building. When this lot fills please use the Zoo lot just outside our back gate.

School deficiency notices will be mailed the week of October 22th. Deficiencies are mailed to the parents of any SES student that is currently earning below 70% in a class. Stay current with your child's grades by using the parent portal and use the links on the portal to contact individual teachers with questions. E-mail addresses and phone numbers are on our web site as well.

Again, all of us at SES look forward to another great school year. We hope to see you at the Open House on September 13th, and at parent conferences the nights of October 4th and 9th. **-Dan Bodette and the entire SES staff**

Independent School District 196
School of Environmental Studies
12155 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
Dan Bodette, Principal

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rosemount, MN
Permit No. 1

"Educating our students to reach their full potential"