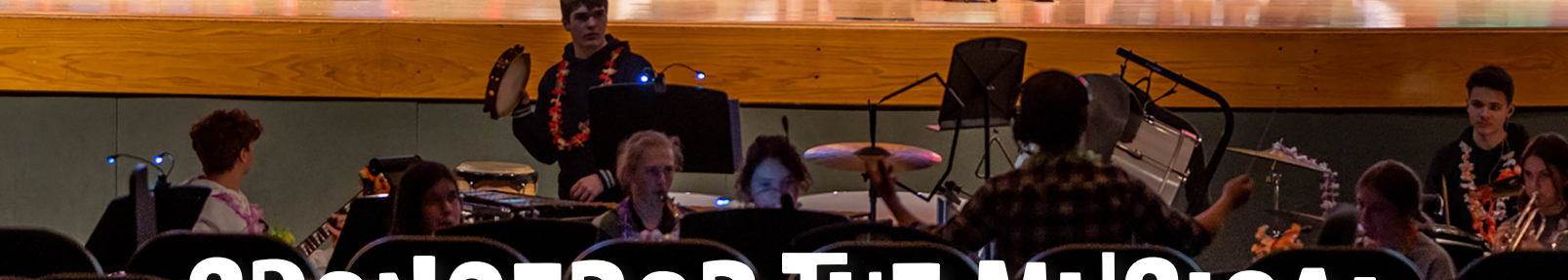


# WARRIOR WIRE



A PUBLICATION OF  
**SMITHVILLE**  
School District  
SPRING 2023

## SMITHVILLE THEATRE PERFORMS



## SPONGEBOB THE MUSICAL

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**REAL WORLD LEARNING:  
A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE  
PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE  
SMS CAREER FAIR**





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## SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Happy Spring! The longer days, green grass and sunshine are welcome changes and signs of hope for the days to come. The Smithville School District has so many positive things happening which are indicative of a bright future.

The Smithville School District achieved 91.3% on our Annual Performance Report (APR). Our students scored at the top level in 8/10 areas and above the state average in the remaining two. We strive to show continued excellence and growth in all areas.

The 5-year Comprehensive Strategic Improvement Plan (CSIP) is almost complete. Groups of parents, community members, students, teachers, staff, and administrators have been finalizing the strategic pillars and action steps of our plans. The Portrait of a Graduate has also been completed which describes the academic, personal and interpersonal development which are hallmarks of a Smithville High School graduate. The following are essential attributes of a Warrior: well-rounded learner, innovative thinker, compassionate advocate, resilient achiever and confident leader. Please take a look at the graphic included in this publication to learn more.

District administration and staff have been working in collaboration with area first responders and law enforcement to assess the safety of the school district and to update our emergency operating plans to ensure our Warriors are as safe as possible. These community partnerships are so valuable, and we are grateful to work with such amazing teams.

Please stay tuned to our website, our monthly Warrior Quick News, and social media pages. My door is always open, and I welcome your feedback as we partner together to make our school the very best.

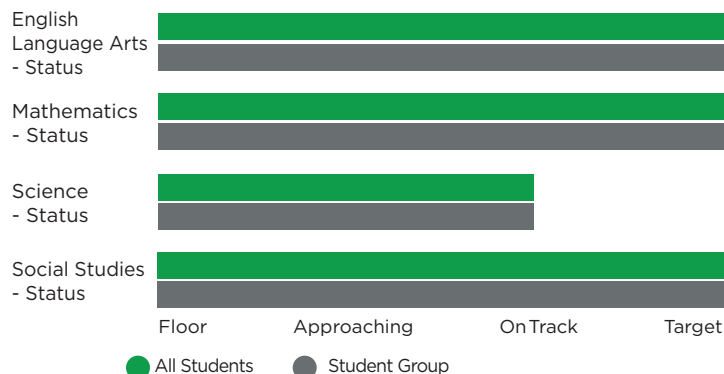
For Our Kids,



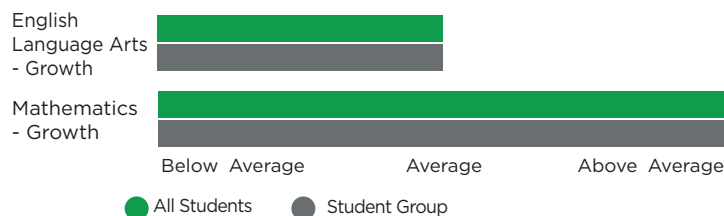
Denise Harwood, Interim Superintendent

## SMITHVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S Annual Performance Report

Smithville School District earned 91.3% of all points possible for the Annual Performance Report.



There are four Academic Status performance levels, Target being the highest, followed by On Track, Approaching, and lastly Floor. Smithville School District performed in the top two levels in every school subject.



There are three Academic Growth performance levels, Below Average, and Above Average. This shows growth between the current MAP scores and the prior year's.

### Smithville School District

655 S. Commercial Ave. Smithville, MO 64089  
(816) 532-0406

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#### Asst. Superintendent of Academic Services:

Dr. Michelle Kratofil

#### Executive Director of Support Services:

Robert Hedgecorth

#### Board of Education:

Jeff Bloemker (Pres)

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Smithville School District's **Warrior Wire** is a news magazine published quarterly. Editorial, photography and artwork is created by Smithville School District's Communications Department, staff, and students. To receive a copy of the **Warrior Wire**, call (816) 532-0406.



# REAL WORLD LEARNING FROM A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By: Genevieve Kochanowicz, SHS Senior



Genevieve Kochanowicz with Kansas City's Mayor, Quinton Lucas, at a Real World Learning event.

As some members of the Smithville community may already know, at the beginning of this school year Smithville School District partnered with the Kauffman Foundation in the Real World Learning (RWL) Initiative. Led by Carol Noecker, the goal of this initiative has been to expose students to the workforce and gain Market Value Assets before leaving high school. According to the Kauffman Foundation, Market Value Assets are key high school student outcomes that signal career and college readiness, so that every student is prepared to make, or get, a quality job and be economically self-sufficient. Many other students, along with myself were the "guinea pigs" for this new venture. As a senior in high school, I would like to share my experience in Real World Learning, and the effect it has had on me.

After being accepted as a Marketing and Communications intern for Smithville School District Office, my RWL journey began. I have been working with Mindy Hedgecorth, Communication Specialist, on many different projects and have gained many skills. Through this process, I have learned how to use new graphic design tools, communicate effectively through social media and email, time management skills, videography, and production skills. However, I feel the most valuable assets I have gained through this internship have been confidence, communication, and self-sufficiency. Being forced to talk to new people, get a whole video scheduled, filmed, and edited, and being independently creative has helped me recognize my value in the workforce while cementing my plans for the future. I spoke to senior Lily Medley about her experience and she said, "My experience is through Cadet

Teaching, where I get to teach at the Middle School. I have been able to explore the teaching career through real experience in the classroom and that has affected my future plans because now I know exactly what I want to do going into college." I also spoke to Carly Lloyd, a communications intern, who stated "It's given me the ability to experience what a career in communication would actually be like. It's totally different from anything in the classroom, it gives me real-life experience in something I'm interested in, and helps me discover a new passion that I wouldn't have otherwise!"

It's clear that the Real World Learning initiative has been exciting for me and the other students who are involved. I think this experience has taught me to think outside the box and seriously evaluate myself and what I value in a career. I can't wait to see how this program progresses in the future.



Lily Medley taught elementary students a Holidays Around the World lesson as part of the Cadet Teaching Program.

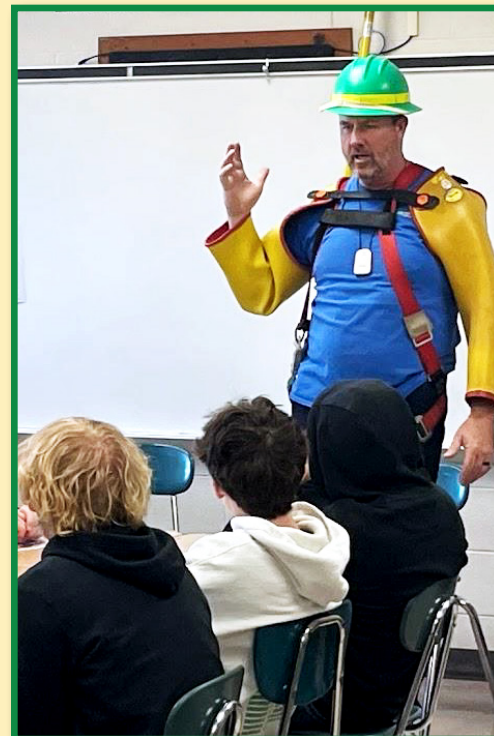


## CAREER

On February 21st, Smithville Middle School (SMS) hosted a career fair to provide students with career and pathway information, as well as exposure to various trades and hands-on careers.

Thank you to the representatives who provided SMS students with the knowledge they need to better prepare for their future.

## FAIR



Smithville School District

## Portrait of a Graduate

Academic, personal and interpersonal development are hallmarks of a Smithville High School graduate. The following are essential attributes of a Warrior.

### WELL-ROUNDED

### INNOVATIVE

### COMPASSIONATE

### RESILIENT

### CONFIDENT

#### Well-Rounded Learner

Warriors are capable scholars who take ownership of their learning. They are literate in many areas, including academics, technology, finances, health and civics. They can communicate their thoughts using oral, written and nonverbal skills in a variety of contexts. They are effective listeners and can exchange ideas with diverse audiences and stakeholders. They are adept at transferring their knowledge and skills to real world situations.

#### Innovative Thinker

Warriors are curious problem solvers who aren't afraid to take risks and who actively seek opportunities to problem solve for themselves, their school and their community. They are adaptable and able to work through ambiguous situations to develop unique solutions. They are creative, future-focused, strategic thinkers who are well prepared for an unpredictable future.

#### Compassionate Advocate

Warriors have a keen sense of community – local, national and global – and are eager to serve. They are able to empathize with and understand the unique perspectives of others. They are respectful and responsible decision makers who consider the impact of their actions on themselves and others.

#### Resilient Achiever

Warriors have a strong sense of self. They are self-motivated, exhibiting a strong work ethic, grit and perseverance. They are self-disciplined, holding themselves accountable as agents of their own learning while utilizing effective time management skills. They are self-aware, understanding their own value as an individual of good character and exhibiting a growth mindset. They practice self-care, pursuing a healthy, active and balanced lifestyle.

#### Confident Leader

Warriors demonstrate honesty and integrity in all that they do. They have strong interpersonal skills which lead to powerful relationships. They are effective communicators and collaborators who consider all perspectives and voices when making decisions. They are bold leaders who exhibit emotional intelligence and take responsibility for actions and decisions.

The Smithville School District has brought together parents, community members, students, teachers, staff, and administrators through an extensive engagement process that has led to the identification of Smithville's 'Portrait of a Graduate' and vision for the future of the school district.



# SMITHVILLE THEATRE PERFORMS SPONGEBOB THE MUSICAL

**Thank you Molly Beale Photography!**

By: Carly Lloyd, SHS Junior

**S**takes were higher than ever before as SpongeBob and Bikini Bottom faced the total annihilation of their undersea world. Chaos erupted. Lives hung in the balance. And just when all hope seemed lost, a most unexpected hero rose up and took center stage. On February 2-4, when the Smithville High School Theater performed SpongeBob the Musical, the audience discovered

that the power of optimism really can save the world! Many students grew up watching SpongeBob SquarePants, so this musical held a touch of nostalgia for both the actors and audience alike. Junior Keely Schafer, who played SpongeBob, quotes, "I think that because SpongeBob is so widely known it played a part in how people saw the show; the characters they had grown up with were being

portrayed by people they knew. I think that the overall love for SpongeBob is what really drove this show." Schafer appreciated getting the opportunity to play SpongeBob, and commented, "It was a chance for me to experience and become a character that is so widely known across TV. SpongeBob is just so undoubtedly happy, and that happiness slipped into my own personality."





# CELEBRATIONS

## Scholar Bowl wins Conference for the fifth straight season



Sophia Thomas  
Gold Key



Riley Brown  
Silver Key



Isabel Sapp  
Silver Key



Raye Wangler  
Silver Key



Maverick McDonald  
Honorable Mention



Aubree Pestano  
Honorable Mention



Rayna Williams  
Honorable Mention



Scholastic  
Art & Writing  
Awards

## S.W.A.T. makes finals in the Heartland Regional First Robotics Competition



## Speech & Debate are Conference Champions



## FBLA STATE QUALIFIERS

Cody Brown  
Lara Cummins  
Alexis David  
Alex Duckwitz  
Darcy Eastep

Lilly Eastep  
Nathan Fletcher  
Kayla Gann  
Ellie Hirner  
Cici Hopkins

Nate Kershaw  
Isabella Monachello  
Virginia Myers  
Brielle Off  
Nolan Pestano

Sutton Rodgers  
Destiny Salazar  
Matt Summers  
Mason West



# CELEBRATIONS

**Smithville Dazzlers finish 15th in the nation**



**Cheer earns 2nd at State Competition**



**Boys Basketball are Conference Champions for the first time since 1999**





# SMITHVILLE<sup>SM</sup>

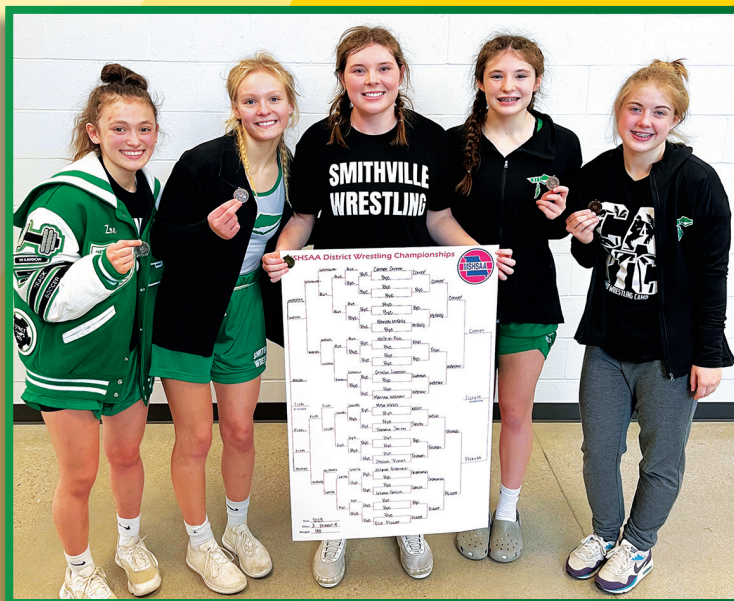
## WARRIORS



## Girls Swim Places at State and Breaks School Records



## Wrestling State Qualifiers







# ONE ARROW AT A TIME

By: RJ Meek, 8th Grader at SMS

A couple years ago, I had a summer school teacher take our class on a field trip to the Smithville Lake. While there, we saw bows, arrows, and a target. The teacher allowed us to shoot the bows and arrows at the target. It was at that point that I realized I was hooked. I loved archery. I went home that night and immediately told my mom and dad that there was an archery team in Middle School, and I wanted to join it that year.

My parents were very happy and supportive. You see, I was born with only one kidney. Due to that, I am not allowed to play contact sports like football or even baseball—basically anything that could risk injury to my one and only kidney. My parents have always tried to find other activities that I could do, but I never really liked any of them.

I also have ADHD and Dyslexia which makes it really hard for me to make

friends and be very outgoing. Being on the archery team lets me do something that I love. The other archers and the coaches are all very supportive of me and I don't feel like an outcast. Archery is not an activity that feels like someone is making me do something, because I like to do it. Archery distracts me from the stress of school and lets me have a good time while hanging out with friends. I feel like the others on my team also have a passion and want to be there to do archery because they like it too. We as a team work well together.

Archery doesn't only help me mentally it helps me physically by allowing me to stay active and healthier overall. Our family has gotten pretty involved in archery as well. We all go outside in our backyard, and I shoot arrows at a 3D target I have at home.

The number one goal for the 2022 archery season is to have fun. However, my personal goal in the 2022 season is to shoot a 270 or higher in Bullseye and to do better than I did last year. Shooting at 3D targets for the first time was a lot of fun last year, but I want to go from the 2021 I shot in 2021 to at least a 230.

Another goal I have for the 2022 season is to help my team members to improve. I had a friend last year who would help motivate me and give me pointers to improve my shooting. We really did well together, and I want to pass that along to the rest of my team.

This year I am excited to meet the new archers. Since I have already been in the archery program, I feel like I have a little more experience than some of them may have. I can teach them how to score on a Bullseye or 3D target, about the 11 steps, and different exercises I do. Training and encouragement is only going to make our team more successful, solid, and better. I can be their cheerleader to help encourage them to do better and not give up.

It is one arrow at a time, and once that one is shot just focus on the next arrow.



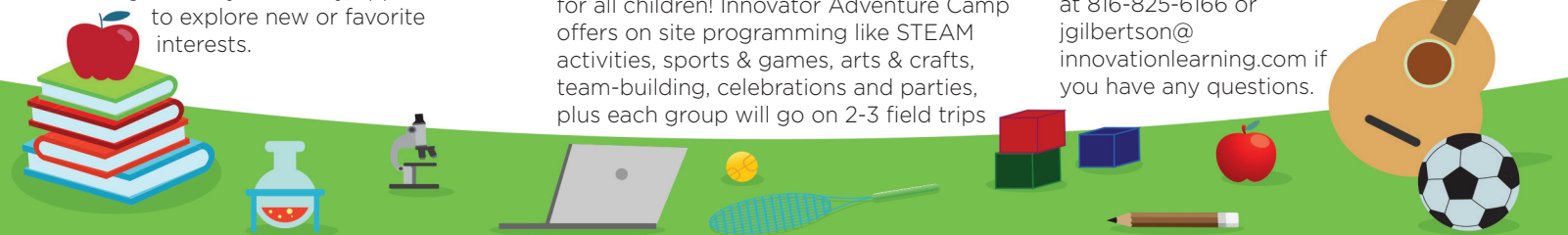
Innovation Learning is excited to provide a variety of summer programs, held at Smithville School District for 2023. The program is available for all children ages 5 - 12 years old and it brings the ultimate summer camp experience to each child by offering a variety of weekly opportunities to explore new or favorite interests.

We will be offering Before and After Programming during Summer School programs at Eagle Heights and Maple Elementary May 31st - June 30th.

In addition, our Innovator Adventure Camp will be offered at Maple Elementary starting July 6th, 2023 thru August 15th, 2023 from 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily! This program is designed to be age appropriate, with activities designed to be safe and engaging for all children! Innovator Adventure Camp offers on site programming like STEAM activities, sports & games, arts & crafts, team-building, celebrations and parties, plus each group will go on 2-3 field trips

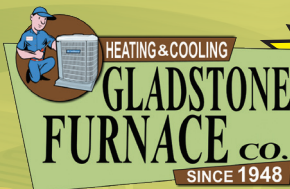
each week that may include museums, visiting local parks and lakes, and much more to add to each week's fun in the sun! Two snacks are provided daily. Campers will also receive a camp t-shirt. Campers need to provide their own lunch and water bottle daily. Enrollment opened on April 3rd.

Contact Jason Gilbertson at 816-825-6166 or [jgilbertson@innovationlearning.com](mailto:jgilbertson@innovationlearning.com) if you have any questions.





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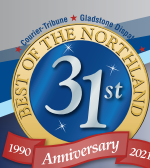
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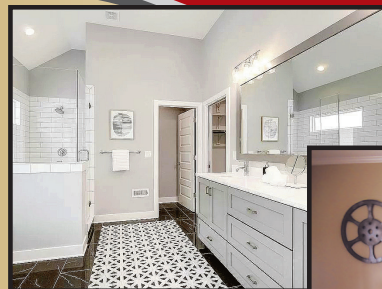
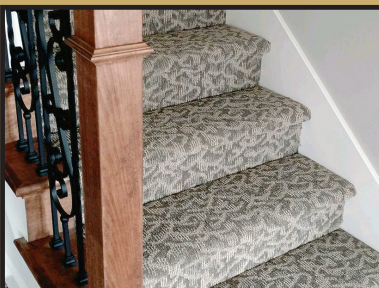
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