

PRINCIPAL POST

JANUARY 2025

Dear Southmoor Families,

Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, we are filled with hope, abundance, and excitement for the opportunities ahead. A new year is a time for reflection, renewal, and setting our sights on meaningful goals. Together, as a school community, this is our moment to recommit to our shared vision of supporting every student to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

At Southmoor, we believe that intentional action leads to impactful growth. This year, we are renewing our focus on fostering an environment where all students feel supported and challenged to reach their full potential. With your partnership, we will continue to prioritize building strong relationships, celebrating diversity, and striving for excellence in everything we do.

We are excited to work alongside you to make 2025 a year of significant progress and success for our school community. Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to your children's education. Together, we will take meaningful steps toward achieving our goals and creating a brighter future for all.

Here's to a year filled with joy, growth, and accomplishment!

In service of the most important person in the world - YOUR CHILD,

Jonell Pineda

Principal

Southmoor Elementary School

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CELEBRATIONS

- As we look back at the first semester, we are filled with pride and gratitude for all we have accomplished together as a community:
 - o 650+ Volunteer Hours: Thank you to all the incredible volunteers who gave their time and energy to make our school a better place. Your dedication is truly inspiring!

- **35 Events Offered**: From PTO, CSC, and DEIB meetings to community events, we've created countless opportunities for connection, collaboration, and celebration.
- **\$27,000+ Raised for Southmoor**: Thanks to your generosity and enthusiasm, we've raised significant funds through the Fun Run, Support the Moose campaign, and the Book Fair—where we also brought \$7,000 worth of books into our classrooms and homes!
- These achievements reflect the strength and spirit of our Southmoor community. Thank you
 for making the first semester such a success—we can't wait to see what we accomplish
 together in the new year!
- A huge round of applause to our incredible room parents, led by the wonderful Sarah Swain, for their dedication and creativity in planning celebrations for our students and teachers. Your efforts make our community feel so special and appreciated—thank you for all you do!
- Behind the scenes, we want to recognize Becca Meyer, whose commitment to supporting
 Teacher Grants ensures our students benefit from enriching and impactful experiences. Your hard
 work truly makes a difference in our classrooms!
- A big shout-out to **Kristin Hamilton** for organizing our monthly Community Dine Outs, fostering connection and fun while supporting fundraising efforts. Your energy and initiative keep our community thriving!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHOOL CHOICE INFORMATION: The first round of the DPS SchoolChoice window for the 2025-2026 school year is approaching! This is your opportunity to select the best educational path for your child. *Current Kindergarten-4th grade families DO NOT need to apply if they are returning to Southmoor next school year.*

Important Dates:

- Application Window: Opens at 10 a.m. on January 15, 2025, and closes at 4 p.m. on February 18, 2025.
- Placement Results: Families will receive their school placement results in late March 2025.

How to Apply:

- 1. Find: Explore DPS school options using the School Finder and review the 2025-26 Enrollment Guides.
- 2. Apply: Between January 15 and February 18, log in or create an account on the <u>SchoolChoice application</u> <u>portal</u>. Rank your preferred schools and submit your application.
- Register: After receiving your placement results in late March, complete the registration process with your assigned school.

Why Choose Southmoor?

At Southmoor, we are committed to fostering academic excellence, nurturing creativity, and supporting the social-emotional growth of every student. Our community thrives on collaboration, diversity, and innovation—making it a place where your child can shine!

If you have questions, please contact our Registrar, Gaby Nava Hernandez, at 720-424-3930 or nhernan@dpsk12.net.

Thank you for your continued partnership. We look forward to welcoming new and returning families for another incredible year at Southmoor!

OPPORTUNITIES

• WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS! There are many ways for parents and family members to be involved in our school. For volunteer opportunities and to sign up please check in with your student's teacher or our amazing PTO who are always looking for volunteers. If you will be in the classroom working with students, chaperoning a field trip, or helping with a special event at school a background check is necessary. Visitors who are here for school functions, parties, etc. will not be required to have a background check. These background checks are good for 1 calendar year and will have to be re-submitted every year for updated information. Reminder: All volunteers no matter how big or small their roles are must have a current volunteer background check on file. https://equity.dpsk12.org/get-involved/volunteer-services/

*GOOD DEED CODE: We do not publish the Good Deed Code, so we direct volunteers to start at the DPS Volunteer Services website. The purple Volunteer Background Check Portal tab is hyperlinked to the Sterling Volunteers DPS prepaid account landing page. When using this link, payment is not required. If you are having trouble with the application please contact Sterling Volunteers directly for assistance. All of their information is on the application page.

MONTHLY EVENTS

JANUARY

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- 1-3 Winter Break | NO SCHOOL
 - Monthly IStation Progress Monitoring
 Non Student contact day | NO SCHOOL
- 9 Middle School Night
- 14 CSC Meeting Budget Primer (4:30-6:00 pm)
- 14 PTO Meeting (6:00pm)
- 15 School Choice opens Round 1
- 15 ECE/Kinder Open House (3:30-4:30pm)
- 16 DEIB Monthly Meeting
- 17 RRCK'n Moose Day N. W. Stock Show & Rodeo
- 17 1st Grade Family RRCK'n Day Stock Show & Rodeo
- 20 MLK Day | NO SCHOOL
- 30 Parent Board Game Night
- 31 RRCK'n Moose Day Super Bowl Shuffle Fun Run

RESOURCES

- Quick Links
 - Southmoor Website
 - Southmoor Calendar
 - o Southmoor Community Calendar

- o <u>Lunch Menus</u>
- o Volunteer Background Check Portal