

Notes from Superintendent Holcomb & the School Committee
3.20.26 Parent & Staff Newsletter

Crown A Cardinal



Pictured above is 4th grade student Kolton Gates with Brown Elementary School Teacher, Emily Estrela. Kolton was this week's Crown a Cardinal and was nominated for being a true example of an all around wonderful fourth grade student. He is inclusive and caring towards all of his peers. He excels in his schoolwork by putting forth tremendous effort, quality, and care in all of his assignments. His kindness shines through each and every day. Kolton definitely is a Cardinal who makes Brown School a special place to learn and grow! Congratulations to Kolton for being an example we can all follow.

If you would like to nominate a student to be potentially selected as a "Crown the Cardinal" please fill out the form here.

Professional Development Day Update - March 17, 2026

Swansea Public Schools remains deeply committed to professional development that advances student learning through purposeful collaboration. Collaborative instruction continues to serve as a foundational approach in our classrooms, promoting critical thinking, meaningful engagement, and problem-solving among students.

On March 17, during the districtwide professional development in-service day, educators and staff from all schools engaged in targeted sessions designed to strengthen collaborative practices. A central focus involved training on the effective use of rubrics to assess both individual contributions and overall group performance. Participants spent time developing and refining lessons that intentionally offer opportunities for collaboration and integrate these rubrics, ensuring students have clear expectations, opportunities for self-assessment, and meaningful avenues to provide peer feedback. These efforts are intended to cultivate reflection, accountability, and growth within collaborative learning environments.

Elementary faculty and staff participated in additional training on HMH *Into Reading*, while middle school teachers engaged in sessions centered on HMH *Into Literature* and i-Ready Mathematics. These focused professional learning opportunities supported educators in leveraging core high-quality instructional materials. The Student Services department engaged in a range of trainings and professional learning opportunities aligned with their respective roles.

Swansea Public Schools is grateful for the ongoing partnership of families and community members and remains steadfast in its commitment to continuous professional learning that strengthens instructional practice and ensures the success of every student.

Jr. High & Elementary Search Committee

We are no longer accepting volunteers for the search committees for the Mark G. Hoyle Elementary School and Joseph Case Junior High School principal positions. The number of individuals who expressed interest in serving on these committees reflects the high level of importance our school community places on these roles, and we sincerely appreciate the strong interest and support.

At this time, both principal positions have been posted on SchoolSpring, and the application period will close on Friday, March 27.

Additional information about the search process will be shared in the coming weeks, including opportunities for teachers, students, and community members to meet the finalists.

Mark G. Hoyle Elementary School Principal Opening

If you or someone you know is interested in joining our dynamic team of educators, please consider applying here. This opening is for our 2026-2027 school year.

Joseph Case Junior High School Principal Opening

If you or someone you know is interested in joining our dynamic team of educators, please consider applying here. This opening is for our 2026-2027 school year.

School Committee Meeting

The next School Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23rd, at 6:00 PM in the School Committee Conference Room located in the Central Administration Building. The meeting will also be broadcast live on the Swansea Community Network Channel via their Facebook page.

School Department Budget for 2026-2027 School Year

The School Department presented its proposed FY 2026–2027 budget to the Advisory and Finance (A&F) Board on Wednesday, March 11th. The A&F Board needs to vote on this budget to advance it to Town Meeting for consideration in May. Additional information will be shared as the May date approaches.