

# Southwestern Central School District

## District Profile#

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### Our Mission

When you become part of the Southwestern Central School District team, you will be working with the District and community supporting our Mission by developing every students' potential for positive contributions to society as self-sustaining individuals.

To accomplish this mission, the administration and staff will be models in the pursuit of excellence and will provide appropriate learning environments which encourage respect for self, others, school and community. Our Mission affords you the opportunity to make a change in the lives and the futures of Southwestern's children.

### The District

The Southwestern Central School District serves approximately 1,500 students. Our district is comprised of three buildings. Southwestern Elementary School, which opened in September 2002, has 687 students enrolled in grades Pre-K-5; the Middle School serves 326 students in grades 6-8, and at the High School there are 477 students in grades 9-12.

Employment in the district is comprised of 129 faculty members and 76 non-instructional personnel. There are principals in each of the three schools with an assistant principal for grades K-12.

The Southwestern Central School District is distinguished by a well-educated faculty that is committed to excellence. Parent and community participation and support is acknowledged as essential to maintaining an environment for effective learning.

### Our Community

The Southwestern Central School District is located in Chautauqua County on the west end of the city of Jamestown, New York. Chautauqua County takes its name from the largest lake, which is 20 miles long and 1,308 feet above sea level, and which was called "Jad-dah'gwah" by its native inhabitants. At one end is located Mayville, the county seat, and at the other end is the city of Jamestown. Included in the Southwestern District are the villages of Lakewood and Celoron, the Town of Busti, rural areas and the suburban area of West Ellicott. Jamestown and the surrounding area comprise a population of approximately 60,000 people located 40 miles east of Erie, Pa. and 70 miles southwest of Buffalo. Should you be new to the area, you will find that Southwestern and its surroundings offers a low cost of living and very affordable housing, a culturally and socially diverse climate and many outstanding community resources.

People who work in professional, business, industrial and agricultural occupations reside in the district. A hospital and several clinics are in the area. Transportation and housing facilities in the area are good with shuttle air service connecting Jamestown to Cleveland. There are many residential areas to fit the needs of the owners and all are located near shopping and business districts, including a mall in nearby Lakewood. There are approximately 50 houses of worship that include 19 denominations and provide a local abundance of churches for the population.

Year-round recreational opportunities exist in the county from hiking and biking on the county's public trail systems, to boating and canoeing on the lakes, to skiing and snowmobiling. The French Creek Watershed, designated as one of the "Last Great Places" by the Nature Conservancy, includes the 90-acre French Creek Preserve. French Creek is the most biologically diverse riverine system in the Northeast, and includes 12 globally rare species. Add to the list fine golf courses, ski resorts, state parks and the famous Chautauqua Institution. The Chautauqua Institution, founded in 1874, hosts educational and cultural programs each summer. During its nine-week season, over 142,000 visitors enter its gates and attracts world leaders in the fields of music, medicine, politics, the press and religion.

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The Jamestown Concert Association, Reg Lenna Civic Center and Little Theatre provide entertainment year-long and there are several museums in the area. Service clubs and fraternal organizations are active in the community and the area is served by Jamestown Community College and Jamestown Business College. Our District is within close proximity to universities and colleges offering graduate studies including St. Bonaventure, SUNY – Fredonia, Gannon University, and Penn State – Behrend, Pennsylvania.

The Southwestern Central School District community is one that is excellent for both individual and family living.

For additional information about our District please visit us at <http://www.swcsk12.org/Page/1>