



STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Superintendent's Message from Mrs. Dottie Heusman

Family Time...

When the bell rings on December 21st at 1:37 p.m. the students and staff will take a break from school until the bell rings again on Thursday, January 3rd at 7:55 a.m. This break is a great time for students and staff to get rejuvenated for the second half of the school year, but what does that mean for families?

A lot of family members still have to work, but may have some extra days off around Christmas and the New Year. This is a great opportunity for families to enjoy some quality time together. This gives them time to talk and to listen. Take time to tell a story to your child about when you were growing up "back in the olden days". Talk to them about your values, hopes and dreams for them. Play board games, watch a special movie together, go for a drive to show them where you grew up, go for a walk with them, visit a loved one you haven't seen in awhile, and the list can go on and on. Put away that cellphone, that laptop, that tablet, and just be present! Believe me, from my own experiences I know that you blink and your kids are grown!

My job is done if each family does at least one item from the list above. I wish all of our students and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Enjoy life...enjoy your family! See you next year!

Board of Education News

The Board of Education met for the regular board meeting on November 19, 2018. Items discussed and action taken included:

- Approved offering the Class of 2019 the option to purchase their MacBook computer for \$900 at the end of the year. If parents are interested in purchasing these they should contact Mr. Harrington to determine how payment will be made.
- They selected a contractor for snow removal and accepted a bid for the 2003 Dodge Caravan Grand Sport.
- Board Members Wirthele and Harms reported on board workshops they have attended in the last month.
- Approved the consent agenda as presented.
- Reports were shared with them in regards to some of the college and job shadow visits that have occurred, preparations for college for the seniors, basketball update, QPR Suicide Prevention training that all teachers were trained in, and School Board's Convention law updates.
- The next regularly scheduled monthly board meeting will be on Monday, December 17th at 7:30 p.m. in the Media Center.

Parents: Weather permitting, elementary students will be going outside for recess on days when the temperature and wind chill are above 20 degrees. Please help your child dress appropriately with layers as needed. Gloves or mittens, scarves, boots, hats, etc. should be sent to school each day. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



From the Principal's Desk by Mr. Harrington

Conversations About School

Now that the school year is in full force I wanted to share some tips to engage your student in conversations about school. Supporting your child's education at home is one of the most important things you can do to help your student be successful at school. Asking "How was school today?" might not get you very much information or any meaningful conversation with your student. So try asking questions/comments like:

- What was the coolest thing to happen at school today?
- What made you laugh at school today?
- What was the most creative thing you did today?
- Pretend you're the teacher. How would you describe the day? Could also modify this question by inserting a content area such as, How would you describe history class today?
- Tell me what you learned that you'd like to know more about?
- How were you kind or helpful today?
- How was someone kind or helpful to you?
- Show me what you have for homework.
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Which one of your teachers would survive a zombie apocalypse? Why?
- What assignment or class did you just rock today?

Engaging your student in a meaningful conversation about their school day not only tells your child that you value them, but also their education. Another place to look for conversation starters would be your students' online classroom management system. Whether it be Class Dojo, SeeSaw, or Google Classroom, all of these systems provide a wealth of information about what is happening in your child's classroom. Please feel free to contact your students' teacher or myself if you need help getting hooked in to your child's digital classroom.

Also, we will be streaming the boy's and girl's varsity basketball games this winter. You can subscribe to the girl's channel by going to <https://bit.ly/2FxFSTQ>. You can subscribe to the boy's channel by going to <https://bit.ly/2Kl9YZI>. Subscribing to their YouTube channels can be another easy way, in addition to our social media channels, to find the link to our live streams. As always, you can follow all of the school happenings by liking the school's Facebook page and by following us on twitter at the handle @spsjetpride. If you have a question on anything, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school or talk to me at school events. Go Jets!

Boys Basketball Preseason Update

The Sterling Boys Basketball team is gearing up for a successful season. We are looking to build off of the successes we had in football and continue them into our winter season. There are currently 17 boys out for basketball who are eagerly ready to take the court. We held our conditioning sessions the week of November 5th though the 9th and had a great turnout from our young men. We are looking to be better every day of the week as we know we have a lot of hard work ahead of us. The boys seem to be up for the challenge and to have a great season. The first regular season game is at home against Fall City Sacred Heart on November 30th. We look forward to the always great support of our community this Winter. Go Big Jets!

Coach Lempka
Assistant Basketball Coach



Featured Staff Member - Mr. Jesse Phillips



Mr. Jesse Phillips is a new paraprofessional here at SPS. Here are a handful of tidbits about Mr. Phillips... He is a former graduate of Sterling Public School who furthered his education at SCC-Beatrice. Jesse lives with his wife, our 1st grade teacher Mrs. Leah Phillips, and their pet labs: Raven and Roscoe. His favorite television shows are *'Impractical Jokers'* and *'King of Queens'*. Jesse's favorite movies are *'Here Comes the Boom'* and *'Stepbrothers'*. If he could have one super power, it would be to fly. Jesse thinks it would be fun and as a bonus, he could save money on gas! We're very happy that you came back to Jet Country, Jesse!

Featured Staff Member - Miss Taylor Schultz

Miss Taylor Schultz is the new Ag teacher here at Sterling. Here are a few interesting notes about Taylor... After she graduated from Centura Public Schools in Cairo, Nebraska, Taylor attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her family consists of her parents, Rob and Kristin Schultz, and older sister Tiffany, a younger brother Trey, and her boyfriend, Kyle. Taylor has four chocolate labs: Oakley, Sadie, Chloe, and Harlee. Her favorite movies are *8 Seconds*, *Just Go With It*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and any Christmas movie! Taylor loves to shop in small town boutiques. Her aunt owns one and got her hooked! Her favorite television shows are *Full House*, *Law & Order*, *This is Us*, *Reba*, and *Friends*.

Welcome to the Jet Family, Taylor. We're glad to have you at Sterling Public Schools!



The second graders say:
**Veterans
are our HEROES!!!**



SENIORS...

Here is a recap of tasks you should complete this fall to stay on track.

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using the FSA ID you created during our Apply2College Event.
 - Both you and your parent will need an FSA ID that can be created at fsaid.ed.gov. You'll need it to access and sign the FAFSA. [Click here](#) for instructions.
 - Review the [FAFSA Checklist](#) for a list of items to gather before you start the form.
 - Complete the FAFSA at fafsa.gov.
 - For free help with the FAFSA, see FAFSA Tools at EducationQuest.org or call EducationQuest to make an appointment: Omaha – 888.357.6300, Lincoln – 800.303.3745
- Send in any last minute applications.
- Make yourself aware of scholarship deadlines at the colleges you have applied at.**
- Retake the ACT if the college(s) you are considering will still accept your score.
- See ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org for Nebraska-based scholarships and a list of national search sites. More scholarships are added each month. Local Scholarship information will be coming in late January or early February.

JUNIORS...

Start researching colleges. If you narrow your college choices by the end of your junior year, your senior year will be less stressful. Here's how to get started:

- Review *College Profiles* at EducationQuest.org for information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country. If you're interested in an out-of-state school, check out the Midwest Student Exchange Program to learn about tuition discounts.
- Meet with college representatives who visit your school, and then visit the websites of the colleges that interest you to learn more about the schools.
- Once you've narrowed your choices, schedule campus visits. Try to visit in the spring of your junior year while colleges are still in session. You get 3 college visit days to use either your junior or senior year.
- For more tips, see the Selecting a College section at EducationQuest.org.

2018-2019 ACT Dates... Register at actstudent.org. School Code: 282-240

TEST DATE	DEC 8	FEB 9	APR 13	JUNE 8	JUL 13
<u>Registration Deadline</u>	NOV 2	JAN 11	MAR 8	MAY 3	JUN 14
<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>	NOV 19	JAN 18	MAR 25	MAY 20	JUN 24



Highlights of a day in Second Grade:

Our goal this year is to become "MASTER WRITERS" and we're off to a great start. The first 55 minutes of our day goes fast, as we keep our pencils moving. The Second Graders are continuing to develop their reading skills as they read more complex words and texts in a variety of genres. Currently, in math we are recognizing/drawing parallelograms and quadrilaterals. Now, I'd like to share with you what the kids are really learning.

BOYS:

- Football
- Checkers
- Commas
- Story Problems
- Math Mountains
- Epic
- How to write
- Stack the States
- Science
- Art
- Grammar
- Reading
- Parallelograms
- Spelling
- Basketball
- Library
- Ipads
- Daily Five
- Stack the Countries

GIRLS:

- Commas
- Daily Five
- Ipads
- Book Baskets
- Math
- Stack the States
- Epic
- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful

NOV 19, 2018

Nora

We have been doing commas, tests, and daily 5. We have also been doing parallelograms and quadrilaterals PE is another and recess is also a subject. An I love Music. We do not have many trips but I still like them and I like to read in our library. And it is full of different kinds of books. And they're really funny.

NOV 16, 2018

Kinice
The first thing we do in the morning is writing. Opinions, and narratives. We write for 55 minutes. Then we go to music for 25 minutes. Music is good but I prefer pe is better because Mr. Richardson makes us work really hard. After pe we go to snaks for 10 minutes just because some times after pe we are hungry. Then we go back to the classroom and do reading after reading we go to lunch for 30 minutes. Then go to Recess. H/NICE

From the second graders point of view...

Holiday Recipes from the 1st graders...



Bycharli's

how to make mashed potatoes

- 1- peel the potatoes
- 2- mash the potatoes
- 3- put the potatoes in a pot
- 4- put the potatoes on the oven
- 5- cook the potatoes on the oven for 10 minutes in a little bit of olive oil

Byrhen

the recipe for

1. cherry pie
2. buy so many
3. put the
4. for
5. then
6. cherry
7. on top

Holiday Recipes from the 1st graders...



100 per Lee Pella
133 per of harr it's are man
#fen. We get bre harr from
the st or they pack it if we
do not cook it. We cut it in
lots of pieces.

Fletcher



green jello
1 cup boiling water
add package of
green jello stir
until jello is
dissolved. add cold
water. Put in the
refrig.



STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Honor Roll of Distinction

Average of 93% and above. No grade below 90%

12th Grade

Caleb Dolbow
Morgan Haner
Nicole Harms
Sydney Huls
Logan Jasa
Ryan Lairmore
Max Pfahl
Hannah Thies
Cameron VanGroningen
Carly Wenzl
Malayna Wingert

11th Grade

Joel Rathe
Colby Thies

10th Grade

Bianca Gonzalez-Castillo
Isabella Haner
Jessie Klein
Katie Little
Madison Smith
Kaitlyn Wusk

9th Grade

Samuel Agena
Garrett Hier
Danielle Janssen
Jacob Johnson
Kaylee Lafferty
Kylie Mathes-Riensche
Tanner McDonald
Andrew Richardson
Abigail Thies
Ella Wingert



8th Grade

Katy Boldt
Gracyn Dolbow
Andrew Harms
John Janssen
Alexander Leonard
Jack McAuliffe
Trenton Peery
Macy Richardson
Kaylin Smith
Noah Williams

7th Grade

Jesus Gonzalez-Castillo
Sierra Goracke
Dakota Haner
Lauren Harms
Collin Kinney
Cassie Klein
Ellie Lafferty
Harmony Mathes-Riensche
Wyatt Rathe
Hailey Truscott
Chloe Waters

Honor Roll

Average of 90% and above. No grade below 85%

12th Grade

Emily Agena
Tristan Dirks

11th Grade

Amanda Tallant

10th Grade

Sam Boldt
Emma Mae Cambron
Emma Harms
Tara Walters

9th Grade

Kody Goracke

7th Grade

Maggie Harms



Lady Jet Preseason Basketball Preview 2018

-Head Coach: Josh Pfeiffer

-Years as a Head Coach: 5

-Years at this School: 2 (Starting year 3)

-Why did you become a coach? I wanted to share my passion for sports with the youth of our community. I wanted to teach young people the skills that are needed to be successful in life.

-Assistant Coach: Camden Harlan

-Last Year's Record: 14-11

Returning Starters:

G Carly Wenzl

G Malayna Wingert

F Sydney Huls

F Morgan Haner

C Colby Thies

Returning Letterwinners:

C Emily Agena

F Belle Haner

G Kaitlyn Wusk

Others Likely to Contribute:

G Nicole Harms

G Tara Walters

G Ella Wingert

Guard Play:

This year we will have depth and experience at the guard position. This should be beneficial for us as we try to take another step forward as a team. We should be able to get more scoring and better shooting from our guards. We also look forward to having the ability to handle pressure from opposing defenses.

Post Play:

We have solid post players that should give us an opportunity to play some good inside-out basketball. We should be able to score the ball well inside and we have players that have the size necessary to be a defensive and rebounding presence in the post.

What Style of Play Can Fans Expect This Year:

Fans can expect to see a team that has a passion for the game about basketball and cares about their teammates in addition to the success of the team. We will relentlessly compete from the opening tip to the final horn. Offensively, we will push the ball ahead looking for an easy score. If we don't find that opportunity, we will settle into an offense and look for a good shot. Defensively, we will force our opponents into taking low percentage, contested shots.

Team Summary:

Our team is excited for basketball season. We have been working hard in practice and we are ready to do what it takes to have a great season. We have set some lofty goals for ourselves and we want to do what is necessary to achieve those goals. We have a lot of returning experience and we believe that we will benefit from having players that have been through the season and the various tournaments that we participate in.

In Search Of... a scoreboard operator for the upcoming basketball season! Contact Mr. Heusman @ 402-866-4761 or bheusman@sterlingpublicschools.com if interested!

DECEMBER MENUS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>3 B- Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Pizza Crunchers, Corn, Strawberry Applesauce</p>	<p>4 B- WG Pancakes, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Pancake, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Breadsticks, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>5 B- Breakfast Boat OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Potato Bar, Tuna Salad Sandwich or Ham and Cheese Sandwich, String Cheese, Peaches</p>	<p>6 B- Oatmeal Nutri-Grain Bar OR WG Cereal/Nutri-Grain Bar, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Noodle Soup, PB&J Sandwich, Lettuce Salad, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>7 B- WG French Toast Sticks, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Fish Nuggets, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Pears</p>
<p>10 B- Breakfast Bar, WG Muffin OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Teriyaki, WG Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Mandarin Oranges, Fortune Cookie</p>	<p>11 B- Yogurt Parfait, Nutri-Grain Bar OR WG Cereal/Nutri-Grain Bar, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Tacos, Peas, Celery w/ PB, Peaches</p>	<p>12 B- Breakfast Tornado, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Tomato Soup, Cheese Sandwich, Lettuce Salad, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>13 B- Apple or Cherry Frudel OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Ham Patty on WG Bun, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Applesauce</p>	<p>14 B- Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuits, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Spaghetti, Garlic Toast, Green Beans, Pears</p>
<p>17 B- Omelet, Sausage Link OR WG Cereal/Sausage Link, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Nachos w/ Cheese Sauce or Bean Dip, Green Beans, Celery w/ PB, Peaches</p>	<p>18 B- WG Donut OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chili Soup, Cinnamon Roll, Carrots w/ Ranch Dip, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>19 B- Pancake and Sausage on a Stick OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Hamburger on WG Bun, Baked Beans, Seasoned Curly Fries, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>20 B- WG Breakfast Cookie OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, WG Dinner Roll w/ Jelly and/or Honey, Holiday Dessert</p>	<p>21 B- Yogurt Parfait, Nutri-Grain Bar OR WG Cereal/Nutri-Grain Bar, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Submarines, Gelatin, Cottage Cheese, Mixed Fruit</p>

Dec 22 - Jan 2 NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK

Milk Served with every meal. -- Alternate Entrée: Chef Salad -- Variety of fruits/vegetables offered with every meal. -- Menu subject to change.

DECEMBER 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26 One Act Play District Contest @ Pawnee City Freeman JH BBB Tournament - 1PM	27	28	29 Accuplacer Test 9AM	30 NO PREK G/B BB vs. FCSH - HOME - 5PM (GJV, GV, BV)	December 1 G/B BB @ Thayer Central - 2PM (4 games)
2	3 Elementary Christmas Concert - 7PM	4 G/B BB @ Friend - 4:30PM (4 games) JH BBB vs. HTRS - HOME - 2PM	5 EARLY OUT 1:37PM State One Act Play Classes @ Norfolk D1/D2	6 9/10 BBB @ Lincoln Christian - 6:30PM JH BB @ Pawnee City - 2PM	7 G/B BB vs. Diller-Odell - HOME - 4PM (4 games) JH Skills Competition @ Grand Island	8 ACT Test Date HTRS JV G/B BB Tournament - 9AM
9	10 Lewiston JH BBB Tournament - 4:30PM	11 G/B BB vs. Meridian - HOME - 4PM (4 games)	12 JH BBB @ Freeman - 1PM	13 HS Music Concert (Large Groups) - 7PM	14 NO PREK G/B BB vs. Pawnee City - HOME - 4PM (4 games)	15
16	17 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - 7:30PM	18 G/B BB @ Palmyra - 5PM (BJV, GV, BV)	19	20 G/B BB vs. Johnson-Brock - HOME - 4PM (4 games)	21 EARLY OUT 1:37PM END OF 2ND QUARTER/ 1ST SEMESTER	22
23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29 NSAA MORATORIUM
NSAA MORATORIUM - GYM CLOSED						
CHRISTMAS BREAK - NO SCHOOL DEC 22-JAN 2						
30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3 1st Day 2 nd Semester EARLY OUT 1:37PM G/B BB @ Dorchester - 5PM (BJV, GV, BV)	4 G/B BB vs. HTRS - HOME - 4PM (BJV, GV, BV)	5
CHRISTMAS BREAK - NO SCHOOL DEC 22-JAN 2						



STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
250 MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 39
STERLING, NE 68443

Phone: (402) 866-4761

Fax: (402) 866-4771

Website: www.sterlingjets.org

SUPERINTENDENT

Dottie Heusman

PREK - 12 PRINCIPAL

Scott Harrington

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Brent Heusman

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

Addie Heusman

