

February 2010 Jet News



Middle School & High School Honor Roll Second Quarter/First Semester

** Denotes 2nd Quarter Only

* Denotes 1st Semester Only

Honor Roll

6th Grade

Haylee Boldt
Joshua Dolbow
Erika Eckhardt
Erika Goracke
Kari Hansen
Marah Hestermann
Hannah Jasa
Bailey Kahler
Elly Lempka
Joshua Masur
Thomas Tucker
Jordan Wenzl

7th Grade

Megan Barber
Paxton Donovan*
Jasmine Eickhoff
Yasser Gratul
Ben Logston
Dennis Logston
Michael Logston
Tanner Shea
Nathan Thies
Becky Williams

8th Grade

Tara Hestermann
Derek Julian

9th Grade

Kaitlin Daehling
Jacob Logston*
Michael Lucas
Alexa Magill
Jenna Nieveen
Allison Porter
Garrett Stolz
Tanner Weir
Ryan Zuhlke

10th Grade

Andrew Daehling
Jenna Elson
Matthew Erickson

11th Grade

Austin Magill
John Parrish

12th Grade

Willow Hunt
Mark Lucas
Peter Touma**
Jacob Wenzl*

SPOTLIGHT ON THE TEACHERS

Teresa Trauernicht



Meet Teresa Trauernicht, Sterling's K-6 Special Education Teacher! Mrs. Trauernicht grew up in Filley, Nebraska, and currently resides on an acreage outside of Sterling, with her high school sweetheart and husband, Russell, and they have been married

for 28 years. They have three sons: Ryan, a 2006 graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan who is currently employed with Pinnacle Bank in Lincoln; Mitchell, a junior at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska, majoring in chemistry/pharmacy; and Trey, an 8th grader at Sterling Public Schools.

After graduating from Filley Consolidated School, Mrs. Trauernicht began her undergraduate education at Doane College. She transferred to UNL and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in 7-12 Special Education; 7-12 Physical Education; and an endorsement in Athletic Coaching. After completing her student teaching, Mrs. Trauernicht returned to college to obtain her endorsements in Elementary Education and K-6 Special Education. Mrs. Trauernicht is extremely talented and a strong asset to our school system with her impressive educational background and knowledge.

What is a day like in Mrs. Trauernicht's room? A typical day in her classroom begins at 7:30 a.m.

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SPOTLIGHT ON THE TEACHERS CONTINUED

Teresa Trauernicht continued...

by getting ready for the day. School begins at 8:10 a.m. with students traveling in and out of the room throughout the day for classes and extra help as needed. During track season, the schedule is adjusted. Mrs. Trauernicht arrives at school by 7:00 a.m. because she leaves right after school for track practice, then returns to her classroom for a couple hours of work to prepare for the next day.

Not only is Mrs. Trauernicht very active in the classroom, she is busy with extracurricular activities as well. Throughout the years, Mrs. Trauernicht has coached junior high and high school girls' volleyball, and junior high girls' track. Currently, she feels fortunate to be

the coach of the high school girls' track team. She is a member of the Student Assistance Team and the Data Team. Outside of the school walls, Mrs. Trauernicht is an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Sterling, Nebraska, and is a member of the Sterling Community Association.

What does Mrs. Trauernicht do in her free time? Watching her sons plays softball and baseball, and going boating, fishing, and camping with family and friends.

Why did Mrs. Trauernicht choose education as her career? According to Mrs. Trauernicht, she said that it wasn't as much that she chose education as the career chose her. Growing up, being a teacher wasn't on her radar, but she was

always involved in teaching Sunday school, Vacation Bible school, etc. The enjoyment of being around kids and helping them learn stuck with me. Then, all arrows during college seemed to point towards education. It was a comfortable fit and seemed like the right thing to do. Granted, there are days when it feels as though the last straw could break, but then she will helping a student who is struggling and she sees the light bulb go off in the student's mind, and she remembers once again why she became a teacher. She is there for the students; they are the reason for why she chose education or why education chose her. Sterling Public Schools is fortunate to have this incredible teacher on our staff.



Sandra *Sandy* Weyers



If you have a chance to visit Mrs. Weyers classroom, have your skates on, because things are crazy busy in the classroom, and things are never exactly the same from day to day. Mrs. Weyers teaches a variety of classes including FAME reading; Applied Math; Resource Classes (including additional math and Eng-

lish classes); all online NovaNet courses, including NovaNet Credit Recovery courses; and Work Study classes. Throughout the day, in addition to these classes, Mrs. Weyers has study hall students and students who come in and out of her room for additional help or to have questions answered. Her room is a hub of activity.

Mrs. Weyers is a resident of the Sterling area, living on an acreage three miles south of Sterling. She is married to Tim Weyers, and they have three children: Ben, his wife Jennifer, and granddaughter, Brooklynn (age 2); Jacob Weyers; and Lisa Weyers. All three of Mrs. Weyers' children attended Sterling Public Schools.

The education of all students is a passion for Mrs. Weyers, and she doesn't stop there. Her own personal education is important to her also, because this helps to enhance

student learning. Mrs. Weyers earned a Bachelor's Degree in K-12 Special Education, a Bachelor's Degree in K-8 Elementary/Middle School Education, and a Master's Degree in K-12 Curriculum and Instruction. All three degrees were earned through Doane College. She also continues to learn by attending a variety of workshops and trainings to aid in student education.

In addition to her time spent time in the classroom, Mrs. Weyers is involved in a variety of extracurricular activities, including being the chair of the Student Assistance Team, a member of the Data Team, CAN (Community Action Network) Sterling School sponsor, and the freshmen class sponsor. Outside of the school walls, Mrs. Weyers is an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Sterling and is a member of the Sterling Community Association.

Continued on the next page

SPOTLIGHT ON THE TEACHERS CONTINUED

Sandy Weyers continued...

This busy schedule of school and activities doesn't leave a lot of free time, but Mrs. Weyers finds time to enjoy hobbies including collecting antiques, flower gardening, horse trail riding, reading, traveling, and mostly spending quality time with family and friends.

Why did Mrs. Weyers choose education as her career? Mrs. Weyers believes that teaching is her calling in life; growing up, she wanted to be a teacher. It's a pas-

sion and she feels it is one of the most rewarding professions in the world, yet it can also be the most stressful. But spending time with the students and other teachers is incredible.

When you cry at every Sterling graduation, both because you are sad to see the students leave the school walls, but thrilled to see them be successful and then follow them into the future, then you will have an idea of how Mrs. Weyers feels. She cares for the students and wants them to achieve their best.

MAKE UP DAYS

We will be having classes on the following days:

Thursday, February 11

Monday, February 15

Monday, April 5

Last Day of School

will now be **Friday, May 21**

MORE FOOTBALL HONORS

All State Football

Zach Lempka

First Team Defense

Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World Herald, Associated Press

Honorable Mention All State

Neil Pella Justin Puls

Jacob Wirthele

Shane Benson

SAVE

CAMPBELL
SOUP LABELS
&
BOX TOPS
FOR EDUCATION

*For the 5th Grade Class
to send in.*

Sterling Alumni Mens Basketball Tournament March 19 & 20, 2010 *if necessary March 21 also*

*There will be 3 Point Shooting and Knock Out contests for any man or woman alumni.
There will be a Free Throw shooting contest open to any one, any age. Entry fee for each contest is \$5.*

Registrations or Entries
Are Due By
Sunday, March 14, 2010
For more information contact Vicky
Benson at HM 866-5572/C 430-0621
or at vickybenson@diodecom.net or
visit the
Sterling Community Association
Website.

GIRLS' STATE, BOYS' STATE, AND JUNIOR LAW CADET

Cornhusker Girls' State

Cornhusker Girls' State applications are being accepted in January or now. All junior girls are encouraged to apply for this experience. Girls' State is a nonpartisan program that teaches young women responsible citizenship and love for God and Country. Since the inception of the Girls State program in 1937, nearly one million young people have had the opportunity to learn first-hand how their state and local government works. High school girls, who have completed their junior year, spend an intensive week of study, working together as self-governing citizens at Auxiliary sponsored Girls State programs in every state. They learn how to participate in the functioning of their state's government in preparation for their future roles as responsible adult citizens. This year's Girls' State will be at UNL, from June 6 – 12, 2010. Application deadline is January 29, 2010. Please see Ms. Shea for applications.

Cornhusker Boys' State

Applications are currently being accepted for the 70th Annual Cornhusker Boys' State. This annual citizenship program sponsored by the Nebraska American Legion is designed to provide youth with a better understanding of how city, county, and state governments operate. Each boy is sponsored locally by an organization such as an American Legion Post, or by some other pa-

triotic, civic, fraternal, or religious group in cooperation with the local American Legion Post.

American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State is set up as a functional "51st State" and each boy learns how government subdivisions operate by actually doing the job. Participants will campaign for offices, hold elections, take part in band and chorus, compete in athletics, and be in-

involved in other varied activities as part of the citizenship training program. They will set up their own state government and draft bills.

All junior boys are eligible to apply for Boys' State. This year's session will be from June 6-12, 2010, at Schramm Hall on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus.

Deadline for application is in February 15th. See Ms. Shea for application.

2010 Junior Law Cadet Program

Nebraska Department of the American Legion

Basic Requirements:

- * High school junior in good health & able to participate in physical activities.
- * Must possess a positive attitude & display respect for law enforcement.
- * Good grooming, average or above average scholastic record, & able to share the knowledge gained through the program.
- * Must possess a valid Nebraska operator's license or learner's permit.

This program gives students the chance to: drive a State Patrol car; learn to fire a service weapon, learn self-defense, pressure point control tactics, and assault prevention measures; and interact with law enforcement officers.

Two sessions offered – one for boys and one for girls. The program now takes place at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island.

Girls' session – June 8th – 12th, 2010

Boys' session – June 15th–19th, 2010

Applications available from Ms. Shea. Deadline February 22, 2010.

New Federal Race and Ethnicity Categories

The U.S. Department of Education has developed new guidelines regarding the collection of race and ethnicity data. All states are required to collect this data and use these new categories for reporting. The federal government has developed these new categories in order to provide a more accurate picture of the nation's ethnic and racial diversity. This will enable individuals to be identified in ethnic and racial classifications and in more than one racial category. In the past, forms allowed individuals to be identified in only one racial category. This format of a two-part question is listed below and will allow you to re-identify your student(s) for our reporting.

The new ethnicity and race categories will be used in the same manner that such information is currently used. The new categories will replace all existing categories for use in state and federal data collections that include data on ethnicity and race. The enclosed question-and-answer sheet provided by the state department of education provides additional information about these changes.

Please fill out and return the bottom portion of this form to re-identify the ethnicity/race according to the new guidelines. If the district does not receive a form from your child, the office will reassign the ethnicity/race according to the current record.

The new guidelines are in the format of a two-part question. **Please answer both parts.** If you have more than one child, please note their name and information for each part.

Student (s) Name: _____

Part A.

Is this student Hispanic/Latino? (Choose only one)

- No, not Hispanic/Latino**
- Yes, Hispanic/Latino** (*A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.*)

Part B.

What is the student's race? (Choose one or more)

- American Indian or Alaska Native** (*A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America --including Central America--and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.*)
- Asian** (*A person having origins in any of the peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Phillipine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.*)
- Black or African American** (*A person having origins in any of the origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.*)
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** (*A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.*)
- White** (*A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.*)

Please complete the information and return by March 1, 2010.

Questions and Answers about the New Federal Ethnicity Race Categories

Q: Why do you need this information?

A: The demographics of our society have changed significantly in the last few decades. These changes will allow our students and staff to more accurately describe who they are. We (school district/system or state) are required by the Federal government to use the new categories. All states and school districts/systems are required to do the same. There are good reasons in addition to meeting federal requirements, though. We routinely report aggregate information to the federal government for funding and evaluation purposes, as well as civil rights compliance. We also use racial and ethnic data to evaluate our placement and program needs, providing the best services for all students. The U.S. Census in 2000 used the new categories. This is a trend that education and human service agencies will follow.

Q: Is the federal government checking my immigration status?

A: No. This information will be maintained in your employment or student records. It will not be reported to any federal agency in a way that identifies you or your child. No one will check for immigration status from the information you give here.

Q: Will the school release my student's race and ethnicity to other parties?

A: Individual student records are protected by the Federal Education Records and Privacy Act (FERPA). The new race and ethnicity standards have no effect on FERPA's protection of student records. FERPA does not designate race and ethnicity as directory information, and race and ethnicity have the same protection as any other nondirectory information in a student's education record.

Q: Haven't we given this information before? Why do you need to ask again?

A: This is indeed a major effort, but it would be more beneficial to ask everyone again and at the same time with the new format. This way no one will miss the opportunity to identify themselves in a more accurate way.

Q: I am Hispanic. Why do I have to answer more questions?

A: One of the major changes is the recognition that members of Hispanic populations can be of different races. The federal government would like to afford Hispanic/Latino populations the opportunity to better describe themselves according to their culture and heritage. So yes, you will be asked to select one or more races, even if you have indicated that you are Hispanic/Latino.

Q: How do I know I won't be discriminated against after I've told you I belong to a minority group?

A: This is exactly why we need to maintain better racial and ethnic data about our students and staff. We are required to maintain this information about each individual in his or her record, in case a civil right investigation surfaces. Again, state and local guidelines are in place to ensure that racial and ethnic data will not be reported elsewhere in a way that you may be identified. The state and districts/systems follow FERPA rules and regulations to safeguard the privacy of student records (see question above). For employment records, none of the equal employment opportunity rules has changed. Your race and ethnicity will not be used to determine your employment status or condition.

Q: You can't make me do it, can you?

A: No, we can't; but providing the information would be beneficial for you or your child. We are required to provide an answer on your behalf, if you choose not to provide such information. The federal government believes that in getting aggregate numbers from states and districts/systems, it would be more preferable to have complete data this way, than having missing data.

2nd GRADE SETS OFF TO A BIG START IN 2010

by Mrs. McAuliffe, Teacher

The Second Graders are off to a great start in 2010. We're teaming up with the Fifth Graders to read together this semester. It is exciting to begin our new reading book as well. In Math, we are working with money, learning the value of coins, comparing them, and making change. Our next challenge will be learning how to tell time. Did you know that Penguins were the only birds that don't fly? We're learning facts about penguins and enjoying listening to the story, "Mr. Popper's Penguins." We have also started to write our letters in cursive. Our writing topic, "What to do on a Snow Day" expressed many great ideas from the Second Graders. The "100th Day of School" is approaching and we look forward to celebrating it.



LET'S
R
E
A
D



2nd & 5th Graders Work Well Together In Reading

Eckhardt Wins Sterling Geography Bee



Heidi Eckhardt, a 4th grade student at Sterling Public School, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on Friday, January 15 and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 21st annual National Geographic Bee. The Bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

The kickoff for this year's Bee was the week of November 9,

with thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories participating. The school winners, including Heidi, will now take a written test; up to 100 of the top scorers in each state will be eligible to compete in their state Bee April 9, 2010.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the National Geographic Bee national championship on May 25 and 26, 2010. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship and a lifetime membership in the Society. The winner will also travel (along with one parent or guardian), all expenses paid, to the Galapagos Islands with "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek and the "Jeopardy!" Clue Crew. The winner will experience geography firsthand through up-close encounters with the wildlife and landscape of Galapagos. Travel for the "Galapagos Adventure with Alex Trebek" provided by

Lindblad Expeditions and the National Geographic Society.

"Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek will moderate the national finals on May 26. The program will air on television. Check local listings for dates and times.

Everyone can test their geography knowledge with the new and exciting GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which poses 10 new questions a day and allows players to e-mail their score to friends and challenge them to do better.

The National Geographic Society is one of the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. Founded in 1888 to "increase and diffuse geographic knowledge", the Society works to inspire people to care about the planet. It reaches more than 370 million people worldwide each month through its official journal, National Geographic, and other magazines; National Geographic Channel; television documentaries; music; radio; films; books; DVDs; maps; exhibitions; school publishing programs; interactive media; and merchandise. National Geographic has funded more than 9,000 scientific research projects and supports an education program combating geographic illiteracy. For more information, visit nationalgeographic.com.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Monday, Feb. 8

4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

and

Thursday, Feb. 11

4:00 to 8:30 p.m.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH by Mr. Peterson

After attempting to implement a different student recognition program the last three years, the staff has decided to go back to the old Student of the Month program that we last used in 2006.

Below you will find a review of how the Student of the Month program operates.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Nomination Criteria

1. Students must be in grades 6-12.
2. Students may not have been recognized in a previous month.
3. Each staff member may nominate one high school and one middle school student.
4. One high school (9-12) and one middle school (6-8) student will be selected each month.
5. Students can be recognized for excellence in any one or combination of the following criteria:
scholarship leadership character respect
courtesy responsibility effort enthusiasm
6. When nominating, please specify the area or areas in which the student excels.

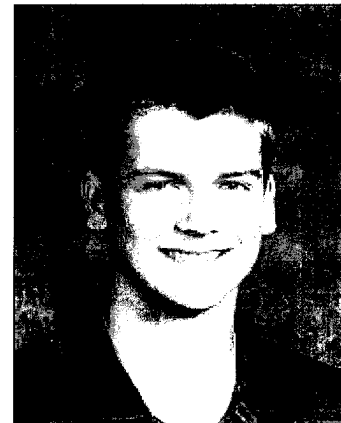
Nominating Procedure

1. Teachers hand in a list of students they feel deserving to the Principal.
2. At a teacher's meeting prior to the selection of the finalists, there will be conversation to discuss those students nominated.
3. The Principal will then put a ballot of the finalists in each teacher's mailbox. After voting, ballots are returned ASAP in the Principal's mailbox.
4. Students nominated but not selected will automatically be on the next two months ballot unless they lose nomination by a teacher.

Each month winners receive:

1. A certificate and a letter to parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. A \$10.00 gift certificate from the Jet Stop.

February 2010
Students of the Month are
Justin Puls and Kody Benson



Don't Forget to Order Your 2009-10 Yearbook
Contact the Office or Mrs. Steele

February 2010 Breakfast & Lunch Menus

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
B—Breakfast Menu L—Lunch Menu	1 B - Pancakes, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L - Nachos, green beans, celery w/peanut butter, pineapple tidbits	2 B - Scrambled Eggs, Toast or Cereal/Toast, juice, milk L - Chili Soup w/cheese, lettuce salad, cinnamon roll, applesauce	3 B - Donut, Yogurt or Cereal/Yogurt, juice, milk L - Chicken Patty on Bun, corn, mashed potatoes w/gravy, peaches	4 B - Cereal, Toast, Fruit, juice, milk L - BBQ Rib Patty on Bun, french fries, carrot sticks, pears	5 B - Cinnamon Swirl Toast or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Beef & Noodles, peas, bread & butter, mixed fruit	6
7	8 B - Garlic Cheese Toast or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Goulash, green beans, tea rolls w/jelly, pears	9 B - Breakfast Bar or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Potato Bake, ham or tuna salad sandwich, string cheese, pineapple tidbits	10 B - Cereal, Toast, Fruit, juice, milk L - Vegetable Beef Soup, lettuce salad, cheese breadsticks, applesauce	11 B - Burrito or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Hot Dog on Bun, french fries, carrot sticks, mixed fruit	12 B - French Toast Sticks, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L - Chicken Fajita, rice, corn, peaches	13
14	15 B - Breakfast Pizza or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Ham Patty on Bun, tator gems, carrot sticks, applesauce	16 B - Cereal, Toast, Fruit, juice, milk L - Chicken Nuggets, mashed potatoes w/gravy, green beans, peaches	17 B - Donut, Yogurt or Cereal/Yogurt, juice, milk L - Tomato Soup, cheese sandwich, lettuce salad, pears	18 B - Pancakes, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L - Tacos, corn, celery w/peanut butter, pineapple tidbits	19 B - Scrambled Eggs, Toast or Cereal/Toast, juice, milk L - Tuna Casserole, peas, muffin, mixed fruit	20
21	22 B - French Toast Sticks, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L - Grilled Chicken Patty, french fries, mixed vegetables or broccoli w/cheese, peaches	23 B - Garlic Cheese Toast or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Submarines, peas, gelatin, pears	24 B - Cereal, Toast, Fruit, juice, milk L - Cavatini, green beans, breadsticks, applesauce	25 B - Cinnamon Swirl Toast or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Chicken Noodle Soup, lettuce salad, sandwich, mixed fruit	26 B - Toaster Pastry or Cereal/Fruit, juice, milk L - Cheese Pizza, corn, carrot sticks, pineapple tidbits	27
28	Menu subject to change without notice. All meals include half pint of milk. Extra bread and butter					

Activities Calendar February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Jr. High Girls BB HOME vs. FCSH 4:00 p.m.	2	3	4	5	6
	Pioneer Conference at HTRS or Pawnee City		Pioneer Conference Art Exhibit @ J/B			
7	8 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-7 p.m. Jr. High Girls BB @ Lewiston 5:30 p.m. 9/10 Boys BB @ FCSH AWAY 6 p.m.	9 GJV & GV BB vs. Freeman HOME - 6:15 p.m.	10 Jr. High Girls BB @ Freeman 1:00 p.m.	11 Early Dismissal 2:38 p.m. Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-8:30 p.m.	12	13 JV Boys BB @ Lewiston Tourn. 9/10:15 a.m. Boys BB @ Omaha Christian College of St. Mary's 4 pm.
14	15 <i>We will be having school</i>	16	17	18	19	20
	Sub-District Girls BB @ Fairbury TBA	Sub-District Girls BB @ Fairbury TBA		Sub-District Finals Girls BB @ Fairbury TBA	BJV & BV BB vs. Freeman HOME - 6:15 p.m.	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Sub-District Boys BB @ Fairbury TBA	Sub-District Boys BB @ Fairbury TBA	Pioneer Conference Speech @ Pawnee City TBA	Sub-District Finals Boys BB @ Fairbury TBA	GBB District Finals TBA	District Speech
28	<i>Everything is subject to change at short notice.</i>					

*Please Note That Any Changes or Updates of
Schedules will be Posted on the School Website*
www.sterlingjets.org

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