

MARCH 2015

# Sterling Jet news

## Superintendent's Notes *by Mike Davis*



### **Missoula Children's Theatre Bringing "Robin Hood" to Sterling.**

Parents and guardians: your child(ren) in grades K-8 will be given the opportunity to be in a play! The auditions are March 16<sup>th</sup> at 4PM on the stage. The rehearsals will be Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from 4-6PM for the K-4 students and 4-8:30PM for the 5-8 students. The musical is "**Robin Hood**" and the public performance will be at 7PM on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **New Superintendent Hired.**

Welcome Mr. Ryan Knippelmeyer, who will be Superintendent of Sterling Public Schools starting July 1, 2015!



Mr. Knippelmeyer is currently the Principal at Meadow Lane Elementary School in Lincoln, NE. He has 19 years of experience as an educator and principal. His experiences include: 11 years as an elementary teacher and high school coach, 1 year as an instructor at Peru State College, and 7 years as an elementary principal.

Mr. Knippelmeyer obtained his Bachelors of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Peru State College. He followed that up with a Masters in Educational Administration and Specialist in Educational Administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Ryan and his wife, Sommer, have two children. Eva is currently in kindergarten and Knox is 17 months old. Ryan is originally from Johnson, NE and Sommer grew up in Beaver Crossing, NE. The Knippelmeyer family enjoys attending sporting events, especially Husker games. Ryan, Sommer, Eva, and Knox are looking forward to joining the Sterling Public Schools' family and community!

### **New Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor Hired.**

Ms. Emilia Woeppel has accepted the Sterling Agriculture Education and FFA Advisor position for the 2015-16 school year!

Emilia is shown here attending the Husker Women's Basketball game with members of the Sterling FFA Chapter.



Front row l-r: Jim Erickson, Erika Eckhardt, Alisha Fisher, Ms. Woeppel, Sydney Goracke, and Elly Lempka.

Second row l-r: Austin Buss, Jacob Schwenneker, Seth Harms, Thomas Tucker, and Micah Erickson.

**Class Dues for grades 7-11 need to be paid ASAP. Please give your \$10 to your class sponsor!**

## ***Superintendent's Notes cont.***

Ms. Woeppel will graduate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a major in Agriculture Education with a Biology Endorsement in May 2015. Ms. Woeppel did her student teaching at Humphrey High School last fall. She graduated from Norris High School in 2011. Additional related experiences from her resume include:

**Intern:** Nebraska FFA Association (April 2012- Present)

- Facilitated leadership development training for Nebraska State Officers
- Coached State Officers through two summer conferences
- Trained State Officers for Business and Industry visits
- Coordinated the Nebraska State FFA Convention preparation and implementation of events

**Nebraska Outreach Coordinator:** Farm Safety 4 Just Kids (Dec. 2012- Dec. 2013)

- Educated youth and families about farm safety
- Provided training and resources to communities to conduct farm safety education programs

**State FFA Vice President:** Nebraska FFA Association (April 2011-April 2012)

- Developed and facilitated workshops at three leadership conferences, 22 chapter visits, and two state conventions
- Organized and led the 84<sup>th</sup> Nebraska State FFA Convention
- Wrote and delivered 4 keynote speeches at 14 banquets and State Convention
- Delivered key messages to Nebraska FFA supporters through 30 business and industry visits



**Together We Transform Lives**

Many of you may have heard about the Teammates Mentoring program that was recently organized. But many of you may not know exactly what this program is and what the goals are. Teammates was founded by Tom and Nancy Osborne in 1991 as an effort to provide support and encouragement to school-aged youth. Teammates mentors meet with

their mentee one hour per week during school hours. Mentors are volunteers from the community who have dedicated themselves to making a difference and being a caring adult in the lives of a young person. These mentors give the kids a person to talk, share their experiences, and bond, while sharing a sense of hope, purpose, and vision with the mentees. This program is open to all students in grades 4-6 currently, but as mentors volunteer and are trained, we hope to expand the program. There is a misconception that the Teammates mentors work only with students with special needs. This is not the case. Each of us has one or more people in our lives that we consider our mentors, and this is what the Teammates mentors are doing for the students in our school. We can never have enough people to help guide each of us through this journey called life. Please consider being a mentor! Contact **Jill Shea** ([jshea@sterlingpublicschools.com](mailto:jshea@sterlingpublicschools.com)) or **Erin Mackey** ([emackey@sterlingpublicschools.com](mailto:emackey@sterlingpublicschools.com)) or call the school: **402-866-4761 (Jill's extension - 113 and Erin's extension - 104)**. If you have an organization or group that would like information, we would also be willing to come to speak to share additional information. Additional information, including the mentoring application, is also available online at [www.teammates.org](http://www.teammates.org). Together we can make a difference!

### **Authorization For Administration of Medication at School**

Reminder - if you are sending medication to school for your child/children, it needs to be in the original container labeled with the child's name, this includes cough drops. We also need medical authorization in order to dispense any medication. These forms can be found on-line under Quick Links, Handbooks & Forms. Prescription meds and inhalers need to have the second portion of the form completed by the doctor's office. Thank you!



## From the Principal's Desk *by Ryun Theobald*

It seems as if February has been a yo-yo month with the weather, but since we all live in Nebraska, I am not telling you anything that you don't already know. While I would prefer to just get the winter weather out of the way, the daily change does help to keep me on my toes. Anyhow, there are more important items to talk about than the weather, so below are a few things I would like to share.

**Student pre-registration for grades 7-12.** Students in grades 6-11 will begin the pre-registration process in the next couple of weeks. Ms. Shea will be assisting the students in selecting classes that fit both their needs and interests. Each student will have a form to bring home that needs to be signed by a parent and then brought back to school. These pre-registration forms will be used to help build the master schedule for the 2015-16 school year. Our goal is to have the schedule built by mid-April so teachers will know exactly what classes they will be teaching and students will know exactly what classes they will be taking. Once the schedule is built, a student may still switch classes, assuming there is something offered during a corresponding period. Every attempt will be made to accommodate each student with their perfect schedule.

**PT Conferences.** The majority of the feedback I received from moving the high school conferences to the gym was positive. I also wanted to briefly explain the rationale for the seating arrangements. The teachers were strategically placed on the inside of the tables and the parents on the outside of the tables for a couple of reasons. First, by having the teachers on the inside, their voices would be directed outward, thereby keeping the conversations as private as possible. The second reason was to help speed up conferences. It can be difficult sometimes to keep conferences to 5-7 minutes in length. I felt that if parents could see other parents, they would be more likely to keep the conversations shorter. I also recognize that by having teachers on the inside that it may not have been as welcoming, but I assure you, that was not the intention. If you have other feedback on conferences, please feel free to contact me and it will be taken into consideration as we plan for next fall.

**JCC Spelling Bee.** The Johnson County Spelling Bee was held in Tecumseh on February 14<sup>th</sup>. I am excited to share that Sterling's Amanda Tallant was the overall winner. Amanda has qualified for the Midwest Spelling Bee in Omaha. Other Sterling students who participated and placed in the top three of their respective grade levels are as follows: Danielle Janssen (1<sup>st</sup>) and Riley Vermeer (3<sup>rd</sup>) in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Belle Haner (3<sup>rd</sup>) in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and Amanda Tallant (2<sup>nd</sup>) in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Congratulations to these students for a job well done!

**NeSA testing.** The NeSA testing window for this year is **March 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Last year was a banner year at Sterling with the NeSA assessments. As a school we scored very well, but there is still room for improvement. Our goal is to be among the top 25 schools in the state in each category tested, as well as each grade level group. This is a very high expectation, but based on the work ethic of our students and the dedication of our staff, it is an attainable goal.

As always, if you have any concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to give me a call.  
**GO JETS!!!**

**Students of the Month: January**

**Emma Akers & Torie Tucker**

Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
April 18, 2015	March 13, 2015	March 14-27, 2015
June 13, 2015	May 8, 2015	May 9-22, 2015



# High School Band & Choir Trip to Branson, MO March 18-21, 2015



Make sure you check the school website [www.sterlingjets.org](http://www.sterlingjets.org) for permission and medical forms that need to be filled out before the trip. The itinerary and expectations/guidelines are also available.

Have Fun & Safe Travels Jets!!!

## DRESS UP DAYS FOR READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

MARCH 2-6, 2015

*Monday* - Class Color Day! (class t-shirts)

*Tuesday* - Silly Sock Day!

*Wednesday* - Wacky Wednesday!

**THURSDAY** - Stripes, Stripes, Stripes!

*Friday* - Pajama Day!



**CONGRATS** to our very own Emma Akers for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Sculpture category with her glass piece, *Red Center* and 1<sup>st</sup> with her Acrylic artwork *4 Petals* at the *Pioneer Conference Art Contest!!!*



### Peru State Business Day

Mrs. Konkaba took 11 SHS students to compete at Peru State Business Day on February 11<sup>th</sup>. This was open at any high school student that was interested in competing. Over 400 students attended this competition from all over South-east Nebraska, Missouri, and Iowa. There were 14 different competitions that students could compete in with the top student in each receiving a \$500 scholarship to Peru State. Senior Meri Hietbrink placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall in the Business Communication event and won a medal!

*Congratulations to all that went and competed!*



First row l-r: Jordan Morrison, Kiana Morrison, Megan Barber, and Ben Logston.  
Second row l-r: Becky Williams, Meri Hietbrink, Daniel Schwenneker.  
Third row l-r: Heidi Eckhardt, Kaleb Williams, Mike Crisante, and Paxton Donovan.

Looking for a fun after school activity for your child? Consider signing up for a 4-H Afterschool Workshop hosted by the University of Nebraska Extension.



**-Power of Wind:** youth will practice designing and redesigning different wind powered objects while learning about how wind speed is measured. The workshop runs from after school to 5:30PM on March 12. It is open to students, grades 3-6 and only costs \$10.

For more information visit the school website: [www.sterlingjets.org](http://www.sterlingjets.org). Contact the Johnson County Extension Office with any questions at (402)335-3669.



## 2015 STERLING HIGH TRACK SCHEDULE



<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Pioneer Indoor	Crete-Doane	9:30
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	Wilber-Clatonia	Wilber	2:00
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	Mustang Invite	Friend	10:00
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Lewiston Invite	Pawnee City	9:30
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	Irish Invite	Syracuse	9:30
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	MUDECAS	Pawnee City	9:00
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Pawnee City Invite	Pawnee City	3:00
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Saturday	Pioneer Conference	Auburn	9:00
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Freeman Invite	Adams	9:00
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	Districts	Auburn	11:00
May 22-23	Fri.-Sat.	State Track Meet	Omaha	3:30/9:00

## Sterling Alumni Men's Basketball Tournament March 21, 2015

**Contact Andy or Jake Saathoff or visit the school website for more information!**

**Order your 2014-15 "We Were There" YEARBOOK today for only \$50.00! Contact Mrs. Koncaba at school!!!**





# MARCH MENUS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>2 B-</b> Breakfast Pizza OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Hot Dog on WG Bun, FF and/or Swt. FF, Baked Beans, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>3 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Nachos w/ Cheese Sauce or Bean Dip, Corn, Celery w/ PB, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><b>4 B-</b> Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Noodle Soup, PB&amp;J Sandwich, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p><b>5 B-</b> Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuit, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Ham Patty on WG Bun, Green Beans, Tator Gems and/or Swt. Tator Gems, Pears</p>	<p><b>6 B-</b> French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Macaroni &amp; Cheese, Peas, WG Breadsticks, Mixed Fruit</p>
<p><b>9 B-</b> Snack Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Patty Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Peaches</p>	<p><b>10 B-</b> Pancake &amp; Sausage on a Stick OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Tacos, Green Beans, Celery w/ PB, Pears</p>	<p><b>11 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Mini Corn Dogs, Peas, Baked Beans, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><b>12 B-</b> Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chili Soup, Romaine Lettuce Salad, WG Cinnamon Roll, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p><b>13 B-</b> Omelet, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Fish Nuggets, Mixed Vegetables, Coleslaw, Applesauce</p>
<p><b>16 B-</b> Egg Taco OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Hamburger, FF and/or Swt. FF, Tomatoes, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><b>17 B-</b> Breakfast Pizza OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>18 B-</b> WG Waffle, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Waffle, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Burrito, Peas, Chips w/ Salsa, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p><b>19 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Goulash, Green Beans, WG Dinner Roll w/ Jelly, Pears</p>	<p><b>20 B-</b> Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Tomato Soup, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Cheese Sandwich, Mixed Fruit</p>
<p><b>23 B-</b> Toaster Pastry, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Vegetable Beef Soup, Romaine Lettuce Salad, WG Cheese Breadstick, Pears</p>	<p><b>24 B-</b> French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Submarines, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Gelatin, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><b>25 B-</b> Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Spaghetti, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>26 B-</b> WG Cinnamon Glazed Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Pork Patty on WG Bun, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p><b>27 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Pizza, Peas, Black Bean Salad, Peaches</p>
<p><b>30 B-</b> Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuit, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Green Beans, Pears</p>	<p><b>31 B-</b> Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Teriyaki, Rice, Peas, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>Menus are subject to change without notice.</b></p> <p><i>USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</i></p>	<p><i>A variety of fruits and vegetables are offered with every meal.</i></p>	<p><i>Alternate Entrée - Chef Salad</i></p> <p><i>Milk served with every meal.</i></p>

# MARCH 2015 ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <b>Class Color Day!</b> JH Girls BB Tourn. @ Johnson-Brock - 4PM	3 <b>Silly Sock Day!</b> District Meat Judging Comp. @ Beatrice	4 <b>Wacky Wednesday!</b> LEAD/CAN Assembly @ JCC	5 <b>Stripes Day!</b> Freshman Wax Museum - 8 <sup>th</sup> period	6 <b>Pajama Day!</b> End of 3rd Quarter	7
<b>READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK</b>						
8	9 Pioneer Conf. Speech Meet @ Neb. City Lourdes	10	11 Lifetouch Picture Retakes 8:15AM	12	13 NO SCHOOL PreK	14
				<b>GIRLS STATE BB TOURNAMENT @ LINCOLN</b>		
15	16 School Board Meeting 7:30PM	17 District Speech Contest @ Meridian Ag/Econ Trip to Chicago	18	19 Pioneer Conference HS Quiz Bowl @ Lewiston	20 JH Skills Comp. 9AM-2:30PM - Omaha Peru State Math Contest	21 Alumni Basketball Tournament
				<b>BOYS STATE BB TOURNAMENT @ LINCOLN</b>		
<b>BAND/CHOIR TRIP TO BRANSON, MO</b>						
<b>MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE</b>						
22	23 Pioneer Conference JH Quiz Bowl @ Johnson Brock	24 MUDECAS Music Contest @ Pawnee City	25 MUDECAS HS Quiz Bowl @ Beatrice - 10AM	26 Pioneer Conf. Indoor Track @ Doane - 9AM	27 State Speech (C2-D1-D2) @ UNK HTRS Middles School Music Contest 9AM	28
29	30	31 Wilber-Clatonia HS Track Invite - 2PM	1 APRIL	2	3 GOOD FRIDAY NO SCHOOL	4 <b>This calendar is subject to change.</b>

**MARCH 2015  
STERLING  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

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**SUPERINTENDENT  
MIKE DAVIS**

**K-12 PRINCIPAL  
ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR  
RYUN THEOBALD**

**GUIDANCE  
COUNSELOR  
JILL SHEA**

**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
BRENT HEUSMAN**

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## **DON'T FORGET...**

- March 2 Track Practice Begins
- March 2-6 Read Across America Week
- March 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 8 Legion Soup Dinner - Free Will Donation
- March 11 Spring Lifetouch Picture Retakes
- March 13 NO SCHOOL PreK
- March 16 School Board Meeting
- March 16-20 Missoula Children's Theatre: Tryouts, Rehearsals, and Performance
- March 20 Missoula Children's Theatre: Performance of "Robin Hood"
- March 17 Ag/Econ Trip to Chicago
- March 18-21 Band/Choir Trip to Branson
- March 21-22 Alumni Basketball Tournament

Stay up to date with all things JET related by going to the school website [www.sterlingjets.org](http://www.sterlingjets.org) or our Facebook page!!!

