



# Sterling Public Schools

## December 2021 Newsletter



Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial



US Capitol Building

## Washington D.C. Trip 2021



Statue of Albert Einstein



The White House



Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial



Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial



## From the Principal's Desk by Jake Davenport

The first half of the school year is quickly coming to a close. As we look toward the end of the first semester, I would encourage all parents and guardians to help monitor your student's progress and grades to finish the semester. As a reminder to everyone, students only receive credit for the successful completion of an entire semester. This means that a semester grade must be passing for a student to receive credit for a course. If you notice a low or failing grade, please encourage your student to visit with their teacher or reach out to them personally to see how to help.

Thank you all for your continued support of our awesome students and school. It has been a blessing to be able to host events at full capacity again this year. However, I encourage everyone to be courteous as you attend events and please be respectful to all officials and referees. I can assure you that nothing will change the outcome of a previously called play and any missed calls will remain uncalled. However, a hostile crowd can make it more difficult to find officials in an already critical sports official shortage. We have been good about remaining respectful in the past and I am hopeful that tradition will continue.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me as needed. Since some of you receiving this newsletter do not currently have ties to our district, if you or any families you know are looking for a change of scenery with an excellent school, please get in contact with me. I would love to discuss why Sterling is likely a great fit.  
**Go Jets!!!**

### Veterans Day Poem

Today we thank the veterans  
for all that they have given.  
While they are out there fighting,  
We are just here living.

Your selfless act of courage  
of putting your country first,  
makes the community so proud  
our hearts could almost burst.

We appreciate your service  
more than words can say.  
We will strive to show you gratitude  
each and every day.

By Hailey Goracke

## Candy Cane Grams \$1



*Send a student or staff member a treat with a message of your choice!*

**ON SALE**

- NOW
- December 6: during the elementary Christmas program
- December 7: during HS BB games

**Deliveries will be made during school on December 21-22.**

Email: [stuco@sterlingpublicschools.com](mailto:stuco@sterlingpublicschools.com)

Venmo: @SPSSStudentCouncil

Contact: Addie Heusman

Proceeds to the HS student council.

**JH/HS CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
**12/16/2021 @ 7PM \*call time 6:30PM**

## **Student Piece of the Month**

### **Loving Lillian from Day One**

By: Bo McCoy

When I first got to the doctors office, I was scared, I don't know why I was. I guess it was more of a nervous scared. When I walked and saw her for the first time, the world dropped.

It all started when Riley and I were playing up stairs. I think we were playing farm when suddenly the door opened to the upstairs, "Bo, Riley come here please," Mom called. I thought we were in trouble. Mom and Dad sat us down in front of the couch.

Dad looked nervous, mom...I'm not sure what she looked like. Mom reached into her pocket. When she started to remove her hand, it seemed to come out in slow motion. She pulled out some small black and white photos, then it hit me like a bullet, I was getting a baby sibling.

I didn't know what to think. Should I feel happy? Should I feel scared? So I swallowed hard and simply said, "WOW".

Months later on July 5, it happened. I held the little angel. She was small, soft, and cute...and she was my little sister, Lillian.

#### **2021 All-Conference Volleyball Team**

Macy Richardson-1st team

Lauren Harms-2nd team

Brooke Huetson-Honorable Mention

#### **2021 All-District #1 Football Team**

##### **First-Team Offense**

Trenton Peery

Carson McAuliffe

##### **Second-Team Offense**

Garrett Hier

##### **Honorable Mention Offense**

Wyatt Rathe

##### **First-Team Defense**

Tanner McDonald

Andrew Richardson

Kody Goracke

Andrew Richardson

##### **Second Team Defense**

Carson McAuliffe

#### **2021 All-Conference Football Team**

##### **First Team Offense**

Trenton Peery

Andrew Richardson

Carson McAuliffe

##### **First Team Defense**

Andrew Richardson

Tanner McDonald

Carson McAuliffe

Andrew Richardson

##### **Honorable Mention Offense**

Garrett Hier

##### **Honorable Mention Defense**

Kody Goracke

**ELEMENTARY  
CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT  
12/6/2021 @ 6PM**



## Sterling Student Chosen to be a Believer and Achiever of the State

By Brooke Huetson

Sterling Public schools is thrilled to congratulate this year's Believers and Achievers award recipients. This year, three Sterling High School seniors were chosen as Believers and Achievers. Danielle Janssen and Andrew Richardson were chosen as local Believers and Achievers while Garrett Hier was one of the students chosen to represent the state.

Garrett Hier states that he feels honored to have received this award, and that he believes this will really open up the door for opportunities with scholarships and colleges.

Believers and Achievers was designed to reward high school students in Nebraska for their outstanding excellence in academics and participation in NSAA activities.

In order to be nominated for this award, a student must be a senior in high school and is required to have a minimum GPA of 3.50. Each NSAA member school is allowed to nominate a maximum of four seniors for the Believers and Achievers program. One nomination out of the four must be a student of color. In the event that a school does not have a student of color that meets the program requirements, they are allowed to nominate only three seniors.

Once students have been selected, they then have to deal with the application process. This includes filling out a lengthy application going over academic, athletic, and community involvement. They are also required to submit an essay about how various aspects of high school have impacted them both inside and outside of school.



**Students working on Makerspace projects.**



PLEASE JOIN US

*Christmas Tree Lighting Event*

hosted by:

*Sterling Community Association*

Sunday | December 5th | 5:00 pm  
New Community Building  
Sterling, NE

We are excited to have our first tree lighting event at the new community building!

**The Evening Includes:**

- Tree Lighting
- Freewill Donation Soup Supper
- Hot Chocolate
- Honored Citizen
- Christmas Carols by the Sterling High School Choir
- Yard Decorating Contest for Christmas
- 2022 SCA Membership Drive

**\*\*\*7-12 Choir Members \*\*\***  
Please report at 4:45PM  
to sing Christmas carols!



## Skills Prepare for the New Year By: Kaylin Smith

Here at Sterling Public Schools, there are many programs offered for students. One of the most popular programs is SkillsUSA. Skills is a student lead organization that focuses on preparing each individual student to enter and succeed in today's workforce. There are many benefits from this program, all of which will help students in the real world. Here at Sterling, the Skills chapter is advised by Brian Helmberger, the shop teacher. The chapter allows anyone from six through twelfth grade to join. Currently, the membership fee is set at \$16 per person. The chapter tries to have a meeting once a month for junior high and high school held in the shop building.

So far throughout the year, our Skills chapter has done many things. The Fall Leadership conference held in Hastings is one of the main things completed so far. Here, students got to meet with many industry professionals and explore different careers available. The skills chapter is planning on the fourth annual Christmas party this year. This party is joined by FFA and FBLA. The chapter is currently trying to set a date for this before winter break.

Currently, the biggest excitement in this program is the State Leadership Program held in Grand Island. Students stay overnight in a hotel over a course of a few days. This is the most expensive event in the Skills chapter. The total cost for this trip is estimated to be \$100-125 by Mr. Helmberger. Though the Skills program tries its best to have fundraisers to overcome this cost. So far there have been buttons made, concessions ran, but there is much more to fundraise. More information about the trip and anything happening in Skills will be pushed out soon, so be sure to keep updated on this program.

### DECEMBER 2021 MENUS

#### BREAKFAST

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 Biscuits & Gravy	2 Pop Tarts	3 Tornados
6 Oatmeal	7 Egg Patty w/ Sausage	8 Pancakes	9 Breakfast Bars	10 Donuts
13 Chocolate Oatmeal	14 Scrambled Eggs	15 Waffles	16 Yogurt	17 Breakfast Pizza
20 Oatmeal	21 Egg & Ham Patties	22 Cook's Choice		

**NO SCHOOL DEC 23-JAN 3**

#### LUNCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 Macaroni & Cheese Ham, Peas	2 Cheesy Chicken Fajitas, White Rice	3 Enchilada Casserole Spanish Rice
6 Chicken Patty Sandwich, Potato Salad	7 Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Green Beans	8 Walking Tacos Salad Bar	9 Potato Soup Dinner Rolls	10 Pulled Pork Baked Beans
13 Cheeseburger French Fries	14 Hot Dog Potato Cakes	15 Tator Tot Casserole Vegetables	16 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans	17 Ham, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, Dinner Roll
20 Salisbury Steak Rice, Corn	21 Cheeseburger Mac Vegetables	22 Cook's Choice	<b>Alternate Entree (7-12): Chef Salad</b> Fruits and vegetables offered with every meal Milk served with every meal Menus are subject to change	



# DECEMBER 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Events are subject to change.	29 Freeman JH BBB Tournament @ Adams - 5PM	30	Dec 1 1:37PM EARLY OUT <b>NO PRESCHOOL</b> District One Act Play Contest @ Harvard - 9:30AM	2	3	4 Middle School Dance - 7-11PM - cafeteria TeamMates Christmas Party
5	6 Elementary Christmas Concert - 7PM	7 JH BBB @ HTRS - 2PM G/B BB vs. Friend - HOME (4 games) 4PM	8 Junior/Senior Virtual College Fair 9-11AM State One Act Play Competition (D1/D2) @ Norfolk	9 JH BBB vs. Pawnee City - HOME - 2PM G/B BB vs. Deshler - HOME (4 games) 4PM	10 G/B BB @ Diller-Odell (4 games) 4:30PM	11 HTRS 9/10 G/B BB Tournament ACT Test Date
12	13 Skills Middle School Conference @ Omaha Lewiston JH BBB Tournament - 4:30PM	14 G/B BB @ Meridian (4 games) 4PM	15 JH BBB vs. Freeman - HOME - 1PM	16 JH/HS Christmas Concert - 7PM	17 G/B BB @ Pawnee City (4 games) 4PM	18
19	20 School Board Meeting - 7PM	21 G/B BB @ Johnson-Brock (4 games) 4PM	22 1:37PM EARLY OUT <b>NO PRESCHOOL</b> End of 1st Semester	23	24 <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	25 <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>
26	27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1 <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>
<b>MORATORIUM</b>		<b>JH/HS FINALS</b>		<b>NSAA 5 DAY MORATORIUM</b>		
<b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK - DEC 22-JAN 3</b>						
		<b>WEeping WATER HOLIDAY TOURN.</b>				
<b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK</b>						

Calendars are subject to change. Please check the Weekly Bulletin, Facebook, or Google Calendar on the school website: [www.sterlingjets.org](http://www.sterlingjets.org) for the most up-to-date info. Thank you!



# JANUARY 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 MORATORIUM	27	28 WEEPING WATER HOLIDAY TOURN	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	Jan 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK - DEC 22-JAN 3						
2	3	4 Start of 2nd Semester G/B BB vs. Palmyra - HOME (4 games) 4PM	5	6 G/B BB vs. Dorchester - HOME (JV-TBA/GV/BV) 6PM	7 G/B BB @ HTRS (4 games) 4PM	8
NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK						
9	10	11	12 NHS Blood Drive @ Community Building 12-6PM	13	14	15
MUDECAS BB TOURNAMENT						
16	17 FFA District Leadership Event @ Norris 9/10 G/B BB vs. Johnson-Brock - HOME - 6:30/7:30PM School Board Mtg. 7PM	18 G/B BB vs. Mead - HOME (4 games) 4PM	19 NO PRESCHOOL	20 Freeman JH GBB Tournament - 4PM	21 G/B BB vs. Southern - HOME (4 games) 4PM	22
23	24 NO SCHOOL (PreK-6) 1:37PM EARLY OUT (7-12) Pioneer Conference Instrumental Clinic @ Sterling JH GBB @ Pawnee City - 2PM	25 G/B BB vs. NCL - HOME (4 games) 4PM	26 JH GBB @ Diller-Odell - 1PM	27	28 G/B BB @ Lewiston (3 games) 5PM	29 MUDECAS Speech Contest
30	31 JH GBB vs. FCSSH - HOME - 4PM	Feb 1	2 NO PRESCHOOL 1:37PM EARLY OUT FFA District Proficiency Reviews & State Degree Interviews	3	4 NO SCHOOL Engaging Educators Conference @ Peru (Teacher Inservice)	5
PIO CONF BB TOURN @ DILLER-ODELL/FCSSH						
PIONEER CONFERENCE BB TOURNAMENT @ DILLER-ODELL/FCSSH						
PIONEER CONFERENCE ART EXHIBIT						

Events and times are subject to change. Please check the Weekly Bulletin or Google Calendar for the most up-to-date info.



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**SUPERINTENDENT**

Adrian Allen

**PREK - 12 PRINCIPAL**

Jacob Davenport



2021 Washington D.C. Trip goes with tour guide Erika and motor coach driver Donnell (DC)