

STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



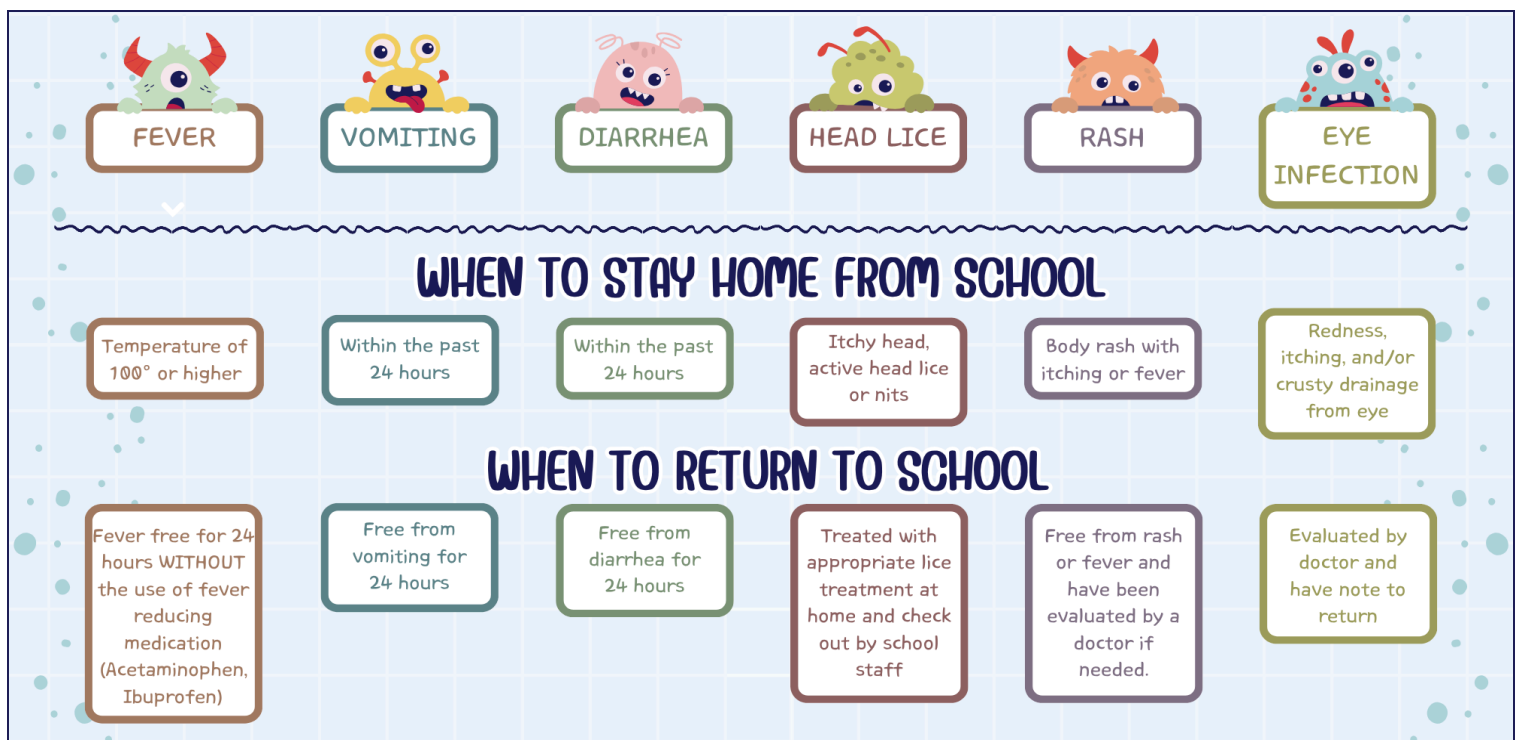
From the Principal's Desk by Mr. Davenport

As we prepare for the second semester, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our community for its ongoing support throughout this school year. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to our dedicated staff and hardworking students. Being part of this school and community is truly a blessing, and I look forward to continuing our successful school year together.

Looking ahead, there are a few important topics I'd like to address. As students prepare to leave for and return from the holiday break, it's essential to acknowledge that Christmas break experiences can vary widely. Not all families exchange gifts or celebrate the holiday season in the same way. Whether these differences stem from tradition, culture, or circumstances, it's important to approach the season with understanding and to focus on enjoying time with loved ones and taking advantage of the much-deserved time away from school.

Please help us remind students to be mindful when returning to school. Our focus at school should remain on learning, not material possessions. While well-meaning, bringing gifts to school can unintentionally create distractions in the classroom. Any gifts or toys brought to school should be limited to designated show-and-tell times.

Additionally, reading is a great activity to prioritize over the holiday break. Reading has been a school improvement goal since I joined the Jet family 10 years ago, and your continued support is invaluable in helping us achieve these goals. If you're a parent or guardian of a younger child, reading with them can significantly boost their progress. Reading builds vocabulary, enhances focus, and nurtures a lifelong love of learning. This encouragement also applies to older students, who can experience similar benefits. Please remind students to visit our school library before the break. Kindergarten and 1st-grade students may check out one book at a time, 2nd through 5th-grade students may check out two, and middle and high school students may borrow up to five books.



From the Principal's Desk continued...

I have always had the attitude that no news is good news. I try to communicate any and all issues with parents as they arise; however, I figured I should provide everyone with a brief overview of my discipline philosophy.

When it comes to discipline within the school, my decisions are formed easily. Nearly all conduct expectations and consequences are black and white in legislation or in our student handbook, as adopted by the Board of Education. If situations could have legal ramifications, I contact the county attorney or the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. In all situations, I try to remain as objective as possible.

While I am sympathetic to the root causes of behaviors, when a student is sent to the office to discuss a specific behavior, that behavior will remain the focus of the conversation. All reasons or explanations for the behavior can certainly be discussed at a later date (and I am interested), but in the moment, I focus on the choices the student made. Often, the events around us cannot be predicted or controlled, but everyone must take responsibility for their personal response to those events.

I also want to clarify the difference between behaviors that are handled in the classroom and those that are referred to the office, so parents have a better understanding of what I may be responsible for addressing.

Most everyday behaviors are managed by teachers in the classroom. This includes things like calling out, off-task behaviors, side talking, horseplay, or small disputes between students. Teachers also address inappropriate language, teasing, tattling, and other moments of disrespect. Occasionally, a student may misplace or damage property, or return something they took without permission—these situations are handled directly by the teacher. Even social-emotional moments, such as crying or general frustration, are often managed within the classroom setting. Teachers work to maintain a safe and focused environment while helping students learn appropriate behavior and responsibility.

Certain behaviors, however, rise to a level that requires office involvement. This includes aggressive actions, bullying, fighting, harassment, or any threats to safety. More serious incidents such as stealing items that are not returned, major property destruction, or possession of drugs, alcohol, or weapons are also addressed at the office level. Additionally, if a student repeatedly demonstrates multiple minor behaviors in a short period of time, this can become an office-managed situation. When these events occur, my role is to ensure safety, apply our policies fairly, and guide students toward learning from the situation.

Lastly, I want everyone to know that I take no pleasure in levying discipline, but I do believe it is necessary for growth. I do not take misbehavior personally and will never hold anything against a student. We all learn lessons and move on. Above all, I promise that any discipline given at school will be far less severe than the real-world repercussions students could face if they do not learn these lessons now.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me as needed. Since some of you receiving this newsletter may 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 share why Sterling is likely a great fit. **Go Jets!!!**

BOOSTER APPAREL STORE:

<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/nebraska/sterling/sterling-high-school>

Nebraska Farm to School Program at Sterling Public Schools



Harvesting Health & Community

Why Your Support is Vital:

- ✓ **Nourish Minds:**
Provide fresh, healthy meals for better learning.
- ✓ **Stronger Community Bonds:**
Connect our schools, farms, and families.

How to Cultivate Change:

- ✓ **Donate Farm-Fresh Items:**
Meats (beef, bison, pork), eggs, or produce.
- ✓ **Financial Contributions:**
Help us grow this exciting initiative

Ready to Make a Difference?



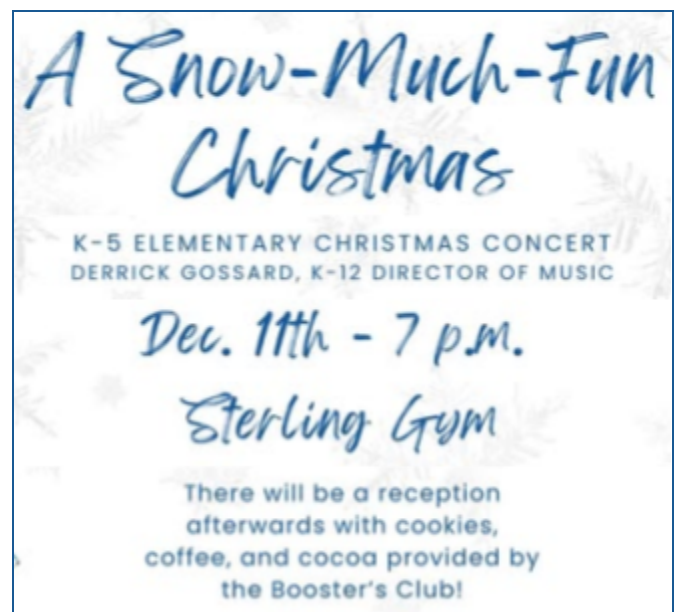
**Fill our interest form
above!**

Questions? Reach out to Nicole Hollman:
nhollman@sterlingpublicschools.com



2025 QUARTER 1 HONOR ROLL & HONOR ROLL OF DISTINCTION

Honor Roll of Distinction	Grade	Honor Roll
Students receiving all A's		Students receiving no class grade lower than a B
Mathis Horstman Elliot Jones Kinsley Lempka Oliver Wusk	6th	Bennett Houghton Cameron Pfeiffer Maddie Schmidt Avery Truscott
Hailey Goracke Savanah Heidtbrink	7th	Wyatt Shelton Harlea Thies
Gabriel Addleman-Platt Charli Wusk	8th	Brinnly Chadwick Brayden Houghton Riley McCoy Ricardo Ramos Gordin
Gideon Matkins	9th	Arielle Bolen Isabella Lempka Garrett Little Nora Uher
Bryce Goracke Braylee Houghton Jocelyn Rathe Miles Wambold	10th	Kade Horstman Chloe Paulson Kynli Portwood Alexandra Vollman Ellen Winter
Joie Janssen David Roecker Owen Uher	11th	Beau Kaster Colt Little Jace Moss Trevor Pella Emma Thies Taylor Truscott
Chloe Smith	12th	Brody Horstman Jubilee Matkins Dane Vollman



DECEMBER 2025 MENUS				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	2	3	4	5
BREAKFAST: Pancakes Sausage Cheese Stick LUNCH: Chicken Sandwich Fries	BREAKFAST: Bagel Ham Yogurt LUNCH: Shepherd's Pie Roll	BREAKFAST: Biscuits w/ Jelly Sausage Egg LUNCH: Tomato Soup Crackers	BREAKFAST: Tornado Egg Yogurt LUNCH: Corn Dog Cottage Cheese	BREAKFAST: Oatmeal Scrambled Eggs Yogurt LUNCH: Mexican Soup Chips
8	9	10	11	12
BREAKFAST: Breakfast Sandwich Yogurt LUNCH: Chili Crackers	BREAKFAST: Turnover Yogurt Scrambled Eggs LUNCH: Chicken & Rice Soup Roll	BREAKFAST: Scones Egg Ham LUNCH: Chicken Tenders Mac & Cheese	BREAKFAST: Donut Yogurt LUNCH: Pizza Pudding	BREAKFAST: Cereal Egg Ham LUNCH: Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes
15	16	17	18	19
BREAKFAST: Oatmeal Egg Ham LUNCH: Open Faced Cheeseburger Fries	BREAKFAST: Breakfast Pizza Yogurt LUNCH: Pizza Fries	BREAKFAST: Unrustable Egg LUNCH: Potato Soup Crackers	BREAKFAST: Cereal Yogurt LUNCH: Chili Cheese Dog	BREAKFAST: Chef's Choice LUNCH: Chef's Choice
NO SCHOOL UNTIL JANUARY 6, 2026!!!				
Breakfast served with Fruit, Milk/Juice		Lunch served with Fruit, Veggie, Salad Bar, Milk		Menus are subject to change.



Why Do We Laugh? 🎬

ONE ACT IS GOING TO STATE!!!

They perform at 5:15PM on Wednesday, December 10!

NSAA Play Production Championships HQ:

<https://nsaahome.org/nsaa-play-production-championships-hq/>



Watch LIVE:

<https://www.newschannelnebraska.com/story/51940214/dec-1113-nsaa-state-one-acts-2024-online>



Order Shirts:

<https://www.newschannelnebraska.com/story/51940214/dec-1113-nsaa-state-one-acts-2024-online>

Shirts will also be available for purchase at State. Orders can be put under Mrs. Matkins name and she will pick them up.





DECEMBER 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 30	DECEMBER 1	2	3	4	5	6
		Practice ACT	NO PRESCHOOL/ PRE-KINDERGARTEN FFA Meeting - 7:15AM NHS Blood Drive from 12-6PM @ CB	JH/HS Christmas Concert (Grades 6-12) 7PM in the GYM	G/B BB @ FCSH (4 games) 4PM	JH GBB Open Gym from 9-10:30AM District One Act Play @ PSC
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
SCA Christmas Tree Lighting	FCA Meeting - 7:15AM JH BBB @ HTRS (Humboldt) - 2PM	G/B BB vs. EMF (4 games) HOME - 4PM	NO PRESCHOOL/ PRE-KINDERGARTEN 1:37PM EARLY OUT (K-12) State One Act Play @ Norfolk JH BBB vs. Pawnee City - HOME - 2PM	Elementary Music Concert (Grades K-5) 7PM in the GYM	G/B BB @ Diller-Odell (Odell) (4 games) 4:30PM	HTRS 9/10 GBB Tournament
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	FFA District LDEs @ Weeping Water Lewiston JH BBB Tournament - 4:30PM School Board Meeting - 7PM in the LIBRARY	G/B BB @ Meridian (Daykin) (4 games) 4:30PM	JH BBB vs. Freeman - HOME - 1PM	JH BBB vs. JCC - HOME - 3PM	NO PRESCHOOL/ PRE-KINDERGARTEN 1:37PM EARLY OUT (K-12) END OF 1ST SEMESTER FCA & LL Christmas Caroling	G/B BB @ East Butler (Dwight) (4 games) 1PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
JH GBB Open Gym from 1-2:30PM		G/B BB @ Johnson-Brock (Johnson) (4 games)		HS FINALS		
5 DAY NSAA MORATORIUM: DEC 24-28						
28	29	30	31	JANUARY 1		
	JH GBB Open Gym from 4-5:30PM	G/B BB @ Pawnee City (4 games) 4PM				JH GBB Open Gym from 10-11:30AM G/B BB vs. Mead (4 games) HOME - 2PM
MORATORIUM						

Calendar is subject to change. Please check the Weekly Bulletin, Facebook, or Google Calendar on the school website: www.sterlingjets.org for the most up-to-date info. Thank you!

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SUPERINTENDENT

Riley Armes

PREK - 12 PRINCIPAL

Jacob Davenport



THE FOUNDATION PROVIDED SCHOLARSHIPS
TO SENIORS WHO QUALIFY AND APPLY.
**THEY ARE LOOKING FOR
DONATIONS TO ASSIST STERLING
STUDENTS PURSUING A
SECONDARY EDUCATION.**



K-5 WINTER RECESS COAT & BOOT DRIVE

With the first snow here, we're excited for students to play outside soon. We won't begin snow play until we can ensure all students are dressed appropriately to be outside safely.

We will be collecting coat and boot donations through December 17 to ensure every child is prepared for winter.