

Sterling Public Schools

October 2021 Newsletter



Superintendent Message By Adrian Allen

We are quickly approaching the end of the 1st quarter of the school year. I know the staff and students are ready for some cooler temperatures in the building. We did our best to use portable air conditioners to keep the humidity levels down and the rooms comfortable. That probably wasn't always the case. I want to give a big "Thank you," to Jodie Albers for providing us with a big fan to push more air down the elementary hallway. We are still looking to use some federal dollars to help pay for the new fluid cooler that supplies the building with cool air. By spring, we should have everything up and running. Thank you all for your patience and understanding.

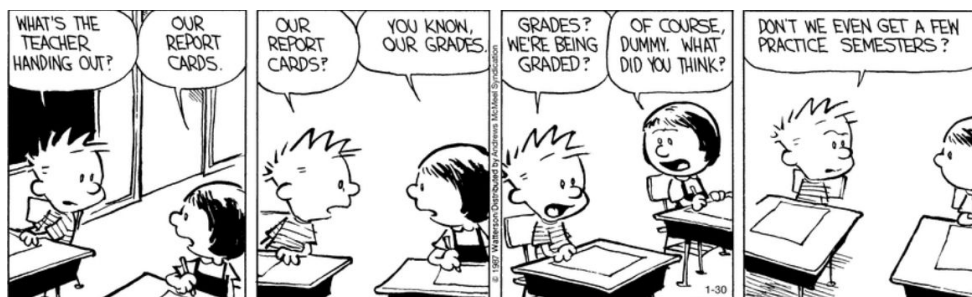
With the quarter coming to an end on October 15th, we would like to take some time to celebrate students' accomplishments for the quarter. Please stay tuned for updates.

The budget for the 2021-2022 school year has been voted on and submitted. We try to remain fiscally responsible with the taxpayers' dollars to run a good school. Our valuation went up 1% from \$321,151,894 to \$325,206,231. We are setting the levy at \$1.02 to meet the needs of our operations budget of \$5,139,019.

Fund	Proposed Property Tax Request	Propose Tax Rate
General Fund	\$2,996,181	\$.9213
Special Building	\$96,970	\$.0298
Bond Fund	\$176,281	\$.0542
QCPUF	\$68,974	\$.0212
Total	\$3,338,406	\$1.0266

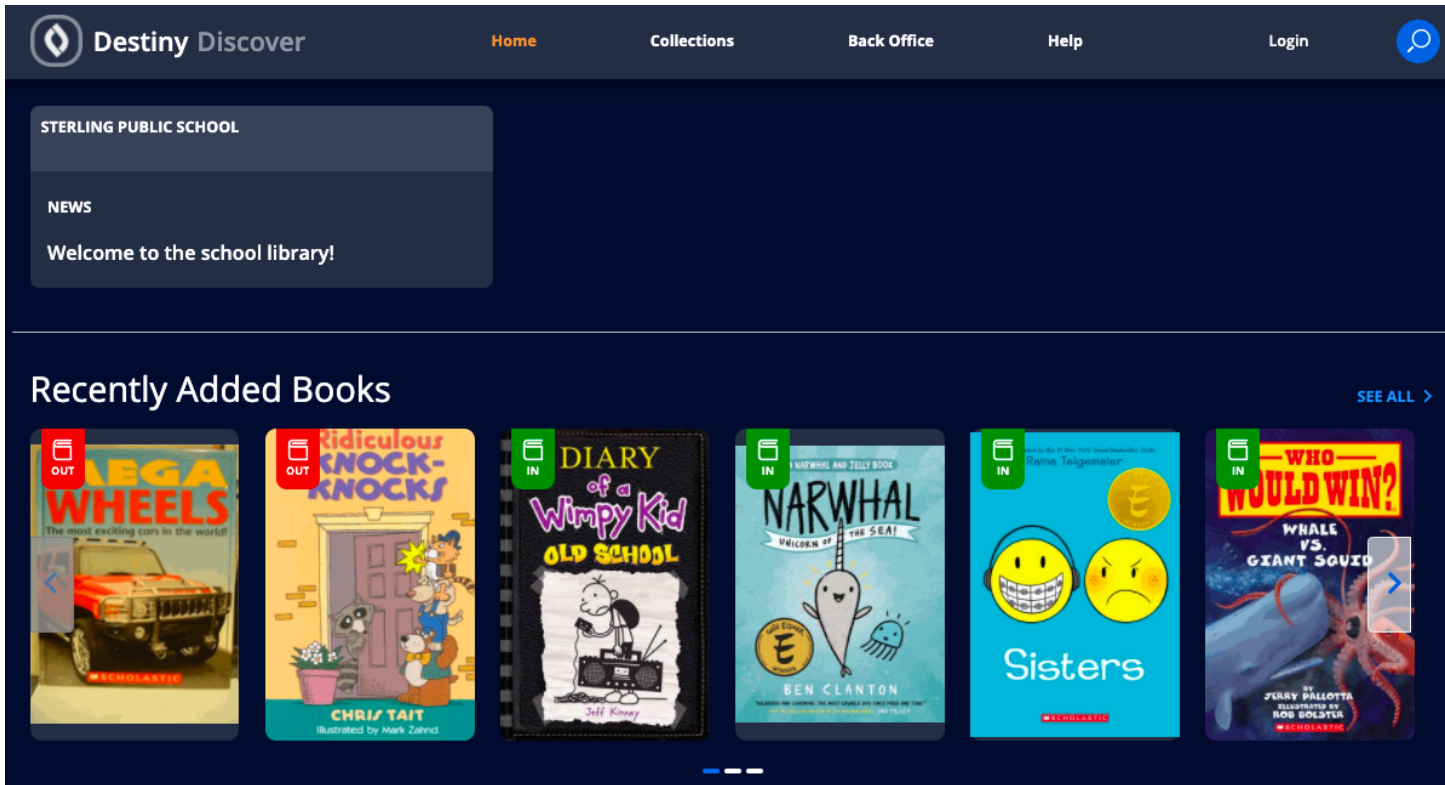
We are starting to see some illness creep into our hallways. Please take the necessary precautions to keep you and your families safe. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. We can always make up work.

I hope everyone stays safe and has a great time this Halloween season. I enjoy seeing the students dress up and having fun with their friends. Stay safe and have a great time. Also, I am a big fan of Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and Milky Ways.



Three New Things at the Library! By: Evi Wusk, Librarian

1. New Circulation Software . . . like Netflix for books!



Students from Sterling can now search our new online card catalog. If they log-in with their student Google account, they can click “hold” to have a book delivered to them the next day, and they can keep a list of “favorites” that they might read next. They can search books at home or at school. Teachers can also make curated collections of resources for their classes for student access.

2. “Genrified” Collection - Books Sorted by Type!



Instead of organizing our fiction by Author’s last name, we are now organized by genre--or type of book. This was a lot of work, but the students are loving it, and our circulation numbers are up! Now, just like in a bookstore, students can go to their favorite section and find new books they like. We have these sections: Fantasy, Science Fiction, Humor, Historical Fiction, Mystery, Animals, Graphic Novels, Bridge Books (Chapter Books for Early Readers), Sports/Action Adventure and Relationships (includes both realistic fiction and romance). Special thanks go out to those who helped to sort/label and re-shelve last spring!

3. Non-Book Check Out Items

We now have maker-space kits--that allow students to read a book and do a hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) activity. Students check out the kit just like a book. We also have a green screen for check-out and DVD-Player MacBook attachments. Students will still follow their check-out limits, and teachers can check out these new resources as well.

What hasn’t changed is what the library is all about! Our mission is pretty simple: help students love reading and find good information in a calm and organized study space. **One last note. . . We are in search of two yearbooks to complete our collection. If you or someone you know can share (even to make photocopies) of an annual from 95/96 and 97/98, please let us know. Thanks!

Kid's Korner

Avery Truscott — 2nd Grade

Who is your favorite Disney character?

"Olaf the snowman from Frozen."

What is your favorite type of food?

"Chicken Drumsticks"

Who are your heroes?

"My big sisters."

If you could choose the color of your eyes, what color would they be?

"Gold"

What is your favorite hobby?

"Coloring anything I can find"

By: Hailey Truscott

Take 5

What song would you sing at karaoke night?

Elaina Gordin- "Mientes" by Camila

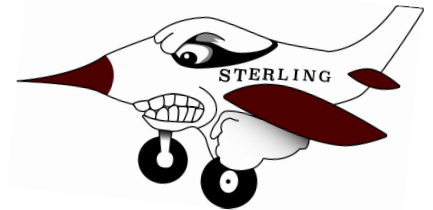
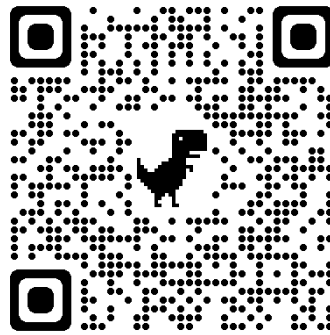
Kevin Bessey- "Shake It Off" by Taylor Swift

Ms. Harlan- "Bennie and the Jets" by Elton John

Dakotah Ludemann- "Yeah!" by Usher

Mr. Pfeiffer- "Air Force Ones" by Nelly

By: Kaylin Smith



HOMECOMING ROYALTY

King Tanner McDonald

Queen Kaylee Lafferty

Crown Bearers:

Bentley Bridges & Jaylen Pfeiffer



Sterling Jet Highlight - Trenton Peery

What is your favorite class and why is it your favorite?

I like History of Sports because it is easy and comes to me naturally.

Who do you look up to most in this entire world?

My grandpa, because he has taught me a lot about life and has always been there for me.

What is your biggest fear and what scares you about it?

The dark! You never know what can be hiding.

If you could leave school for one day and have all the money in the world, what would you go do?

I would go buy a ton of Gucci clothes. I would also go scuba diving.

If you had a boat, what would you name it and why?

It's name would be "Water Snake" because it would be the fastest boat ever!

After School Program Looks to Grow

By Dani Janssen

This year SPS is implementing an amazing new afterschool program. This program is for students enrolled in preschool to sixth grade who need after-school supervision.

The afterschool program provides relief to parents looking for a place for their kids to stay while they are unavailable. The program costs \$30 per week or 6\$ per day. There is also a family rate for those with more than one child in the program: families with two children can pay \$54 per week and families with three children can pay \$72 per week. The facility's hours run from 3:45-5:30. The building is also open and available even when preschool isn't in session from 8:00 to 5:30. During these hours, the kids play, go to the park, do arts and crafts, get homework help, and have snacks. The children are watched by two paras, Ashlynn McClung and Laura Nelson.

To make this possible, the school did some work on the old preschool building. This afterschool program is located to the north of the new preschool building. The school replaced lights, replaced the front door, and redid the floor and the restroom. The superintendent, Mr. Allen, and principal, Mr. Davenport, organized the program. The school secretary, Renae Kinney, is in charge of the finances.

So far, the approximate number of kids attending is ten kids each day. Mr. Allen plans for the program to continue throughout the school year. Mr. Allen believes the afterschool program is going well so far, but also thinks that it could get better. He says, "With word of mouth and time, the program could grow and gain more kids."

More information about the program and the enrollment form are on the school website, sterlingjets.org, under SPS After School Program.

Covid Changes Around the World

By: Kaylin Smith

Recently, it has come to a point in society where there are many restrictions. People have to wear masks, and society has to social distance. Currently, throughout rural Australia, there are places set up to hold people that have tested positive for covid. People who test positive for covid are placed in metal shelters lined up side by side. Parents who tested positive are being taken away from their children to quarantine. This creates many problems. As the world watches and Australia attacks covid with a new strategy, it may bring up a serious question. How far is too far?

Though it sounds like all bad news there may be some light within the darkness. Just a few days ago, a new vaccine was approved. This single vaccine under the spotlight is being used in India and uses circular strands of DNA that are pushed under the skin using a strong stream of fluids. This new vaccine was created by the pharmaceutical company Zydus Cadila in India. The new vaccine shows 67% efficiency, which may seem low, but is huge for the development of modern medicine. This Indian vaccine is currently being used for emergencies only, but many other countries such as South Korea are already starting the development of their own DNA vaccines. Many hold high hopes for this vaccine as it opens up new opportunities for many more DNA vaccines.

From the Principal's Desk by Jake Davenport

As you may have noticed, we have been making changes to the format of our school newsletter. In an effort to make the newsletter more student-centered, the students have actually taken over its creation under the direction of our Business Teacher, Shawna Paitz. We are proud of our students and our school and wanted the newsletter to reflect that pride. We'll be sharing examples of exemplary student work, as well as photos, and various newsletter staples. We hope that the changes are well received and would appreciate any and all feedback on the newsletter.

Another update that I am excited to share is the addition of Andrew Thomsen as our trapshooting sponsor. For those that don't know, the school has added trapshooting as another extracurricular opportunity for our 6th-12th grade students. The trapshooting season will begin mid to late February. If anyone has any questions please direct them to Andrew at athomsen@sterlingpublicschools.com.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at parent-teacher conferences on October 14th. We have had a great start to the year and I am very pleased with our students' efforts in and out of the classroom. Make sure to ask about the standardized test scores along with the classroom grades.

Lastly, I truly am proud of our students and our school. 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!!!

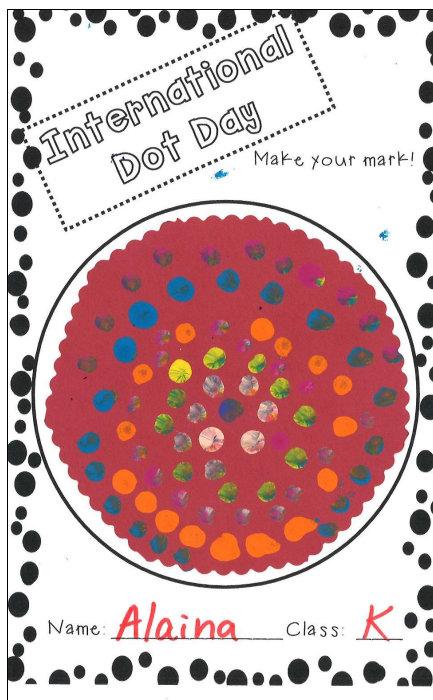
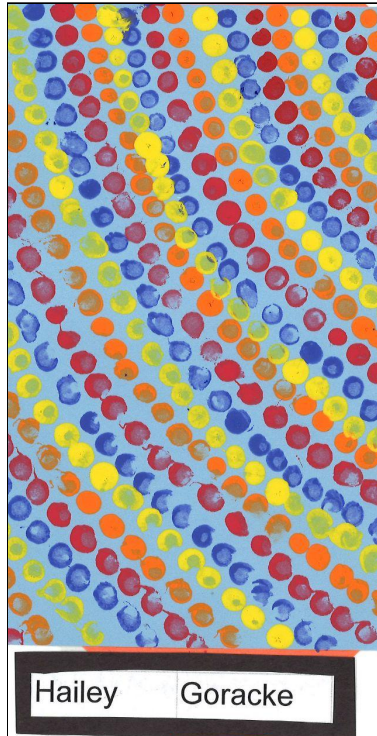


Radial Name Design
By: Bo McCoy

Still-Life Pencil Drawing
By: Kylie Mathes-Riensche

International Dot Day Projects

Pictured are 3rd graders and Avery a 2nd grader. The focus is the book, *The Dot* by Peter H Reynolds. This book is used to inspire the students to just get started by "making a mark...and seeing where it takes you!" When students have a lack of confidence in an area of art this book is a great reminder that it is most important to just try and to try your best!



Student Piece of the Month

Do Pets Have a Place in School Classrooms? By Chloe Smith

With all of the uncertainties in today's society, people are turning to therapy animals for emotional support. With children making up a large part of depression and anxiety cases in the U.S, why would you not have a support animal to help them cope throughout the day while at school? Pets can help us with therapy, responsibility, and they can improve us.

Benefits of Therapy Animals

Therapy animals can help in so many ways. They can help lower blood pressure and stress levels. Another thing is that they can help with a blind person and people that have medical conditions such as epilepsy, autism and PTSD. According to <https://www.edutopia.org/article/bringing-dog-school>, "one student was terrified of dogs but wanted to overcome his fear, and one of Boomer's trainers worked with him over a period of time. Now he'll sit right next to Boomer." Some people might think what if they are a distraction. But kids should know that a therapy dog is something they should not pet or play with unless they ask first.

Responsibility

Responsibility is important for kids to learn at a young age. If kids have a classroom pet they can learn so many things. For example, they can learn how to take care of the pet. They can learn to feed the pet which can teach them how to feed themselves. According to <https://www.petsinthe classroom.org/classroom-pets-teaching-children-about-responsibility/>, whether it is helping with the feedings, filling water bottles, or cleaning cages, these jobs help kids to embrace responsibility as well as learn about proper animal care. Then they have to be in a safe environment so they don't hurt the pet and make it freak out. Finally, they can learn to take care of them at home if they don't go home with the teacher. Some people might think they are too young to feed and water the pet. But if they learn at a young age they can learn fast how to take care of the pets.

How pets can improve us

Pets can help us a lot. For example, children can develop empathy by caring for a pet. This means that they would become more aware of the needs and feelings of others. Classroom pets also can be added into the teacher's lesson plans for all different sorts of subjects. Those various subjects can include science, math, art, geography, and language arts. With some imagination, all kinds of projects can all be developed around a classroom pet. According to <http://www.petsinthe classroom.org/how-pets-improve-the-classroom/> "not only has research shown the benefits of pets in the lives of children, but we have also received so much great feedback from teachers on the impact their classroom pet has had on all of their students." Children learn respect for living creatures and their needs that will serve them as pet owners later in life.

Conclusion

In conclusion, pets can be a great addition to the classroom. Children of all ages are able to benefit from animals. Children today deal with a lot of issues and being able to be around animals can improve stress, depression, and other problems. If a school pet is something that makes a kid want to go to school each day then that is a great thing. Animals can also teach responsibility which will help kids become responsible adults. Finally, pets can be used to make lessons more exciting and can help kids to learn because they might not be so bored. In my opinion, there are so many benefits about having pets in school that teachers should consider getting a pet for their classroom.



OCTOBER 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 Events are subject to change.	27 JH VB @ Johnson-Brock - 4PM JH FB @ Parkview Christian - 4PM Sterling JV VB Triangular (JCC/PC) - HOME - 5:7PM JV FB @ Parkview Christian - 5:30PM	28 HS VB @ Dorchester (JV,V) - 6PM	29 PreK-2nd Grade Field Trip to Roca Pumpkin Patch - 12:30PM	30 Beatrice EPP (Juniors & Seniors) 8-11AM HS VB vs. FCSH (JV,V) - HOME - 5:30PM	Oct 1 HS FB vs. Dorchester - HOME - 7PM Homecoming Dance - in the cafeteria - after the football game	2 Dorchester JH VB Tournament - 9AM Fort Calhoun HS VB Invite - 9AM Harvest of Harmony Parade
HOMECOMING WEEK						
3	4 JH VB vs. Tri-County - HOME - 2:30PM JH/JV FB @ Meridian - 4/5:30PM	5 Lewiston HS VB Triangular (Lewiston/CVA) - 6/7PM	6 I:37PM EARLY OUT NO PRESCHOOL JH VB @ Diller-Odell - 1PM	7 HS VB @ Elmwood-Murdock (JV,V) - 6PM	8 HS FB vs. Pawnee City - HOME - 7PM	9 Lewiston JH VB Tournament - 8AM Falls City HS VB Invite - 9AM
10	11 JV FB vs. Pawnee City - HOME - 4PM	12 Apply2College Event 9AM-2PM	13 PSAT Testing - Juniors (Periods 1-4) JH FB vs. Lewiston - HOME - 2PM JH VB @ NCL - 4:15PM	14 I:37PM EARLY OUT NO PRESCHOOL End of 1st Quarter FFA EDGE Conference @ Norris P/T Conf. 2:30-8PM	15 NO SCHOOL HS FB @ Lewiston - 7PM	16
17	18 PIO CONF VB TOURN @ LEWISTON/FCSH JV FB vs. Parkview Christian - HOME - 5PM School Board Meeting - 7PM	19 Picture Retakes Tri-County HS VB Triangular (TC/Southern) - 5/6PM Booster Club Meeting 7PM	20 NO PRESCHOOL JH VB @ Pawnee City - 2PM	21	22 HS VB @ Johnson-Brock - 3PM HS FB vs. Meridian - HOME - 7PM	23 ACT Test Date
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
SKILLS 31					Ist Round of FB Playoffs	VB District Finals
VB SUB-DISTRICTS				NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION - INDIANAPOLIS, IN		
PIO CONF VB TOURN @ LEWISTON/FCSH				SKILLSUSA MID-AMERICA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS		

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!



American
Red Cross



HOPE begins with you.

Blood Drive
Sterling Community
Sterling Community Center
Main Room

Monday, November 15, 2021
12:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Please contact Evi Wusk (402) 419-3011 or visit RedCrossBlood.org
and enter: SterlingNE to schedule an appointment.

By donating at this blood drive not only are you helping save lives you are also helping
the high school earn a scholarship for graduating seniors.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App

OCTOBER 2021 MENUS

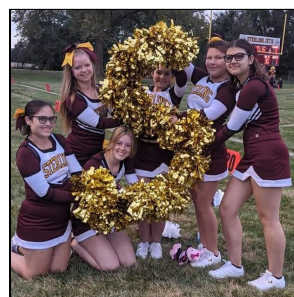
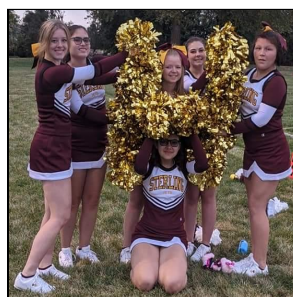
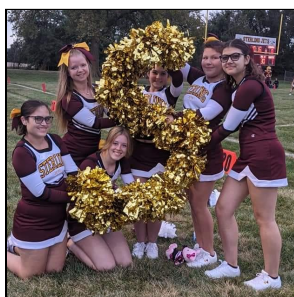
BREAKFAST

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Breakfast Burritos
4 Pancakes, Sausages	5 Egg Patties, Toast	6 Yogurt	7 Donuts	8 Tornados
11 Pancake on a stick	12 Omelets, Toast	13 Pop Tarts	14 Sausage Gravy w/ Biscuit	15 NO SCHOOL
18 Yogurt	19 Pancakes	20 Frudels	21 Breakfast Burrito	22 Oatmeal
25 Waffles	26 Tornados	27 Omelets, Toast	28 Pancake on a stick	29 Breakfast Bars

LUNCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Fish Cake on Bun Coleslaw
4 Goulash, Corn Rolls	5 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans	6 Potato & Ham Casserole Peas	7 Tomato Soup Cheese Sandwich	8 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy
11 Hot Dog Carrots	12 Hamburgers Potato Cakes	13 BBQ Rib Sandwich Cheesy Broccoli	14 Chicken Noodle Soup PB&J Sandwich	15 NO SCHOOL
18 Spaghetti, Garlic Bread Green Beans	19 Chicken Nachos Peas	20 Ham Patty Sandwich Coleslaw	21 Chili Soup Cinnamon Rolls	22 Hot Dogs Baked Beans
25 Chicken Patty Sandwich Cheesy Broccoli	26 Mexican Lasagna	27 Ham or Tuna Salad Sandwich Chips	28 Tomato Soup Cheese Sandwich	29 Mini Corn Dogs Coleslaw

Alternate Entree (7-12): Chef Salad - Fruits and vegetables offered with every meal - Milk served with every meal - Menus are subject to change



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SUPERINTENDENT

Adrian Allen

PREK - 12 PRINCIPAL

Jacob Davenport



BOOK FAIR
OCTOBER 11-14