

## **SUPERINTENDENT NOTES** by Mr. Knippelmeyer

**School-Based Pre-Kindergarten Program:** We are currently taking names of those interested in attending our school-based pre-kindergarten program for the 2016-17 school year. To be eligible for pre-kindergarten, your child needs to turn 3 on or before July 31, 2016. Our pre-kindergarten program is for 3- and 4-year-olds. 4-year-olds attend all day and 3-year-olds can either attend full day or half day sessions. Our pre-kindergarten program follows the school calendar and is in session five days a week. Generally one day a month is designated for teacher plan time/home visits and pre-kindergarten students do not attend school. We offer an outstanding program that includes play along with academics. Teaching Strategies GOLD and Creative Curriculum are used in our pre-kindergarten classroom. We would love to have your 3- or 4-year-old attend Sterling Public Schools! If you would like to register, receive further information, including our sliding fee scale, or if you have any questions, please contact Ryan Knippelmeyer at school, 402-866-4761 or [rknippelmeyer@sterlingpublicschools.com](mailto:rknippelmeyer@sterlingpublicschools.com).



**School Gym Update:** At the time of this newsletter, we are planning to play the remainder of our home basketball games, both high school and junior high, in our Sterling Gym. Once the basketball season concludes, the repair process will begin in our gym. Tentatively, there will be a 4-6 week block of time where the school gym will not be available because of different projects taking place. During this time the gym ceiling insulation will be installed, the walls and sound panels will be painted, the old bleachers will be removed and new bleachers will be installed, and our gym floor will be sanded down, repainted, and refinished. Along with this we are looking at possible smaller projects with our sound and lighting system in the gym. We know this is going to cause an inconvenience by not having our gym available during this time, but our hope is to have the majority of the projects finished before high school graduation on May 7, 2016. Thank you for your flexibility and if you have an event scheduled in the gym during this time, please contact the school to see if the gym will be available.

### **Summary of January Board of Education meeting:**

- Gil Peace and Marty Kasl presented to the board about possible building and facilities projects. The board has heard three presentations from architects. We will have a board workshop on Feb. 10 to look at and prioritize different projects, ideas, etc., and then look at getting an architect on board.
- The board reorganized, but all positions and committees stayed the same. John Harms is president, Mike Hestermann is vice president, Cheri Wirthele is secretary, and Rick Vollman is treasurer.
- The superintendent evaluation was reviewed, along with a timeline for Principal/Superintendent contract negotiations for next year.
- A discussion on the gym took place with no action taken. Our plan is to play upcoming home basketball games at home as scheduled. Other projects in the gym that were discussed: gym floor expectations, gym ceiling - spray insulation, painting of the walls and sound panels, bleacher removal and installation of new bleachers, sound system, and gym lights.
- The board also looked at classified staff salaries and what a tiered salary system could look like. No action was taken as this will be discussed more this spring.
- Filing Deadline for Board Incumbents - Feb. 16 and for non-incumbents - March 1.

### **ACT TEST DATES 2015-16**

Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
February 6, 2016	January 8, 2016	January 9-15, 2016
April 9, 2016	March 4, 2016	March 5-18, 2016
June 11, 2016	May 6, 2016	May 7-20, 2016

**Wednesday Early Out (1:37PM) Days:  
Feb 3 - March 2 - April 6**

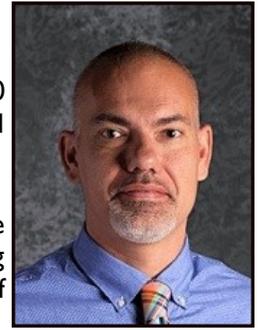
### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**February 11, 2016**

**2-8:30PM**

- Elementary in classrooms
- High School/Junior High in the Gym

## NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL by Mr. Theobald



**Parent-Teacher Conferences.** Conferences will be held on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. School will dismiss at 1:37 p.m. Elementary teachers will be located in their classrooms while all other teachers will be in the gym.

**Marzano Academy.** We will not have school on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> as our teachers will be attending that last two-day session of our Marzano Academy. The Marzano Academy is the training that all teachers and administrators are participating in as we work to implement a common language of instruction across all grade levels.

**Kindergarten Round-Up.** Kindergarten Round-Up will be held on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. We will plan to begin at 9:15 a.m. in the cafeteria. Letters will be sent to the parents of the eligible students that appear on our census in late February with more information. If you are a parent and did not receive one, or if you know of a student who may be of kindergarten age and not on our census, please feel free to contact the school.

**Johnson County Spelling Bee.** The annual Johnson County Spelling Bee will be held on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. The contest will be held at the Tecumseh elementary school auditorium and will feature students in grades 4-8 from all Johnson County schools. Sterling will be sending a great group of students and we wish them the best of luck!

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

**GO JETS!!!**



Order your  
**"A Picture is Worth 2016 Words"**  
yearbook today!  
Just go to the Walsworth website using this link:  
<https://yearbookforever.com/ssDeepLink.aspx> or contact  
Mr. Davenport: [jdavenport@sterlingpublicschools.com](mailto:jdavenport@sterlingpublicschools.com)!  
Don't miss out on preserving all of the memories made  
here at Sterling Public Schools!

*LifeTouch*  
Spring  
Picture Day  
Monday,  
February 15  
@ 8:15 AM



## FIELD TRIP TO THE SYMPHONY

If you have ever heard an orchestra play, then you know that musicians are most certainly guilty of something. Where exactly were the violins on the night in question? Did anyone see the harp? Is the trumpet protesting a bit too boisterously? In this perplexing murder mystery, everyone seems to have a motive, everyone has an alibi, and nearly everyone is a musical instrument. But the composer is still dead.

On February 17<sup>th</sup> students in the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be taking a field trip! They'll leave after lunch and return at the end of the school day. Students will be participating in a Young People's Concert presented by the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra. This year the orchestra will be presenting Lemony Snicket's "The Composer is Dead". Author Lemony Snicket, best known for the popular Unfortunate Events series of children's books, brings the audience a musical mystery in "The Composer is Dead", with music by Nathaniel Stookey. The story is told by a narrator with the symphony and is a perfect introduction to the symphony for young audiences. This opportunity is in part being provided by the Nebraska Arts Council.

# STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2015-16

## 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER/1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER HONOR ROLL

### HONOR ROLL OF DISTINCTION

(Students receiving an overall average of 93% or above, with no grade lower than 90%)  
(Students with name & asterisk earned both Q2 and S1 distinction. Others are as noted.)

#### 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Sam Boldt (Reg honor roll for Q2)  
Treyton Cockerill\*\*  
Bianca Gonzalez-Castillo\*\*  
Isabella Haner\*\*  
Emma Harms\*\*  
Jessie Klein\*\*  
Kaitlyn Wusk\*\*

#### 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Zachary Scamehorn\*\*  
Daniel Schwenneker\*\*

#### 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Austin Buss\*\*  
Taylor Cockerill\*\*  
Micah Erickson\*\*

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Joel Rathe\*\*  
Colby Thies\*\*  
Torie Tucker\*\*

#### 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Joshua Dolbow\*\*  
Erika Eckhardt\*\*  
Erika Goracke\*\*  
Kari Hansen (Reg honor roll for Q2)  
Hannah Jasa\*\*

#### 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Caleb Dolbow\*\*  
Nicole Harms\*\*  
Carly Wenzl\*\*  
Malayna Wingert\*\*



### REGULAR HONOR ROLL

(Students receiving an overall average of 90% or above, with no grade lower than 85%)  
(Students with name & asterisk earned both Q2 and S1 distinction. Others are as noted.)

#### 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

Derek Buss\*\*  
Tara Walters\*\*  
Macie Whalen\*\*

#### 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

Dylan Benson\*\*  
Alisha Fisher (1<sup>st</sup> sem only)  
Mason Gee (2<sup>nd</sup> Qu only)  
Sydney Goracke\*\*

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

Diego Sterkel (1<sup>st</sup> sem only)

#### 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

Haylee Boldt\*\*  
Marah Hestermann\*\*  
Bailey Kahler\*\*  
Elly Lempka\*\*  
Joshua Masur\*\*  
Manfre Scattoni\*\*  
Thomas Tucker\*\*

#### 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

Tristan Dirks\*\*  
Morgan Haner\*\*  
Logan Jasa\*\*  
Cameron VanGroningen (1<sup>st</sup> sem only)

#### 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

Mae Stark (2<sup>nd</sup> Qu only)  
Sheanna Stolz\*\*

Celebrating 100 Days of School in Style  
First Grade with their CRAZY hats!



### STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: DECEMBER

ERIKA  
GORACKE  
& KAITLYN WUSK

Legal pad RIFLE PAPER CO. NOTEPAD 75 Sheets MADE IN USA

#### Write That Down...

March 3-5: Girls State Basketball  
March 10-12: Boys State Basketball  
March 18: Kindergarten Round-Up  
March 25-28: Easter Break  
April 16: Prom  
April 6-8: State FFA Convention  
April 7-9: State FBLA Convention  
April 20-22: SkillsUSA Convention  
April 22-24: Spring Break  
May 2: Awards Night  
May 7: GRADUATION!!!  
May 20: Last Day Of School!!!



# Friend Public Schools

## BULLDOGS

### ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent: **David Kraus**  
Secondary Principal: **Ben Dempsey**

Elementary Principal/Counselor: **Alyson Dickinson**  
Activities Director: **Jim Pfeiffer**

Dear Sterling Community:

I wish to thank the administration, school, and community for their kind gesture at the Dec. 8th basketball game between Friend and Sterling. During the game, donations were collected and given to Brian and Erica Arp as they grieve the death of their son Beckett. Brian is our Art teacher and boys basketball coach whose son was a 1st grader. We were overwhelmed with this offering of support and appreciate the gift.

In times like these, there is something very special that small towns display when it comes to supporting one another. Although we compete against each other in academics and sports, we know we are a team of communities when it comes to tragedies. Your thoughts, support and actions in response to our tragedy are very much appreciated and will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the Arp family, Friend Public School and community, we sincerely appreciate you support and kind gesture.

Sincerely,

David Kraus- Superintendent

## HONOR BAND

Student musicians from the Pioneer Conference gathered at Sterling High School Monday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>, for a day of rehearsing music and then a performance later that evening. Students attending from other schools included Friend, Lewiston, Southern, and Diller-Odell. Students were able to practice and perform in an 80 piece ensemble. This was an excellent opportunity for students to experience playing in a large ensemble. Seventeen students selected from the Sterling High School band participated in this special event. The band was led by conductor, Dennis Ehmke a former band instructor at Auburn Public Schools in Auburn, NE.



# BASKETBALL AWARDS

## 2016 MUDECAS All-Tournament 1st Team

Taylor Cockerill & Erika Goracke



## 2016 MUDECAS All-Tournament Honorable Mention

Bailey Kahler



## 2016 MUDECAS All-Tournament 1st Team

Dylan Benson & Micah Erickson

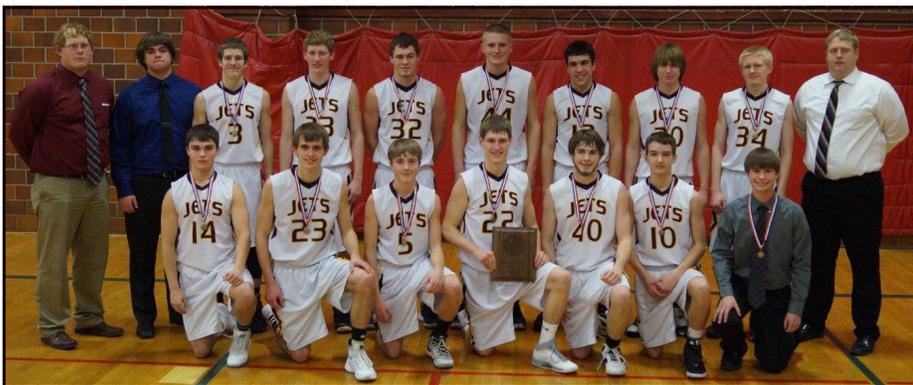


## 2016 MUDECAS All-Tournament Honorable Mention

Thomas Tucker & Jordan Wenzl



## MUDECAS A Division 2nd Place!!!



## 2016 MUDECAS B Division CHAMPS!!!

## SEASON WRAP-UPS

By Brent Heusman

### JH Boys BB (3-9)

Johnson Brock 48 - Sterling 19

#### HTRS Tournament (1-2)

Sterling 29 - Neb. City Lourdes 27 OT

Falls City SH 50 - Sterling 24

Diller-Odell 34 - Sterling 26

Diller-Odell 38 - Sterling 24

Sterling 29 - Pawnee City 23

HTRS 38 - Sterling 28

#### Falls City Tournament (1-1)

Falls City 47 - Sterling 13

Sterling 38 - Pawnee City 28

#### Lewiston Tournament (0-2)

Meridian 21 - Sterling 20

Lewiston 26 - Sterling 22

Freeman 37 - Sterling 15

# GIRLS' STATE, BOYS' STATE, & JUNIOR LAW CADET

## CORNHUSKER GIRLS' STATE

Cornhusker Girls' State applications are due by **Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. 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. The maximum enrollment for this year will be 410 delegates, with more than one girl from each school if funding allows. **This year's Girls State will be held from Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at UNL's Sandoz Residence Hall.**

## CORNHUSKER BOYS' STATE

Applications are currently being accepted for 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 patriotic, civic, fraternal, or religious group in cooperation with the local American Legion Post.

American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State is set up as a functional "51<sup>st</sup> 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 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 5<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup> at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus.** Deadline for application is **Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**, with the Legion Post in charge.

## 2016 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: June 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

-Boys: June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Deadline: February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Application Available at:**

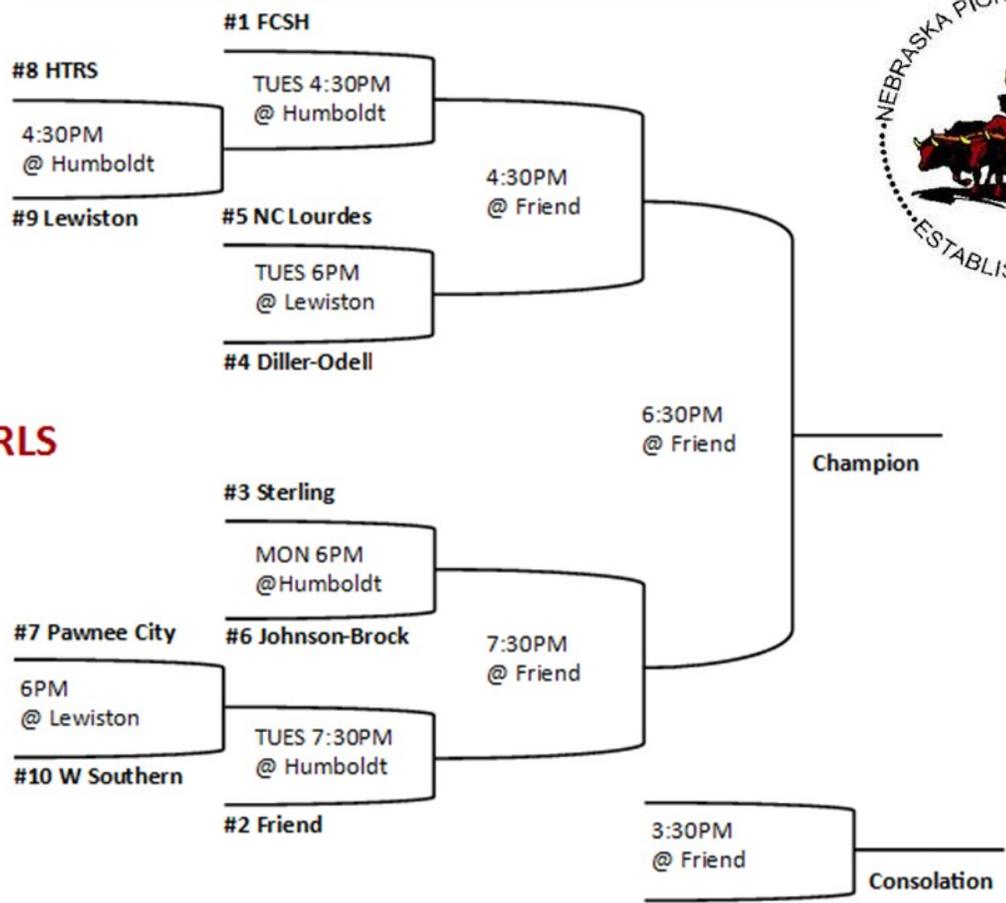
<http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/JRLaw.html>

# PIONEER CONFERENCE BB TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY 1-6, 2016

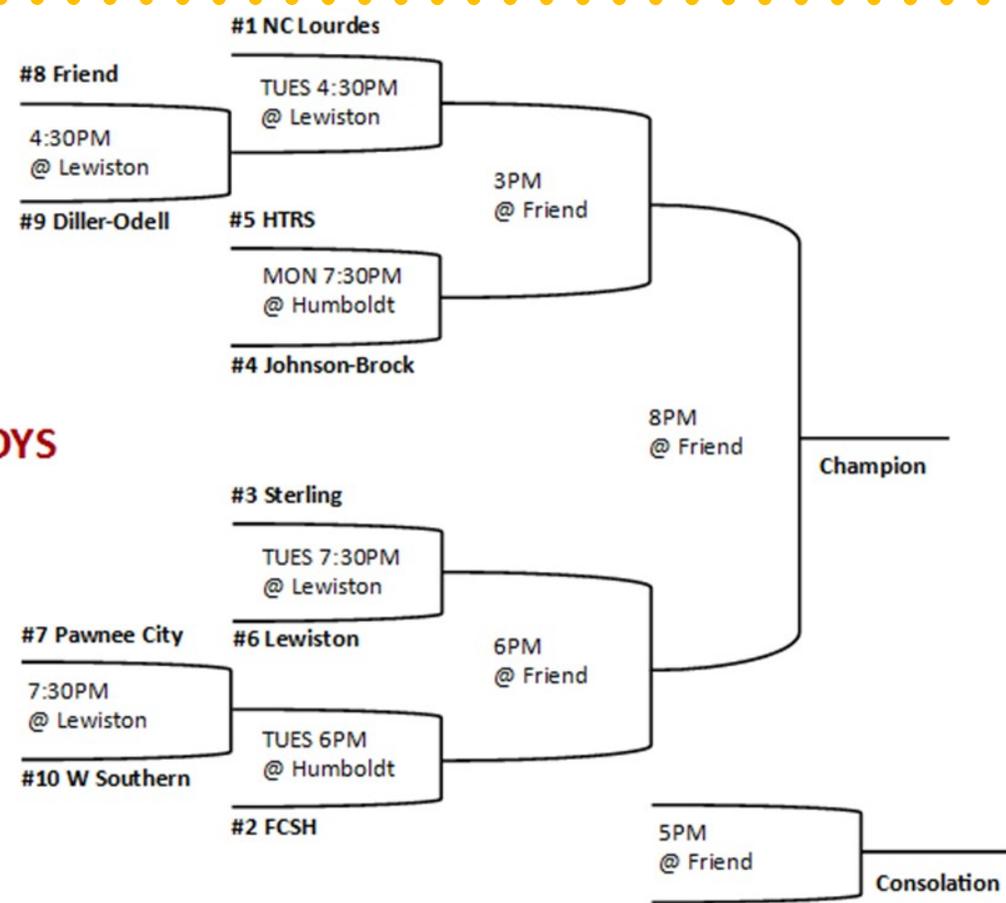
MONDAY	MONDAY OR TUESDAY	THURSDAY	SATURDAY
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## GIRLS



## BOYS





# FEBRUARY



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>1 B-</b> Pancake &amp; Sausage on a Stick OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Peaches</p>	<p><b>2 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Vegetable Beef Soup, Rom. Lettuce Salad, WG Cheese Breadstick, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>3 B-</b> Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Nachos w/ Cheese Sauce or Bean Dip, Peas, Celery w/ PB, Pears</p>	<p><b>4 B-</b> Omelet, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Teriyaki, Rice, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><b>5 B-</b> Oatmeal OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Goulash, Green Beans, WG Dinner Rolls w/ Jelly, Mixed Fruit</p>
<p><b>8 B-</b> Breakfast Pizza OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Hot Dog on WG Bun, Baked Beans, FF and/or Swt. FF, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>9 B-</b> WG Pancakes, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Pancake, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Tacos, Corn, Celery w/ PB, Peaches</p>	<p><b>10 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Tomato Soup, Rom. Lettuce Salad, Cheese Sandwich, Pears</p>	<p><b>11 B-</b> Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuit, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> French Dip Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Peas, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p><b>12 B-</b> Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast  <b>L-</b> Fish Nuggets, Mixed Vegetables, Coleslaw, Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p><b>15 B-</b> WG Waffles, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Waffle, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Patty Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Peaches</p>	<p><b>16 B-</b> Omelet, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Spaghetti, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Pears</p>	<p><b>17 B-</b> Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Hamburger, FF and/or Swt. FF, Tomatoes, Applesauce</p>	<p><b>18 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Noodle Soup, PB&amp;J Sandwich, Rom. Lettuce Salad, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><b>19 B-</b> Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Calzonette, Peas, Black Bean Salad, Mixed Fruit</p>
<p><b>22 B-</b> French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Chicken Fajita, Rice, Corn, Peaches</p>	<p><b>23</b>  <b>NO SCHOOL</b>  <b>Marzano Academy Teacher Training</b></p>	<p><b>24</b>  <b>NO SCHOOL</b>  <b>Marzano Academy Teacher Training</b></p>	<p><b>25 B-</b> Toaster Pastry, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Submarines, FF and/or Swt. FF, Gelatin, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p><b>26 B-</b> WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk  <b>L-</b> Macaroni &amp; Cheese, Peas, WG Dinner Rolls w/ Jelly, Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p><b>29 B-</b> Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast  <b>L-</b> BBQ Rib on WG Bun, Broccoli w/ Cheese, FF and/or Swt. FF, Applesauce</p>		<p><i>Menus are subject to change without notice.</i>   <i>Milk served with every meal.</i></p>	<p><i>A variety of fruits and vegetables are offered with every meal.</i></p>	<p><i>Alternate Entrée: Chef Salad</i>   <i>USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</i></p>

# FEBRUARY 2016 ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
January 31	1 JH GBB vs. FCSH - HOME - 2:30PM	2 PIONEER CONF. BB TOURNAMENT @ HTRS/LEWISTON	3 MID QUARTER EARLY OUT - 1:37PM	4	5	6 ACT Test Date Johnson Co. Spelling Bee @ JCC
7	8 9/10 BBB @ FCSH - 7PM	9 GBB vs. Freeman - HOME - 6PM (JV/V)	10 JH GBB vs. Freeman - HOME - 1PM	11 EARLY OUT - 1:37PM P/T Conf. 2-8:30PM HS - in the gym Elem - in classrooms	12 NO SCHOOL - PreK G/B BB vs. Tri-County - HOME - 4PM (4 Games) PARENTS NIGHT	13
14	15 Lifetouch Pictures - 8:15AM JH GBB @ Lewiston - 1PM SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - 7:30PM	16 GBB SUB-DISTRICTS @ JOHNSON-BROCK	17 5th/6th Field Trip to Lincoln Symphony JH GBB vs. Neb. City Lourdes - HOME - 2:30PM	18 GBB SUB-DISTRICT FINALS @ J-B	19 BBB vs. Freeman - HOME - 6:15PM (JV/V)	20
21	22 Johnson-Brock JH GBB Tournament - 4PM	23 NO SCHOOL Marzano Academy Teacher Training BBB SUB-DISTRICTS @ JOHNSON-BROCK	24 NO SCHOOL Marzano Academy Teacher Training	25 JH GBB vs. HTRS - HOME - 2PM BBB SUB-DISTRICT FINALS @ J-B	26	27
28	29	March 1 BBB DISTRICT FINALS @ TBA	2 EARLY OUT - 1:37PM	3	4	5
GIRLS STATE BB TOURNAMENT @ LINCOLN						

# STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent  
Ryan Knippelmeyer

K-12 Principal  
Activities Director  
Ryun Theobald

Guidance Counselor  
Jill Shea

Athletic Director  
Brent Heusman



## DON'T FORGET...

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| February 1-2 & 4-6 | Pioneer Conference BB Tournament                   |
| February 3         | EARLY OUT - 1:37PM                                 |
| February 6         | ACT Test Date<br>Johnson County Spelling Bee @ JCC |
| February 11        | EARLY OUT - 1:37PM<br>Parent/Teacher Conferences   |
| February 12        | NO SCHOOL PreK<br>Parents Night vs. Tri-County     |
| February 15        | Lifetouch Spring Pictures<br>SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  |
| February 16 & 18   | GBB Sub-Districts @ Johnson-Brock                  |
| February 17        | 5th/6th Field Trip to Lincoln Symphony             |
| February 23-24     | NO SCHOOL - Marzano Academy Teacher Training       |
| February 23 & 25   | BBB Sub-Districts @ Johnson-Brock                  |
| February 26        | GBB District Finals @ TBA                          |



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!!!