

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: by Mrs. Dottie Heusman

Bring on Spring. I am tired of my meteorology gig! In my mind it's been the worst winter of the year! I know, it hasn't been that bad, but when you are trying to decide whether to have school or not, it IS the worst winter ever!

The middle of March brought the end of the third quarter of school and the beginning of the last quarter of the 2017-2018 school year. Students and teachers are working together for the best learning opportunities to occur each and every day. I'm hoping that parents are seeing a difference in regards to the extra work that is occurring with students to help each of them be successful. If we can do anything to help, don't hesitate to call the teacher.

Kindergarten roundup was on March 16 and we had 16 students. Currently we are taking preschool registrations for the upcoming school year. We are also taking option enrollment students for the 2018-2019 school year for grade levels K-12. We welcome new students and want to increase our enrollment. **If you know someone who is looking for a small town school atmosphere for their child, have them contact me.**

If you have any questions or suggestions about school please do not hesitate to stop by, call, or email Mr. Harrington or myself. We welcome your input.

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS -

The Board of Education has been busy over the last few months. Here are some of the highlights of what has been accomplished:

- The 2018-2019 school year calendar was adopted. It will be on our website for everyone to access. If you need an early copy of the calendar, just stop by the office.
- Mr. Brian Helmberger was hired for the Industrial Technology teacher opening that occurred with the retirement of Mr. Salberg at the conclusion of the school year.
- The negotiated agreement between the Sterling Education Association and the Board of Education was approved. Starting salary for a teacher will be \$35,500. There was no increase to health insurance premiums.
- The Board issued a contract for the upcoming year to Mr. Harrington the current Principal.
- Dues for the Nebraska Association of School Boards was approved for payment.
- The Board accepted the resignation of Mrs. Leslie Wagnitz 4th grade teacher effective at the end of the school year.
- An Early Retirement Incentive Program was reviewed and updated. Due to this we had five additional retirements: Mr. Arlo Wusk, Mrs. Sandy Weyers, Mr. Stan Karr, Mrs. Kate Agena, and Mrs. Teresa Trauernicht.
- The Board also accepted the resignation of Mrs. Denise Horstman, Food Service Director, and Mrs. Janet Heusman, Paraprofessional due to retirement.
- The Board wants to continue to send out the monthly newsletter to all patrons. Expect to get an April Newsletter and then we won't send another one until mid to late July to kick off the 2018-2019 school year. The April Newsletter will have information about the activities scheduled in May.
- Mr. Josh Pfeiffer, 7-12 Math Teacher gave a presentation on Khan Academy and how he is supporting students through this tool.
- The Board extended the Network Support Service Agreement with ESU #4 to contract for technology support three days a week. This is the same amount of time that we are currently receiving.

**NOW
ACCEPTING...**

applications for children 3 and 4 years old in our all day Preschool Program for the 2018-2019 school year.

Contact Superintendent Heusman at

dheusman@sterlingpublicschools.com or 402-866-4761

for an application or to find out more about the opportunities this program can offer your child!

**THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS HAS CHANGED.
STUDENTS WILL BE IN SESSION ALL DAY ON MAY 17TH AND BE
DISMISSED EARLY @ 1:37 P.M. ON MAY 18TH.**

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL by Mr. Harrington

Testing Season is Here!

Springtime is when many students are taking a variety of district and state assessments. Here at Sterling we have already begun to test with some of our elementary students. Please encourage your child to do their best with some simple advice. Tell them to be strategic. Tell your child to read the directions carefully and maybe underline the significant words so they know exactly what they are supposed to look for. Suggest that your child read the question first, before reading a text or passage. If the correct answer is not clear or obvious, tell your child to look at eliminating alternatives that are obviously wrong and move on from there. When writing, tell your child to take time to plan what they will write before they start. This may be as simple as jotting down main ideas on a piece of scratch paper or maybe creating a rough outline from brainstorming about everything that comes to mind about the topic. Most importantly tell them to be calm and confident!

Protecting Your Child Online!

I think most kids are comfortable with and like to watch videos online. However, there is always the chance that they may come across something that is inappropriate. There are steps you as parents can take to help decrease the likelihood that they encounter inappropriate material. Search settings and comment functions can be changed so mature content will be less likely to pop up. There are some parental controls built into popular phones like iPhones and many on the Android platform as well. There is also a plethora of apps that can be downloaded that can help track and control your child's online activity. To get started, I would recommend the site Common Sense Media. They have lots of reviews, tips, and tricks for parents on how to safely navigate the online world. I would also suggest a quick Google search. For example, if you are looking to block a person on Snapchat, you can literally Google "How to block someone on Snapchat" and get the step-by-step help that you need. But probably the most effective way to protect your child from online dangers is be involved with your child's online habits and have frequent conversations with them about what good online habits they should develop. Explain to your child that you want to keep them safe from content that may upset or confuse them. Remind them not to upload or send any personal information or content (pictures or videos) without your permission. If you build this topic consistently into your nightly or dinner conversations with your child, they are more likely to refrain from engaging in inappropriate behavior and also are more likely to come talk to you if they do see something that bothers them online. If you show your child that you care deeply about this or any aspect of their lives, then they will most likely repay the care by developing the good habits you are teaching.

Jet Activities

Be sure to stay current with the school's website (www.sterlingjets.org), or on our Instagram and Twitter accounts (Both usernames are: spsjetpride) to see all the great things happening here at Sterling. I am very excited about a great opportunity that all 7-12 graders will get to experience on April 20th. Mike Smith is a famous motivational speaker from right here in Nebraska (Imperial, NE). Mike presents his story in a very engaging and relatable way to teenage kids on topics like leadership, culture, climate, and pursuing your passions. I have had the opportunity to listen to Mike twice before and am very excited for our students to have this opportunity. You can take a look at what Mike Smith has to offer at <http://mikesmithlive.com> speaker. I would like to thank the Sterling Booster Club for picking up the check that allows us to engage in this awesome opportunity!

PERU STATE COLLEGE MATH COMPETITION RESULTS

Small School Division:

Algebra 2 - Malayna Wingert - 2nd place

Geometry - Diego Sterkel - 1st place

- Belle Haner - 2nd place

Geometry Team - 1st place

Overall (out of 12 schools):

Algebra 2 - Malayna Wingert - 5th place

Geometry - Diego Sterkel - 1st place

- Belle Haner - 5th place



FFA NEWS

The FFA chapter competed at the district Career Development Events on March 6th and are excited to have qualified the Food Science team for State FFA! The Food Science team consists of Karly Henke, Spencer McClellan, Cameron Fossler, and Ryan Lairmore. They are excited to be the first Sterling team of any activity this year to qualify for the state level competition.

They will also have an Agriscience team and Meats team competing. They look forward to State Convention the first week of April.





2018 STERLING HIGH SCHOOL TRACK SCHEDULE



<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Thurs, March 22	Pioneer Indoor	Crete-Doane	9:30
Tues, March 27	Wilber-Clatonia Invite	Wilber	2:00
Wed, April 4	Mustang Invite	Friend	10:00
Tues, April 10	Lewiston Invite	Pawnee City	9:30
Tues, April 17	Irish Invite	Syracuse	9:30
Sat, April 21	MUDECAS	Tri County	9:00
Tues, April 24	Pawnee City Invite	Pawnee City	9:00
Sat, April 28	Pioneer Conference	Pawnee City	9:00
Tues, May 1	Freeman Invite	Adams	9:00
Wed, May 9	Districts	Auburn	10:30
Fri/Sat, May 18/19	State Track Meet	Omaha	9:00/9:30



2018 STERLING JUNIOR HIGH TRACK SCHEDULE



<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Thurs, April 5	HTRS Invite	Pawnee City	9:00
Sat, April 7	MUDECAS	Adams	9:00
Thurs, April 12	Pawnee City Invite	Pawnee City	10:00
Thurs, April 19	Freeman Invite	Adams	10:00
Wed, April 25	Lewiston Invite	Pawnee City	9:00
Sat, May 5	Pioneer Conference	Pawnee City	9:00

Bedtime Math:

It is commonplace for parents to read to their children each night before bed. Youngsters love it and parents love the benefits that it provides for their children. These benefits are widely accepted - they are taking the first steps towards helping their kids live a life of literacy. One thing that parents with young ones at home might want to consider is to add doing bedtime math to their nightly routine. By doing a little bit of math each night before bed with your children, you can help them learn to enjoy math and help set them up for a successful future in the world of math. Students that learn to enjoy math at a young age are more likely to experience success in their math classes in school and are set up for potential success in career paths that involve mathematics. Many of the most lucrative careers that people can choose to pursue are in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields, all of which involve a lot of math. If you are interested in doing some bedtime math with your young student, you can visit the website called bedtimemath.org. The website was started by Laura Bilodeau Overdeck and each day it features an interesting math topic with thought provoking questions for children of all ages. If you find that you like to do bedtime math with your youngsters, you can find more resources for bedtime math with a website called mathbeforebed.com.





STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2017-18

3rd QUARTER HONOR ROLL



HONOR ROLL OF DISTINCTION

(Students receiving an overall average of 93% or above, with no grade lower than 90%)

7TH GRADE

Gracy Dolbow
John Janssen
Alexander Leonard
Carson McAuliffe
Jack McAuliffe
Trenton Peery
Macy Richardson
Kaylin Smith

8TH GRADE

Kody Goracke
Garrett Hier
Danielle Janssen
Kaylee Lafferty
Tanner McDonald
Andrew Richardson
Ella Wingert

9TH GRADE

Sam Boldt
Bianca Gonzalez-Castillo
Isabella Haner
Macie Whalen
Kaitlyn Wusk

10TH GRADE

Joel Rathe
Colby Thies

11TH GRADE

Caleb Dolbow
Morgan Haner
Nicole Harms
Logan Jasa
Carly Wenzl
Malayna Wingert

12TH GRADE

Benjamin Hier
Daniel Schwenneker
Sheanna Stolz
Kaleb Williams

REGULAR HONOR ROLL

(Students receiving an overall average of 90% or above, with no grade lower than 85%)

7TH GRADE

Andrew Harms
Noah Williams

8TH GRADE

Kylie Mathes-Riensche
Abigail Thies

9TH GRADE

Jessie Klein
Katie Little

11TH GRADE

Tristan Dirks
Sydney Huls
Cameron VanGroningen



GOVERNMENT STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to Malayna Wingert for being selected to attend the Nebraska Attorney General Youth Conference on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 in Lincoln at the Capitol. Malayna was selected based on her academic achievements and activities that she participates in at Sterling Public Schools. She is a highly motivated student who demonstrates the character and integrity that exemplifies those qualities that the Attorney General's selection committee is searching for in their Youth Conference honorees.

Malayna will participate in a full day of activities at the Capitol. She will begin the Youth Conference in the Warner Chamber with a welcome by Attorney General Doug Peterson. Following will be a presentation by Senator Geist and the Honorable Stephanie F. Stacy from the Nebraska Supreme Court. The group will then have lunch at the Governor's Mansion with a speaker to be announced later. After lunch, the Youth Conference will move back to the Warner Chamber where several panel discussions will take place with the attendees in participation. The day will conclude with closing remarks by Attorney General Peterson.

Arlo Wusk, Sponsor



SPELLING BEE CONTEST

Sterling Elementary students did a great job at the Johnson County Spelling Bee contest, which was held on February 3, 2018 in Tecumseh, Ne.

Results in the written part of the contest:

6th Grade

- 1st Place - Sierra Goracke
- 2nd Place - Amelia Kephart
- 3rd Place - Lauren Harms

5th Grade

- 1st Place - Colin Wambold

4th Grade

- 1st Place - Brody Horstman



Overall, in the Oral Competition, Colin Wambold got 2nd place and Sierra Goracke got 3rd place.

We are extremely proud of them and how well they represented Sterling. Congratulations to all of you for your outstanding efforts!

AWESOME!



Ridge Bredthauer was chosen as one of the top 10 finalists in the Nebraska 5th Grade Essay contest, "What My Mother Means To Me." Ridge was invited to attend a Recognition Ceremony at the State Capital in Lincoln on Friday, March 23, 2018. All finalists read their essay, received a plaque, and introduced their mother.

Ridge's essay:

My mother means a lot to me. She is very awesome because she had to raise me. I bet that wasn't easy. Right now, my mom is a serving veteran in the Air Force. She has been deployed many times, and sometimes for many months. During those times, I thought about her every day. I thought it was hard for my family, but realized it was harder for her. I missed her very much. My mother has always been there for me, even when times were hard. Every day with her is remarkable. Nothing would be as much fun without her. My mom has everlasting love, and I love her very much!

Ridge did an outstanding job, and we are all very proud of him. The fifth grade has entered this contest every year for the past 10 years, and have had a winner in the top 10 of the state every year but one. It was an honor for me this year to finally get to go and watch one of my students during this ceremony.

We celebrated Ridge's accomplishment with chocolate cake on Monday. All of the students wrote essays and sent them in, so we decided we all deserved some celebration.

Kate Agena, 5th Grade Teacher



3RD GRADE NEWS

- MRS. BIANCHI

February was a fun month for 3rd grade. We celebrated Valentine's Day by decorating our treat bags and playing many games. The most special part of that Valentine's day was performing the readers' theater "A Valentine's Day Proposal." Every student in the class participated in the play. We even performed the play to



a couple different classes in the elementary. It was a big hit! If you want to watch the play, it has been uploaded to the Facebook page 3rd Grade Thrills: Sterling Public. You will not be disappointed!

In the classroom, we are working hard on our multiplication and division skills. We play many games that helps us stay fluent with our math facts. Just last week we started working on fractions. The students are understanding and enjoying learning about the different ways we can use fractions. Reading has been quite a change this year for the students. Third grade, is the year when students have to shift their thinking about reading. Kindergarten through the beginning of third grade students are "learning to read." Toward the middle and end of third grade they shift to "reading to learn." It's a fun transition to watch as the students enrich their reading skills by learning strategies to help them comprehend what they are reading.

2ND GRADE NEWS - MRS. MCAULIFFE

It's hard to believe the 4th quarter of school is in progress. March has been a very busy month for the second graders.

We are able to utilize an app on our iPads which reinforces the reading skills we are working on for that week. (Ex: sentence builder, phonemic awareness, vocabulary matching, spelling) In Math, we just finished 3 digit subtracting with ungrouping. Now onto identifying flips, slides, and turns. Seeing with "Poets' Eyes" is our focus in writing. The students are transitioning from poetry enthusiasts to poetry writers. We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with many fun and exciting activities throughout the week. Yes, the second graders DO like Green Eggs & Ham as we plan on having them again. March 8th was a busy day for us, as we went to the Children's Museum and the Shrine Circus. Favorites at the museum included the cuckoo clock with blocks, and hiding from friends in the ground hog tunnels. We enjoyed watching the acrobats at the circus. The performance showed their tremendous strength, balance, and flexibility. Also, we were entertained by the tigers, elephants, llamas, goats, and pigs. Some of the second graders were even brave enough to hold a snake! It was an AWESOME field trip!



PIONEER ALL-CONFERENCE

2nd Team
Carly Wenzl

3rd Team
Colby Thies

Honorable Mention
Malayna Wingert



Ben Hier

PIONEER ALL-CONFERENCE

2nd Team
Ben Hier

Honorable Mention
Logan Jasa



Logan Jasa



Carly Wenzl



Colby Thies



Malayna Wingert

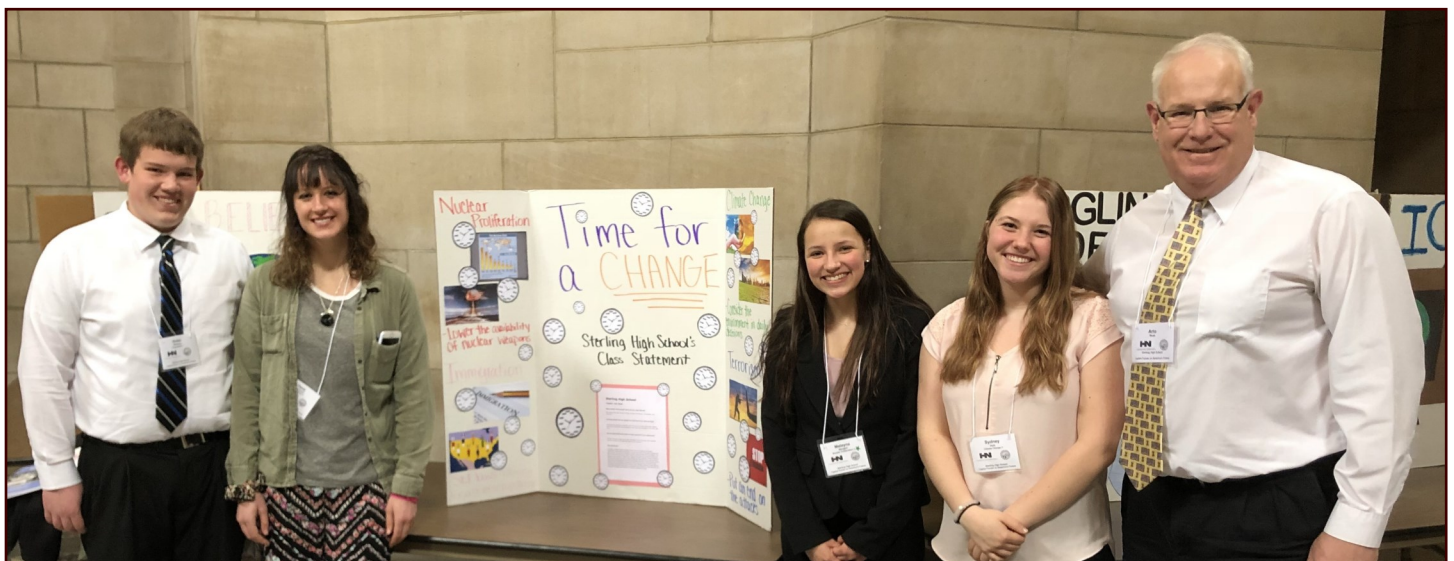


STERLING HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN CAPITOL FORUM

On March 19, Sterling High students participated in the Capitol Forum on America's Future with students from 24 other schools throughout Nebraska. Participating from Sterling were Seniors Heidi Eckhardt and Kaleb Williams and Juniors Sydney Huls and Malayna Wingert.

The event was held in our Capitol building in the Warner Chamber with the morning session focusing on deliberating a specific topic that each student is an expert on. During these discussions, students presented their point of view on their topic with the hope of convincing others to accept some of their solutions for fixing this international issue. Following deliberation, students were assigned to a future international position for our country that their group presented to the entire forum. This desired avenue that the USA should follow in the coming year was the culminating event that the students voted on electronically. Setting international policy is the desired goal of this group and it is hoped that someday these students will be involved in government issues of this nature.

Following the selection of a future for the USA, the students got the opportunity to have a question and answer session with Nebraska's Congressmen via live video-conferencing. Following the Q&A, they took a tour of the Governor's Mansion before heading home.



APRIL MENUS

April 2-6	
Monday	NO SCHOOL - EASTER BREAK
Tuesday	WG Pancakes, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk Mini Corn Dogs, Green Beans, Baked Beans, Peaches
Wednesday	WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk BBQ Pork Sandwich, Corn, FF and/or Swt FF, Applesauce
Thursday	Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Pizza, Mixed Vegetables, Black Bean Salad, Mandarin Oranges
Friday	Breakfast Boat OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken & Noodles, Peas, WG Bread w/ Margarine, Pears
April 9-13	
Monday	Toaster Pastry, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Three Bean Salad, Pears
Tuesday	Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Vegetable Beef Soup, Romaine Lettuce Salad, WG Cheese Breadsticks, Applesauce
Wednesday	WG French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Tacos, Corn, Celery w/ PB, Pineapple Tidbits
Thursday	WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Gravy w/ WG Biscuits or WG Bread, Peas, Mandarin Oranges
Friday	Pancake & Sausage on a stick OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Spaghetti, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Peaches
April 16-20	
Monday	WG Pancakes, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk Nachos w/ Cheese Sauce or Bean Dip, Corn, Celery w/ PB, Peaches
Tuesday	Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Breaded Pork Sandwich, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Applesauce
Wednesday	Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Drumstick, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Peas, Pineapple Tidbits
Thursday	Breakfast Burrito OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Burrito, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Chips w/ Salsa, Pears
Friday	WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Hamburger, FF and/or Swt FF, Tomatoes, Mandarin Oranges
April 23-27	
Monday	Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Submarines, Corn, Gelatin, Pears
Tuesday	WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Fajita, WG Rice, Peas, Mandarin Oranges
Wednesday	WG French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Hot Beef Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Broccoli w/ Cheese, Pineapple Tidbits
Thursday	Omelet, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Noodle Soup, Romaine Lettuce Salad, PB&J Sandwich, Peaches
Friday	Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuit, Fruit/Juice, Milk Ham Patty on WG Bun, Green Beans, Tator Gems and/or Swt Tator Gems, Applesauce
April 30	
Monday	Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Goulash, Green Beans, WG Dinner Roll w/ Jelly, Peaches

Menus are subject to change without notice.
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

A variety of fruits and vegetables are offered with every meal.
Milk served with every meal.
Alternate Entrée: Chef Salad



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 h a p p y e a s t e r	2 NO SCHOOL EASTER BREAK	3 ACT Testing - Juniors	4 EARLY OUT 1:37PM Mustang HS Track Invite @ Friend - 10AM	5 HTRS JH Track Invite @ Pawnee City - 9:30AM	6	7 MUDECAS JH Track @ Freeman - 9AM
STATE FFA CONVENTION @ LINCOLN						
8	9 Blood Drive 12-6PM MUDECAS JH Quiz Bowl @ JCC Accuplacer Test - 9AM	10 Lewiston HS Track Invite @ Pawnee City - 9:30AM SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - 7:30PM	11	12 Pawnee City JH Track Invite @ Pawnee City - 9:30AM	13 NO SCHOOL PreK	14 ACT Test Date
SKILLSUSA STATE CONVENTION @ GRAND ISLAND						
15	16	17 Irish Invite HS Track @ Syracuse - 9:30AM	18 Freeman JH Track Invite @ Adams - 10AM	19 District Music Contest @ JCC - FFA Banquet	20	21 MUDECAS HS Track @ Tri-County - 9AM
22	23	24 Pawnee City Invite HS Track @ Pawnee City - 9AM	25 Lewiston JH Track Invite @ Pawnee City - 9AM Spanish Fiesta - Sterling 8AM-1PM	26 HS Music Concert (Large Groups) - 7PM in the gym Safety Day @ Tecumseh - 5th Grade	27	28 Pioneer Conf. HS Track @ Pawnee City - 9AM
29	30 Elementary Music Concert - 7PM in the gym	May 1 Freeman HS Track In- vite @ Adams - 9AM	2	3	4	5 Pioneer Conf. JH Track @ Pawnee City - 9AM

STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Sterling, NE 68443

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Fax: 402-866-4771
Website: sterlingjets.org

PRSRT STD
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Postal Customer
Sterling, NE 68443

Superintendent
Dottie Heusman

K-12 Principal
Activities Director
Scott Harrington

Guidance Counselor
Addie Heusman

Athletic Director
Brent Heusman

WATER NOTICE

The week of 4/2/2018 there is a DO NOT consume order issued in town. You will still be able to cook and clean in your home, just DO NOT drink the water. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle or bottles of water from home during this time. Thank you for your cooperation.

BLOOD DRIVE @ SPS GYM

Monday, April 9, 2018 from 1-6PM

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!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES @ SPS

- Para Professional
- Food Service Director

If interested, please send a letter of application to:
Sterling Public Schools, P.O. Box 39, Sterling, NE 68443 ATTN: Dottie Heusman



To order your 2017-2018 yearbook,
visit the school website:
www.sterlingjets.org and look under
Clubs & Organizations > Yearbook.

