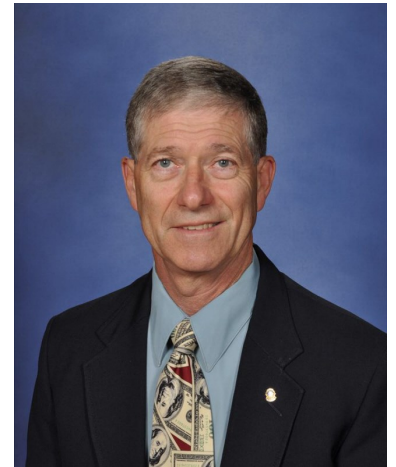


SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES by Mike Davis

Congratulations to the Volleyball Coaches and Team for placing 3rd at State, to the 2013 Pioneer All-Conference Volleyball First Team - Jordan Lempka, Second Team - Tara Hestermann, Third Team - Stasia Nielsen and Erika Goracke, to the Football Coaches and Team for making it to the second round of the State Playoffs, to the 2013 Pioneer All-Conference Football First Team Offense - Chris Wenzl, First Team Defense - Matt Wirthele and Chris Wenzl, Second Team Offense - Kale Heusman and Kody Benson, Second Team Defense - Chris Wenzl and Jesse Phillips, Honorable Mention Defense - Trey Trauernicht, to the Sterling One Act Team for earning a 4th place out of the 10 schools competing in the Pioneer Conference, to Sarah Scamehorn and Ben Logston earning superior actor awards and to Ben Logston who won the Best Male Actor Award!



eFunds for Schools is ready for parents to access and use to pay for their student meals. The first parent who signed up and paid for meals for her two boys was Shalen Lundeen! Shalen's boys each will receive a free meal. **As an incentive for parents to start using the eFunds for Schools during the month of December:** For each \$50 paid per child they will receive the value of a free meal.

The Sterling TeamMates Mentoring Program application has been sent in for approval by the state organization. Our students in grades 4, 5 and 6 will be invited to participate. An informational meeting was held for parents of these students on November 26th. Contact Jill Shea, coordinator, or myself for more information. Mentors will be needed!

The State of the Schools Report is available on the Nebraska Department of Education's website. <http://reportcard.education.ne.gov> There are many facts and comparisons to look into and explore if you are interested. Below is an overall picture of how our school is doing as a whole in reading, math and science.

Sterling School District (Grades 3-11)

Indicator Type	Indicator	District Results	State Results	Rank	# of Ranked Districts
Status	Average NeSA Reading	110.81	114.54	166	249
	Average NeSA Math	113.09	106.09	95	249
	Average NeSA Science	112.68	103.25	71	249

To explain the information above: NeSA is the Nebraska State Assessments. These are the tests that all students in all public schools in Nebraska take in the spring each year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER *continued from page 1*

The results that are listed are from the state tests that our students took last spring of 2013. There are a total of 249 public school districts in Nebraska. The largest is Omaha Public Schools with 50,559 students K-12 and the smallest is Loup County Public Schools with 88 students in grades K-12. NePAS is Nebraska Performance Accountability System. The NePAS ranks all 249 public school districts in the areas of reading, math and science. The average of reading scores for Sterling students last spring in grades 3-8 and 11 was 110.81 compared to the state average of 114.54 the ranking of Sterling Public School District was then 166 out of the 249 districts. The average for math of the Sterling students in grades 3-8 and 11 was 113.09 and the state average was 106.09 with a rank of 95 out of the 249 school districts. The average of the Sterling students in grades 5, 8 and 11 in science was 112.68 and the state average was 103.25 for a rank of 71 out of 249 school districts.

Sterling FFA Members attended the 86th FFA National Convention in Louisville, KY.

Sydney Goracke,
Rachel Frerichs-Shea,
Tessa Nelson, Alisha
Fisher, Valerie Keim,
Elly Lempka and Erika
Eckhardt along with
sponsors Debi Lempka,
Dave Keim and Mike
Davis attended the
convention and expo.



ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline (fee: \$36.50)	Late Registration (add'l late fee: \$23.00)
February 8, 2014	January 10, 2014	January 11-24, 2014
April 12, 2014	March 7, 2014	March 8-21, 2014
June 14, 2014	May 9, 2014	May 10-23, 2014

From The Principal's Desk by Ryun Theobald



Just when you think you get a break, here we go again. The month of December is going to be a very busy time for our student body and staff. The three short weeks that we have left in the in the first semester will be filled with a variety of activities. Add in the fact that the Holiday Season is upon us and the month is truly full. I hope that with all of the hustle and bustle that the end of the year brings, that you can find some quality time to spend with family and friends. With that being said, here are a few items that I would like to touch on.

1. Student of the Month. Our high school student of the month for the month of October is Austin Buss. Austin is the son of Scott and Sandy Buss. Our middle school student of the month is Colby Thies. Colby is the daughter of Terry and Naomi Thies. These two individuals are both outstanding in the classroom and exhibit high character in the hallways of SHS.

2. Fall Season Activity Successes. The fall has been another highly successful season for the Jets. The Lady Jet volleyball team finished the year with a 3rd place finish at the NSAA Class D-2 State Tournament. The One-Act team finished 4th in the Pioneer Conference contest and the high school football team capped of another successful season as they made it to the second round of the NSAA Football Playoffs. All of these student athletes, coaches and sponsors are to be recognized for their hard work and accomplishments.

3. Semester Test Schedule. Students in grades 6-12 will have semester tests on Dec. 18th, 19th and 20th. The actual schedule is still being finalized, but I do know that there will be 3 testing periods on Wednesday, 3 testing periods on Thursday and 2 testing periods on Friday. We have several activities this week so that is why we have a change in the testing schedule from 2 days to 3 days. Each class should have some sort of a test/project to help bring closure to the first semester. As a parent, please encourage your child to get as much rest as possible during this time to help prepare for these final exams..

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

GO JETS!!

JUNIORS



are selling Poinsettias and Christmas Cactus from now through Friday, Dec. 13th.

Please contact any Junior or Ms. Shea at the school (402-866-4761 or jshea@sterlingpublicschools.com)

Post Prom Parents

Are you ready to shoot some hoops?

December 7th, 13th, 17th & 20th at halftimes of the girls and boys varsity basketball games, for only \$1, you can shoot free throws for the chance to earn a two-liter bottle of pop.

Hope to see you there!



Energy Class Goes to State School Board

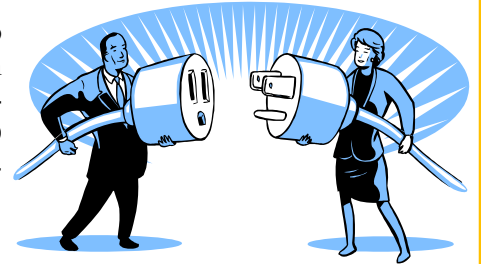
On Friday, November 22nd, three students and Mr. Salberg traveled to Omaha, Nebraska, for the Nebraska State School Board Convention. Terrell Hobbs, Trey Trauernicht, and Rhett Dirks shared an energy demonstration using skills they have learned throughout the semester so far.



The Energy course is made possible in cooperation with the Educational Service Unit #4 in Auburn, NE. In this course, students are given a unique approach to understanding energy and learning about the many, varied career opportunities in the energy field. The course offers the chances to engage in the study of energy basics and fundamentals, the production and delivery of energy, and energy responsibilities and decisions. The opportunities for students to explore energy-related topics through hands-on experiences and field trips to state-of-the-art energy facilities and interact with experts in this industry are fundamental to this course.

on Wednesday, November 20th. The 8th grade Earth Science class was also able to tour the Adams E-Energy ethanol plant with the energy class.

Additionally, the energy class has had the opportunities to take field trips to the Rockport Wind Farm, Black Hills Energy, and the NPPD Sheldon Station by Hallam. Speakers who have shared their time and expertise with the students include Jeff McCartney from the Cooper Nuclear Plant and NPPD linesmen from Pawnee City. What a great learning opportunity for our students!



NeSA Testing Coming Up

Each year, during a three-week window in January and February, 4th, 8th and 11th grade students across the state of Nebraska hunker down to take the NeSA-Writing assessment. Then in the spring, during an approximate six week window, students in grades 3 through 8 and 11 take the NeSA-Reading and Math assessments. During this same spring testing window, students in grades 5, 8, and 11 take the NeSA Science assessments.

What exactly are the NeSA assessments, and why are you children taking these tests? NeSA tests are state-developed assessments and the results of these assessments are used for both state and federal accountability reports. Nebraska data is reported in grades 4, 8, and 11 with the exception of science, which is assessed in grade 5 instead of 4th grade. Federally for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reporting, all students in grades 3 through 8 are assessed.

NeSA assessments are just one piece of the data puzzle when looking at curriculum and assessment within a school district. If you have any questions about the NeSA assessments, please feel free to contact Jill Shea at 402-866-4761 or jshea@sterlingpublicschools.com.

From the Desk of the Athletic Director

by Brent Heusman, Athletic Director

The following scores wrap up successful fall sports seasons for both volleyball and football. The volleyball team finished with a 27-8 record and a 3rd place finish at the State Tournament while the football team finished with a 6-4 record. The high school One-Act play production finished 4th at conference and will compete at Districts on Monday, Dec. 2nd at Meridian. The junior high boys basketball season is in full swing with the team compiling a 2-3 record as of this writing. Scores will be printed in the January newsletter. The high school girls and boys basketball teams' first contest is set for Friday, December 6th at FCSH.

Varsity Lady Jet VB (27-8)

Pioneer Conference Tournament (1-2)

4th Place

Sterling vs. HTRS (W 2-0)

25-21, 25-21

Sterling vs. Johnson-Brock (L 2-3)

25-14, 27-25, 23-25, 25-27, 14-16

Sterling vs. Friend (L 2-3)

25-22, 25-22, 21-25, 23-25, 10-15

Sub-Districts

Sterling vs. College View Academy

(W 3-0) 25-11, 25-11, 25-15

Sterling vs. Falls City Sacred Heart

(W 3-0) 25-23, 25-23, 25-19

District Final

Sterling vs. Hampton (W 3-0)

25-20, 26-24, 25-21

State Tournament (3rd Place)

Sterling vs. Mead (W 3-1)

27-29, 25-23, 26-24, 25-17

Sterling vs. Giltner (L 2-3)

23-25, 25-17, 23-25, 25-23, 12-15

Sterling vs. Betrand (W 3-0)

25-19, 28-26, 25-21

JV Lady Jet VB (12-7)

Sterling Tournament 1st Place (3-0)

Sterling vs. JCC (W 2-0)

25-15, 25-3

Sterling vs. Pawnee City (W 2-1)

23-25, 25-8, 15-1

Sterling vs. FCSH (W 2-0)

25-23, 25-23

Varsity Football (6-4)

1st Round Playoffs

Sterling 38 Scribner-Synder 26

2nd Round Playoffs

Wynot 50 Sterling 26

YEARBOOKS FOR SALE - \$45



GET THEM BEFORE JANUARY 31ST
AFTER THAT THEY GO UP TO \$50



Field Trip to the Strategic Air and Space Museum

The third, fourth, and fifth graders took a field trip to the Strategic Air and Space Museum this month. There were three rotations that each group got to participate in.

The math workshop was led by one of the employees of the SAC museum. She taught the students a lesson on probability. Each student got to create a spinner and a chart that they used to predict the probability of the spinner landing on certain colors which were also different sizes. After a few minutes of spinning, most students figured out that the probability is higher of landing on a colored piece that was larger in size. The objectives that were met in this lesson were learning about fractions, creating a device to predict probability, and graphing results.

The MATH ALIVE! exhibit was a chance for students to explore over 40 interactive math exhibits. The exhibits focused on many different math concepts such as graphing, shadows, robotics, music rhythms, developing skills to create a video game, and so much more! Students were able to race on bikes, race on snowboards, climb a rock wall, create video games, and control robots. This was a very fun way for the students to learn math!

Finally, the students were able to walk through the two hangars at the museum. Math was incorporated into this by having the students go on a scavenger hunt. Each airplane had a sign with information next to it. The students had to read the information, and find the dates that the airplane was in service for. Once they found the dates, they had to calculate how many years it was in service and then they were able to move on to the next airplane on their map. The students seemed to have enjoyed the history of these airplanes as they asked many great questions and were excited to see how large the airplanes were. The skills taught with the scavenger hunt were reading a map and subtracting dates.

The field trip to the SAC Museum was a great experience. Who knew math could be so fun?!





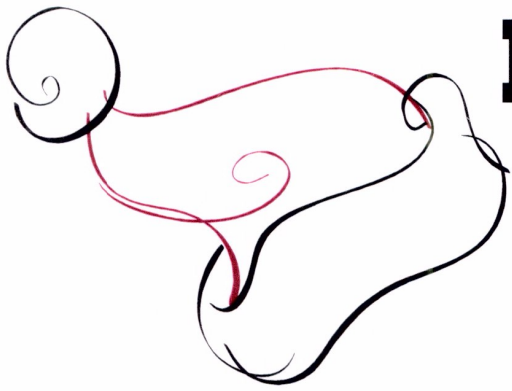
**Congratulations
On An
Outstanding
FALL!**



**GO
JETS!**

DECEMBER 2013 ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 This calendar is subject to change.	2 District One Act Play @ Meridian – 9 a.m. JH BBB @ Freeman Tournament 4 p.m.	3	4 One Act Play to Sr. Center – 12:15 p.m. JH BBB vs. Pawnee City 3 p.m. HOME	5 High School Christmas Concert (Small Groups) 7:30 p.m.	6 G/B Basketball @ FCSH 5 p.m. (Bjv, GV, BV) AWAY	7 Boys 9/10 BB @ HTRS Tourn. 9 a.m. G/B BB vs. Thayer Central 4 p.m. (GV, BV) HOME
8	9 School Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. in the Library	10 JH BBB @ Lewiston 1 p.m. AWAY G/B Basketball vs. Friend 4 p.m. HOME (Gjv, Bjv, GV, BV)	11 H.S. Choir to Sr. Center – 11:30 a.m. State One Act Play D2 @ Norfolk	12 JH BBB @ Falls City Tourn. 3:45 p.m. AWAY 9/10 JV Boys BB vs. Lincoln Christian 7 p.m. HOME	13 G/B Basketball @ Diller-Odell 4 p.m. AWAY (Gjv, Bjv, GV, BV)	14 ACT Test Date
15	16 JH SkillsUSA to Grand Island – 9 a.m. JH BBB @ Lewiston Tourn. 5:30 p.m. - AWAY Elementary Christmas Concert – 7:30 p.m.	17 G/B Basketball vs. Meridian 4 p.m. HOME (Gjv, Bjv, GV, BV)	18 Semester Finals JH BBB vs. Freeman 1 p.m. - HOME	19 Semester Finals High School Christmas Concert (Large Groups) 7:30 p.m.	20 Semester Finals EARLY DISMISSAL at 2:43 p.m. G/B Basketball vs. Pawnee City 3 p.m. HOME (Gjv, Bjv, GV, BV)	21
22	23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 Heartland Holiday Basketball Tournament @ Henderson 3 p.m.	28 Heartland Holiday Basketball Tournament @ Henderson 3 p.m.
Moratorium December 22-26th NO Practices or Competition						
29	30 NO SCHOOL G/B BBB @ Dorchester 4:15 p.m. AWAY (Gjv, Bjv, GV, BV)	31 NO SCHOOL	Jan. 1 NO SCHOOL	Jan. 2 NO SCHOOL	Jan. 3 NO SCHOOL	Jan. 4



DECEMBER 2013 MENUS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 B- WG Pancakes, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L-BBQ Rib Sandwich, ff and/or swt. ff, peas, fruit	3 B- Cereal, Toast, Fruit, milk L-Chicken Noodle Soup, pb & jelly sandwich, romaine lettuce salad, fruit	4 B- Donut, Yogurt or Cereal/Yogurt, juice, milk L-Nachos w/cheese sauce or bean dip, glazed carrots, celery w/peanut butter, fruit	5 B- Egg Taco or Cereal/Muffin, juice, milk L-Chicken Patty Sandwich, mashed potatoes w/gravy, corn, fruit	6 B- Sausage Gravy Over WG Biscuits or Cereal/WG Biscuits, juice, milk L-Goulash, green beans, wg tea rolls w/jelly, fruit
9 B-French Toast Sticks, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L-Tacos, green beans, celery w/peanut butter, fruit	10 B- Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast or Cereal/WG Toast, fruit, milk L-Submarines, corn, gelatin fruit	11 B- Garlic Cheese Toast or Cereal/WG Muffin, juice, milk L-Vegetable Beef Soup, romaine lettuce salad, wg cheese breadsticks, fruit	12 B- Cereal, WG Toast, fruit, milk L-Potato Bake, ham salad or tuna salad sandwich, string cheese, fruit	13 B-Toaster Pastry or Cereal/WG Muffin, juice, milk L-Ham Patty on WG Bun, tator gems or swt. tator gems, fruit
16 B-Breakfast Bar or Cereal/WG Muffin, juice, milk L-Chicken Fajita, peas, rice, fruit	17 B- Cereal, WG Toast, fruit, milk L-Spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread, fruit	18 B- WG Pancakes, Sausage or Cereal/Sausage, juice, milk L-Hamburger, ff and/or swt. ff, tomatoes, fruit	19 B- Donuts, Yogurt or Cereal/Yogurt, fruit, milk L-Roast Turkey, mashed potatoes w/gravy, corn, pumpkin bar, fruit	20 B- Omelet, WG Toast or Cereal/WG Toasts, juice, milk L-Hot Dogs on WG Bun, broccoli w/cheese, fruit
23 NO SCHOOL <i>Menus subject to change without notice. USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer</i>	24 NO SCHOOL <i>WG – whole grain Swt. ff – sweet potato ff</i>	25 NO SCHOOL Christmas Day	26 NO SCHOOL <i>Extra Whole Sandwich .90 Half a sandwich .45</i>	27 NO SCHOOL <i>All meals include half pint of milk and two kinds of vegetables.</i>



**STERLING
PUBLIC
SCHOOL**

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SUPERINTENDENT

MIKE DAVIS

K-12 PRINCIPAL

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

RYUN THEOBALD

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

JILL SHEA

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BRENT HEUSMAN

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Tradition of Excellence*



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