

STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MARCH 2016

SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Mr. Knippelmeyer



Board of Education Update: The Board of Education held its regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 15.

A summary of this meeting includes:

- The Board approved the following items:
- 2016-17 school calendar
- Pre-Kindergarten Sliding Fee Scale for 2016-17
- Principal Contract for 2016-17
- Driver's Ed. Fee's for Summer 2016 - \$225 per student
- Lunch/Breakfast prices for 2016-17 - all prices will remain the same for next year
- Peace Studio and Engineering Technologies were selected as the architect to work with for future master planning for facility needs. This is the same group the board worked with for the HVAC system in 2014.
- Teacher Resignation - Miss Wohlers is resigning her kindergarten teaching position, as she is getting married this summer and moving to Omaha. Congrats Miss Wohlers! Thank you for your service to Sterling Public Schools and our students and families this past year.

Gym Repair Updates: The tentative schedule for gym repairs is as follows. We again thank our teachers, parents, and community members for your patience and flexibility during this time. We know this is an inconvenience and we appreciate your understanding.

- Before March 13 - Old bleachers will be removed from the gym
- Beginning the Week of March 14 - insulation will be installed on the gym ceiling (10-14 days)
- Following the insulation project, the gym walls will be sealed and painted (2-3 days)
- Beginning the week of April 4 - gym floor sanding, painting and finishing will begin (2-3 weeks)
- Week of April 25 - new bleachers will be installed (5 days)
- Graduation - May 7 - After graduation, the floor company will come back and complete the finishing coats on the gym floor.

Pre-Kindergarten 2016-17: Information about our school-based pre-kindergarten program for 3- and 4-year-olds has been mailed to families that we have on our list, based on the 2015 Census report. If you have a child, or know of a child in our community that will be 3 or 4 years old by July 31, 2016, and they did not receive information about our school-based program, please contact Ryan Knippelmeyer in the school office for more information. Pre-Kindergarten round-up for students new to Sterling, or who are not currently attending our preschool program, will be March 18, from 9:15-10:30.

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
 Don't miss out on preserving all of the memories
 made here at Sterling Public Schools!

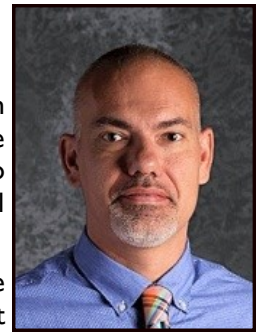


ACT TEST DATES 2015-16

Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
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:
 March 2 - April 6**

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL by Mr. Theobald



NeSA Testing Window. The annual NeSA testing window is March 21st to May 6th. Students in grades 3-8 and 11 will be testing in the content areas of reading, mathematics, and science. These assessments are a way to show not only what our students have learned, but also how they compare to other students across the state. Our students and teachers have been working hard all year to do well on these assessments, and as a school, we expect all of our students to perform at the highest level.

Progress Reports. It has been the practice for quite some time that weekly progress reports have been mailed home for students in grades 7-12 who are either failing, have missing work, or are not performing to the teacher's expectation. Starting 4th quarter, we are going to try and pilot the procedure of sending these reports via email. This will ensure that the progress reports make it home in a timely fashion as well as ensuring that they do in fact make it to their intended destination. Individual teachers will be sending the emails. Hopefully this will provide an opportunity for more communication between teachers and parents. If you do not have an email on file with the school, please contact us so that we may get that address into the system. We will continue to handle report cards and mid-quarter reports in the same way that we have always done.

Missoula Children's Theater. We have decided to cancel the Missoula Children's Theater for this year. This has been done to accommodate the timeline required to complete the repairs and upgrades to the gym. This was a difficult decision, but we need to make sure the gym is ready to go for our spring events, including Awards Night, graduation, and our music concerts. We are planning on scheduling the MCT for next school year.

Johnson County Spelling Bee Results. Congratulations to the following students for placing in the top three of their respective age division! **8th grade:** Amanda Tallant - 2nd place; **7th grade:** Emma Harms - 1st place and Kaitlyn Wusk - 3rd place; **6th grade:** Danielle Janssen - 1st place and Riley Vermeer - 2nd place; **5th grade:** John Janssen - 2nd place and Trenton Peery - 3rd place; **4th grade:** Lauren Harms - 1st place.

In the overall competition, Kaitlyn Wusk was the 1st place winner and Amanda Tallant was runner-up. Kaitlyn has now qualified for the Midwest Spelling Bee in Omaha on March 12th. Once again congratulations to all of our participants and placers for an outstanding job of representing Sterling!

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

GO JETS!!!

Dates to Remember...

- April 6-8: State FFA Convention
- April 7-9: State FBLA Convention
- April 16: Prom
- April 20-22: SkillsUSA Convention
- April 22-24: Spring Break
- May 2: Awards Night
- May 7: GRADUATION!!!
- May 20: Last Day Of School!!!

The 2nd Graders with some goodies they put in a care package for Rich Walters while he's deployed to the Persian Gulf! They also sent him some Valentines at the beginning of the month!

SPRING CLEANING?

Sterling Public Schools would be more than happy to take your used band polo off your hands!! Band members still wear the maroon and gold band polos for marching band and the HTRS Music Contest. If you would like to donate them to the school, please drop them off at the music room. Thank you in advance!



STERLING PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS: WE WANT YOU TO BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING APPS THAT KIDS MAY BE DOWNLOADING. PLEASE BE AWARE OF WHAT YOUR KIDS DO ON SOCIAL MEDIA BEFORE THEY PUT THEMSELVES IN A DANGEROUS SITUATION OR FIND THEMSELVES IN LEGAL TROUBLE.

We want you to be aware of the following apps and the cons that go along with them. The following apps might be a simple way for your child to keep in contact with his/her friends; however, even innocent use of most of these apps can land a child in a situation he/she never intended to be in. Here are some potentially dangerous apps that are popular among young people.

1. Tinder: An app that is used for hooking-up and dating. Users can rate profiles and find potential hook-ups via GPS location tracking. 450 million profiles are rated every day! The good news is, this app pulls information from user's Facebook profiles, so it is more authenticated than other apps.

Problem: It is easy for adults and minors to find one another. Also, due to the rating system, it is often used for cyber-bullying, because a group of kids can target another kid and purposefully make his/her rating go down.

2. Snapchat: This app allows a user to send photos and videos to anyone on his/her friend list. The sender can determine how long the receiver can view the image and then the image "destructs" after the allotted time.

Problem: It is the #1 app used for sexting, mostly because people think it is the safer way to sext. However, the "snaps" can easily be recovered and the receiver can take a screen shot and share it with others. Also, a lot of images from Snapchat get posted to revenge porn sites, called "snap porn."

3. Blindr: A flirting app used to meet new people through GPS location services. You can send messages, photos, videos, rate the hotness of other users, etc.

Problem: There are no authentication requirements, so sexual predators can contact minors, minors can meet up with adults. And again, the sexting.

4. Kik Messenger: An instant messaging app with over 100 million users that allows users to exchange videos, pics and sketches. Users can also send YouTube videos and create memes and digital gifs.

Problem: Kids using the app for sexting and sending nude selfies through the app is common. The term "sext buddy" is being replaced with "Kik buddy." Kids use Reddit and other forum sites to place classified ads for sex by giving out their Kik usernames. Also, Kik does not offer any parental controls and there is no way of authenticating users, thus making it easy for sexual predators to use the app to interact with minors.

5. Whisper: Whisper is an anonymous confession app. It allows users to superimpose text over a picture in order to share their thoughts and feelings anonymously. However, you post anonymously, but it displays the area you are posting from. You can also search for users posting within a mile from you.

Problem: Due to the anonymity, kids are posting pics of other kids with derogatory text superimposed on the image. Also, users do not have to register to use Whisper and can use the app to communicate with other users nearby through GPS. A quick look at the app and you can see that online relationships are forming through the use of this app, but you never know the person behind the computer or phone. Sexual predators also use the app to locate kids and establish a relationship. One man in Seattle, Wash., was charged with raping a 12-year-old girl he met on this app in 2013.

6. Ask.fm: Ask.fm is one of the most popular social networking sites that is almost exclusively used by kids. It is a Q&A site that allows users to ask other users questions while remaining anonymous.

Problem: Kids will often ask repeated derogatory questions that target one person. Due to the anonymity of the badgering, it creates a virtually consequence-free form of cyber-bullying. Ask.fm has been associated with nine documented cases of suicide in the U.S. and the U.K.

7. Yik Yak: An app that allows users to post text-only "Yaks" of up to 200 characters. The messages can be viewed by the 500 Yakkers who are closest to the person who wrote the Yak, as determined by GPS tracking.

Problem: Users are exposed to and are contributing sexually explicit content, derogatory language and personal attacks. Although the posts are anonymous, kids start revealing personal information as they get more comfortable with other users.

Continued on next page...

8. Poof: This app allows users to make other apps “disappear” on their phone. Kids can hide any app they don’t want you to see by opening the app and selecting other apps.

Problem: It’s obvious, right? Luckily, you can no longer purchase this app. But, if it was downloaded before it became unavailable, your child may still have it. Keep in mind that these types of apps are created and then terminated quickly, but similar ones are continuously being created. Others to look for: Hidden Apps, App Lock and Hide It Pro.

9. Omegle: This app is primarily used for video chatting. When you use Omegle, you do not identify yourself through the service. Instead, chat participants are only identified as “You” and “Stranger.” However, you can connect Omegle to your Facebook account to find chat partners with similar interests. When choosing this feature, an Omegle Facebook App will receive your Facebook “likes” and try to match you with a stranger with similar likes.

Problem: Sexual predators use this app to find kids to collect personal information from in order to track them down more easily in person.

10. Down: This app, which used to be called Bang With Friends, is connected to Facebook. Users can categorize their Facebook friends in one of two ways: They can indicate whether or not a friend is someone they’d like to hang with or someone they are “down” to hook-up with.

Problem: Although identifying someone you are willing to hook-up with doesn’t mean you will actually hook-up with them, it creates a hook-up norm within a peer group. Depending on your sexual values, this might be something you don’t want for your child. Also, because of the classification system, a lot of kids will feel left out or unwanted, which can lead to anxiety, etc.

Students who are first in their families to attend college are the focus of a special event hosted on March 30th by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. First-generation college students include any students whose parents have not attended a four year college.

The “I’m First Symposium” will provide your students information to help them attend college, allow them to meet other first generation students and show them why Nebraska is a great place to continue their education. Admission is free.

I’m First Symposium
 Wednesday, March 30, 2016
 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
 UNL

To register, go to: go.unl.edu/first



2016 STERLING HIGH TRACK SCHEDULE



<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Wed, March 23	Pioneer Indoor	Crete-Doane	9:30
Tues, March 29	Wilber-Clatonia Invite	Wilber	2:00
Wed, April 6	Mustang Invite	Friend	10:00
Tues, April 12	Lewiston Invite	Pawnee City	9:30
Tues, April 19	Irish Invite	Syracuse	9:30
Sat, April 23	MUDECAS	JCC	9:00
Tues, April 26	Pawnee City Invite	Pawnee City	3:00
Sat, April 30	Pioneer Conference	Pawnee City	9:00
Tues, May 3	Freeman Invite	Adams	9:00
Wed, May 11	Districts	Auburn	11:00
Fri/Sat, May 20-21	State Track Meet	Omaha	9:30/9:00



MARCH 19TH SCA 2016 BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Sterling Community Association

Come join us for a fun day of bowling, socializing, and entertainment. This event is for all ages and consists of teams of 4 with any combination of players. Food and drinks will be available for purchase throughout the day. The 9 pin tournament style play makes it fun and fair for all skill levels. Hope to see you there!

Contact Info:

Roy Goracke
rgbiv_30@yahoo.com or
402-429-7462

Please register your
4-person team by 3/18/16

Event Starts @ 12PM

At Harvest Bowl
in Tecumseh

4 Person Teams

\$30/Person

9 Pin Tournament Play

**Prizes Available
for the Winners!**



Sterling 5th & 6th grade students attended the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra's concert entitled Lemony Snicket's "The Composer is Dead" on Wednesday, February 17th at the Lied Center in Lincoln.



*Spring Forward on
Sunday, March 13, 2016!*

READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

DRESS UP DAYS

Feb 29-Mar 4, 2016

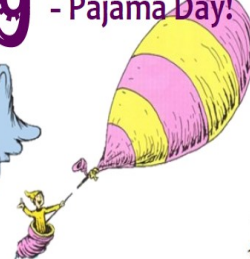


Monday - Hats Off to Dr. Seuss
Wear the craziest hat you can find!

Tuesday - Silly Sock Day!

Wednesday

Wacky/Dress like a Seuss character/Mustache Day!



THURSDAY - Stripes, Stripes, Stripes!

Friday - Pajama Day!



IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ADDED TO THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CONTACT RENAE KINNEY:
RKINNEY@STERLINGPUBLICSCHOOLS.COM



MARCH



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><i>Menus are subject to change without notice.</i></p> <p><i>Milk served with every meal.</i></p> <p><i>A variety of fruits and vegetables are offered with every meal.</i></p>	<p>1 B- WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Nachos w/ Cheese Sauce or Bean Dip, Green Beans, Celery w/ PB, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>2 B- Pancake & Sausage on a Stick OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Vegetable Beef Soup, Rom. Lettuce Salad, WG Cheese Breadstick, Pears</p>	<p>3 B- Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Peaches</p>	<p>4 B- Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Tuna Casserole, Peas, WG Muffin Square, Mixed Fruit</p>
<p>7 B- Breakfast Burrito OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Ham Patty on WG Bun, Green Beans, Tator Gems and/or Swt. Tator Gems, Pears</p>	<p>8 B- WG Waffle, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Waffle, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Tomato Soup, Rom. Lettuce Salad, WG Cheese Sandwich, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>9 B- WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Tacos, Corn, Celery w/ PB, Applesauce</p>	<p>10 B- Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuit, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Hamburger, FF and/or Swt. FF, Tomatoes, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p>11 B- Oatmeal OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Fish Nuggets, Peas, Coleslaw, Pineapple Tidbits</p>
<p>14 B- WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Green Beans, WG Breadsticks, Pears</p>	<p>15 B- Breakfast Pizza OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Fajita, Peas, Rice, Applesauce</p>	<p>16 B- Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Noodle Soup, PB&J Sandwich, Rom. Lettuce Salad, Peaches</p>	<p>17 B- Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Submarines, Corn, Gelatin, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p>18 B- French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Pizza, Peas, Black Bean Salad, Mixed Fruit</p>
<p>21 B- Egg Taco OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chili Soup, Rom. Lettuce Salad, WG Cinnamon Roll, Applesauce</p>	<p>22 B- WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Patty Sandwich, Green Beans, FF and/or Swt. FF, Peaches</p>	<p>23 B- WG Pancake, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Pancake, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, WG Dinner Roll w/ Jelly, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>24 B- Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Sloppy Joes, Peas, Baked Beans, Mixed Fruit</p>	<p>25 NO SCHOOL EASTER BREAK</p>
<p>28 NO SCHOOL EASTER BREAK</p>	<p>29 B- WG Waffle, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Waffle, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Chicken Gravy, WG Biscuit OR WG Bread, Peas, Peaches</p>	<p>30 B- WG Cereal, WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- French Dip Sandwich, Green Beans, Tator Gems and/or Swt. Tator Gems, Pears</p>	<p>31 B- Toaster Pastry, Sausage OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk L- Pork Patty on WG Bun, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Pineapple Tidbits</p>	<p><i>Alternate Entrée: Chef Salad</i></p> <p><i>USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</i></p>

march



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 28	29 Johnson-Brock JH GBB Tournament - 4PM 1st Day of Track Practice	March 1 District CDE Contest @ SCC-Beatrice	2 EARLY OUT - 1:37PM	3	4	5
6	7 Pioneer Conf. Speech Contest - Southern	8	9 END OF 3RD QUARTER	10	11	12
13	14 4th Grade Field Trip to State Capital & Morrill Hall	15 District Speech Contest @ McCool Junction	16	17 Pioneer Conf. HS Quiz Bowl - Neb. City Lourdes	18 HTRS MS Music Contest - Table Rock Kindergarten Round- Up NO SCHOOL PREK NO SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN	19
20	21 Capital Forum Pioneer Conf. JH Quiz Bowl - Diller/Odell SCHOOL BOARD MTG. -7:30PM	22 MUDECAS Music Contest @ Freeman Winter Academic NCPA All-State	23 Pioneer Conf. Indoor Track @ Doane - 9AM	24 State Speech Championships - C2/D1/D2 - Kearney	25 NO SCHOOL GOOD FRIDAY	26
27	28 EASTER NO SCHOOL EASTER BREAK	29 Wilber-Clatonia HS Track Invite - 2PM	30 MUDECAS HS Quiz Bowl @ Neb. City Lourdes - 10AM	31	April 1 Peru State Math Contest	2



STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Website: sterlingjets.org

Superintendent
Ryan Knippelmeyer

K-12 Principal
Activities Director
Ryun Theobald

Guidance Counselor
Jill Shea

Athletic Director
Brent Heusman



DON'T FORGET...

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| March 2 | EARLY OUT - 1:37PM |
| March 3-4 | Ag/Econ Trip |
| March 3-5 | Girls State Basketball |
| March 9 | End of 3rd Quarter |
| March 10-12 | Boys State Basketball |
| March 13 | DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS |
| March 14 | 4th Grade Field Trip to State Capital & Morrill Hall |
| March 18 | Kindergarten Round-Up
NO SCHOOL - PreK and Kindergarten |
| March 21 | SCHOOL BOARD MEETING |
| March 24 | State Speech Championships |
| March 25-28 | NO SCHOOL - Easter Break |



Stay up to date with all things JET related by going to the school website www.sterlingjets.org or our Facebook page!!!

Stay up to date with all things JET related by going to the school website: www.sterlingjets.org, our [Facebook](#) page, and for sports scores, follow us on Twitter: [@spsjetpride!!!](https://twitter.com/spsjetpride)