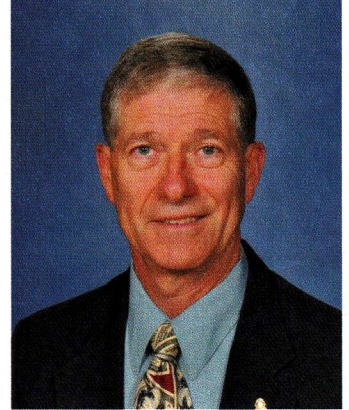


Superintendent's Notes

by Mike Davis

Elementary is the 2014 NeSA Math State Champions!

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



2013-2014 State of the Schools Report

Nebraska Performance Accountability (NePAS)

Elementary Grade-Level Configuration (Grades 3-5)

Indicator Type	Indicator	District Results	State Results	Rank	# of Ranked Districts
Status	Average NeSA Reading	128.09	117.77	38	248
	Average NeSA Math	142.75	111.95	1	248
	Average NeSA Science	121.36	106.49	56	225
	Average NeSA Writing	44.50	43.13	83	223

As you can see Sterling Elementary (grades 3-5) rank **FIRST out of 248 school districts in Nebraska!** This is a result of great teaching staff and the curriculum, Math Expressions. In Reading, 38th place puts Sterling Elementary in the top 15% in the State. At 56th in Science, Sterling is in the top 25% and in Writing, 83rd is in the top 37%.

School District (Grades 3-12)

Indicator Type	Indicator	District Results	State Results	Rank	# of Ranked Districts
Status	Average NeSA Reading	126.61	117.58	39	249
	Average NeSA Math	130.74	108.45	4	249
	Average NeSA Science	119.11	104.97	26	249

Sterling is 4th in all the grades tested (3-8 and 11) in the NeSA Math! In NeSA Science, Sterling placed 26th or in the top 10% and in NeSA Reading 39th place or in the top 15%.

NeSA is the Nebraska State Assessment given to all Nebraska students in grades 3-5, 6-8, and 11 in the spring each year. NePAS is the Nebraska Performance Accountability System and ranks school districts by their students' average scale scores on state tests.

Superintendent's Notes continued...

Welcome TammyLee Fatino, School Secretary

Please help us in welcoming TammyLee Fatino to our school district! Currently, she lives by Palmyra with her husband Joe Becker and their seven children, ages 2-23 years. TammyLee grew up the Kansas City, Missouri area and through the years has spent many summers at the Lake of the Ozarks boating, fishing, and skiing. TammyLee has owned a personal training studio and a sports nutrition business and was in the industry for over 20 years. She was instrumental in opening a TGIFriday's in Omaha and worked there as Supervisor and Marketing Manager. Her interests include bow hunting, fishing, weightlifting/body building, and photography. TammyLee is a member of Christ Place Church in Lincoln. She is looking forward to being a part of the Sterling school and community!

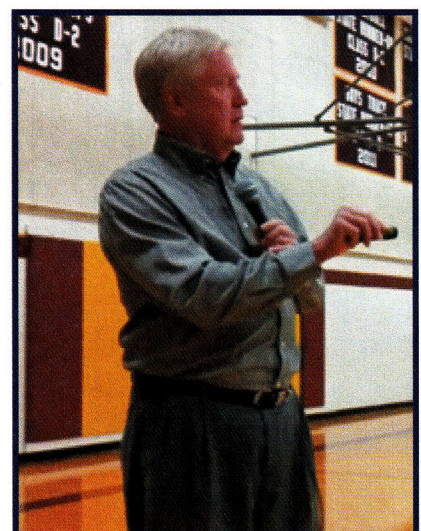


Welcome Maria Sterkel to our Custodial Staff

Maria Sterkel joined the custodial staff at Sterling Public Schools in September. She works part-time and her hours are from 4:30 to 8:30 PM. Maria's full-time job is with Tenneco in Lincoln as a quality control supervisor, where she has been employed for the past 12 years. Maria is the mother of three children, Carolina, Wendolyn, and Diego, and grandmother to Isabel, 10 and Bronx, 4. Maria is also a member of Christ Place Church in Lincoln.

Randy Nadler Takes Our Students on a Trip to Germany

On October 9th, the Student Council sponsored a guest speaker for the students. Randy Nadler, who has been visiting schools for many years, presented a slideshow of his trip to Germany. Mr. Nadler visits a different country each summer, learns what he can about their lifestyle, landmarks, and culture, and then shares his knowledge with students in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Some of the main highlights of Mr. Nadler's trip were the Cuckoo clock maker and his house; the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Mary; Adolf Hitler's house on the hill, known as the Eagle's Nest; and the famous castle Neuschwanstein, which has over two million visitors each year. Cologne, Bayer aspirin, hamburger, and brats are some of the items that Germany is credited for originating. Mr. Nadler pointed out that the sign in the picture with the letters "WC" is very important because it stands for "Water Closet." The technology in his presentation is better, but he still opens with the country's flag and closes with a sunset picture. Thank you Student Council for bringing in Mr. Nadler to share his trip to Germany; the students loved it!



From the Principal's Desk

by Ryun Theobald

We have now successfully made it one-quarter the way through the school year. The weather cannot seem to figure out what month we are in, but as we live in Nebraska, we would be foolish to expect anything different. We are now mostly settled in with our staff and students, so I expect nothing but the best for our district. With that being said, I would like to highlight some items. In particular, please take note of item number 1 below as we all should be proud and excited for our students and staff on what they have accomplished.



1. NePAS Scores. The Nebraska Department of Education is in its third year of including NePAS (Nebraska Performance Accountability System) data in the State of the Schools Report. In simplest terms, NePAS is a way to rank schools across the state using NeSA scores and graduation rates. The graduation rates will not be released until early November. Below is a chart that shows how we rank compared to the other districts in the state, for both this year and last year. I have also included our ranking change over the past two years. Please keep in mind that this is a comparison of all public schools across the state, regardless of size. You may also go to the NDE website, <http://www.education.ne.gov/>, and access the State of the Schools report for Sterling, which provides a more detailed breakdown. In that report, you will also see two other rankings, one for improvement and one for growth. Improvement is comparing different students in the same grade for back to back years. Growth is comparing the same students in back to back years. As a district we view this data as important, but also realize that it is a one-shot picture of our achievement.

As you look at our results, you can see that we have made vast improvements in our scores. In fact, we are STATE CHAMPIONS in grades 3-5 Math. We also did very well across the board in all other areas. When you have success, one of the things we do is look at what we have done differently to get the result that we have achieved. It is tough to pin down exactly what caused the change, but I would suggest a few items that we have done and will continue to work on to be successful. Those factors include: (1) we are now in year three of our new elementary math series, (2) we are also in year three of our RtI (Response to Intervention) process for reading in the elementary and (3) throughout the building, we made a concerted effort to challenge our students to be competitive with these assessments.

Finally, as a way to recognize our outstanding accomplishments, we are going to hold a recognition assembly on November 5th beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the gymnasium. The public is invited and welcome to attend.

Elementary (Grades 3-5)

	Reading	Math	Science (grade 5)	Writing (grade 4)
2012-13	130 out of 249	72 out of 249	90 out of 225	9 out of 223
2013-14	38 out of 248	1 out of 248	56 out of 225	83 out of 223
Ranking Change	+ 92	+ 71	+ 34	- 74

Continued on the next page

From the Principal's Desk continued...

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

	Reading	Math	Science (grade 8)	Writing (Grade 8)
2012-13	179 out of 249	76 out of 249	33 out of 228	NA
2013-14	53 out of 249	31 out of 249	82 out of 224	NA
Ranking Change	+ 126	+ 45	- 49	NA

High School (Grades 9-12)

	Reading	Math	Science (Grade 11)	Writing (Grade 11)
2012-13	170 out of 229	150 out of 228	133 out of 228	NA
2013-14	85 out of 230	50 out of 230	9 out of 230	NA
Ranking Change	+ 85	+ 100	+ 124	NA

Overall (Grades 3-12)

	Reading	Math	Science	Writing
2012-13	166 out of 249	95 out of 249	71 out of 249	NA
2013-14	39 out of 249	4 out of 249	26 out of 249	NA
Ranking Change	+ 127	+ 91	+ 45	NA

2. Veteran's Day Program. Sterling Public Schools will be holding their annual Veteran's Day Program on Tuesday, November 11th. The program will be held in the gymnasium beginning at 9:15 a.m. The guest speaker for the program will be Sarah Bredthauer. The program is open to the public and I encourage everyone to attend if you are available.

3. Pioneer Conference Vocal Clinic. Sterling Public Schools will be hosting half of the Pioneer Conference Schools for a vocal clinic on Monday, November 10th. Approximately 140 students from six schools will spend the afternoon working with a guest clinician and then show off what they learned in a public performance beginning at 7:00 p.m. In addition to the group concert, each individual school will perform a vocal selection. One final reminder for this day is that we will not have school for elementary students.

4. Concerts and Programs. Please mark your calendars for our Holiday Concerts. The high school small group performance will be on December 8th. The elementary program will be on December 11th and the high school large group concert will be on December 18th. All three of these events will start at 7:30 p.m.

From the Principal's Desk continued...

5. **Semester Tests.** I know it seems like a long time away, but students in grades 7-12 will have semester tests on Dec. 17th, 18th and 19th. The actual testing schedule will be shared with students once we get closer to these dates. We will also post this information on the school website.

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



Pink Out for Breast Cancer raised approx. \$350 through the bake sale and t-shirt sales!!!

If you need anything added to the Newsletter, contact Renae Kinney: rkinney@sterlingpublicschools.com

PHONE LIST

High School

John Cockerill	106
Brent Heusman	114
Stan Karr	108
Renae Kinney (library)	107
Makenzie Koncaba	122
Jodi Krause	121
Stan Raetz	118
Angel Renninger	120
Chris Salberg	141
Michelle Salberg	116
Jill Shea	113
Freedom Steele	117
Sandy Weyers	123
Arlo Wusk	124

Administration

Mike Davis	102
Ryun Theobald	103

Office

Tammy Lee Fatino	100
Stephanie Parde	101

Elementary

Jenna Garton - PreK	134
Jennifer Clark - K	140
Sara Hier - 1st	119
Tammy McAuliffe - 2nd	105
Erin Mackey - 3rd	104
Jordan Schardt - 4th	109
Kate Agena - 5th	112
Luke Boldt - 6th	111
Harold Richardson	115

Kitchen/Denise	126
-----------------------	------------

If you are wanting to speak to the secretary, press 0 or 100.

From the Desk of the Athletic Director

by Brent Heusman

Varsity Football (1-7)

Pawnee City 30 Sterling 22
Exeter-Milligan 52 Sterling 14
NE City Lourdes 38 Sterling 8
Parkview Christian 62 Sterling 34
Johnson-Brock 66 Sterling 44
Sterling 58 Lewiston 8
Falls City SH 74 Sterling 16
Meridian 66 Sterling 34

JV Football (1-4)

Johnson-Brock 32 Sterling 22
Pawnee City 28 Sterling 18
Falls City SH 22 Sterling 12
Diller-Odell 26 Sterling 16
Sterling 36 NE City Lourdes 16

Junior High Football (3-2)

Sterling 44 HTRS 6
Sterling 52 Pawnee City 0
Southern-Lewiston 48 Sterling 30
Sterling 72 NE City Lourdes 14
Diller-Odell 26 Sterling 8

Junior High Volleyball (7-7)

Sterling vs. NE City Lourdes (L 1-2) 25-12, 22-25, 4-15
Sterling vs. Freeman (L 1-2) 4-25, 25-22, 13-15

Freeman Tournament (0-2)

Sterling vs. Freeman (L 0-2) 23-25, 20-25
Sterling vs. Johnson Brock (L 0-2) 21-25, 16-25

Sterling vs. Lewiston (W 2-0) 25-9, 25-13
Sterling vs. Diller-Odell (W 2-0) 25-8, 25-14

Lewiston Tournament (2-1)

Sterling vs. Falls City SH (L 1-2) 25-20, 15-25, 13-15
Sterling vs. Lewiston (W 2-0) 25-3, 25-13
Sterling vs. JCC (W 2-0) 25-5, 25-14

Sterling vs. Pawnee City (W 2-1) 22-25, 25-12, 15-13

Omaha Brownell Talbot Tournament (1-2)

Sterling vs. Omaha BT (L 2-1) 24-26, 25-16, 15-17
Sterling vs. Mead (W 2-1) 25-12, 16-25, 15-10
Sterling vs. Lincoln Christian (L 0-2) 13-25, 17-25

Sterling vs. Johnson Brock (W 2-0) 25-15, 25-13

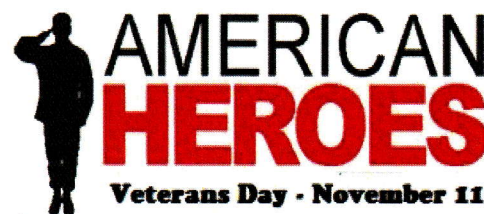


VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

A Veterans Day program will be held on Tuesday, November 11th at 9:15 a.m. in the Sterling School Gym. The community is invited to attend. All local Veterans, American Legion Members and the Sterling Women's Auxiliary Members will be honored. Guest speaker for the program will be Master Sergeant Sarah Bredthauer. Master Sergeant Bredthauer joined the United States Air Force in October of 2000 and is currently assigned to the 155th Civil Engineering Squadron of the 155th Air Refueling Wing, Nebraska Air National Guard, in Lincoln, Nebraska. Sarah is a former graduate of Sterling High School.

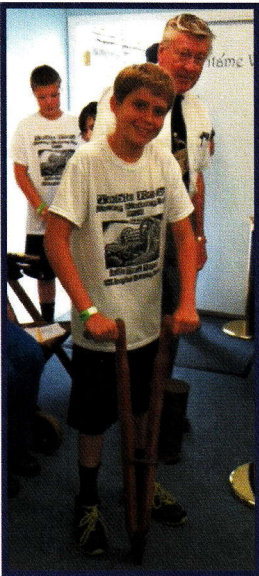
*Refreshments and social time will be held in the school cafeteria beginning at 8:45 a.m. until the start of the program.

We will have a photo display of military members in their uniforms. If you have a picture of yourself or a relative that you would like to display please bring it along. We ask that the pictures be in frames with a label naming the person in the picture. Be sure to put your name on the back so that the picture can be successfully returned to you.



Living History Day 2014

On September 29, 2014 the 5th and 6th grades had the privilege of going to Living History Day in Table Rock. The students had several demonstrations: the Steam Engine, Country School & Log Cabin, Vets, Stehlik Tours, Marble



Maker, Print Shop, Otto Rosfeld, The Blacksmith, and David Seay.

One of the students' favorite was the Marble Maker, because he melted glass with a torch, put several different colors of glass in a marble, and used a mold to actually make the marble. He sells them at the hobby store in Beatrice. He makes several different sizes. The students especially liked the musical

demonstrations. Otto Rosfeld played a song on an old washboard, using thimbles on his fingers. David Seay played several different types of instruments made out of objects that made it quite

interesting. He had penny whistle, a bugle made out of a yak horn, a bow string made from horse hair and a wooden stick, a carpenter saw which he used the bow string on, and a harmonica. The blacksmith was very intriguing and smelled a lot like coal. He made several different objects. The students wanted me to buy a snake that he made as a class pet. That is the closest they would get to a snake in my room. The Print Shop had our very own Mr. Salberg as a presenter. He showed the students how an old newspaper press worked, and told them the story of the owner who left one night and never made it back. The Print Shop is in the exact way he left it the night he died. Mr. Salberg did an excellent job, and the students enjoyed having someone from our school presenting.

We had several parents go with us, which was great because we were all split in different groups. We really appreciate them helping us out! Thanks again to Ria, Nicole, Mark, and Rebecca, and to Gary for getting us there and back safely!!!! We all had a beautiful day.



Ms. Kate and Mr. Boldt



Order your 2014-15

“We Were There”

YEARBOOK today

for only \$50.00!

**Contact Mrs. Koncaba
at school!!!**



4th Graders Celebrate Pioneer Days

The Sterling 4th Grade ventured to Homestead National Monument of America and Filley Stone Barn on Thursday, October 2nd to participate in Pioneer Days with the area 4th graders. A rainy morning brought about altered plans for the activities at the Homestead National Monument. Some of the activities that the 4th graders were able to learn about and participate in were: spinning, quilting, pioneer toys, clothes washing, and learning about animals on the prairie. From Beatrice, we departed to the Filley Stone Barn.

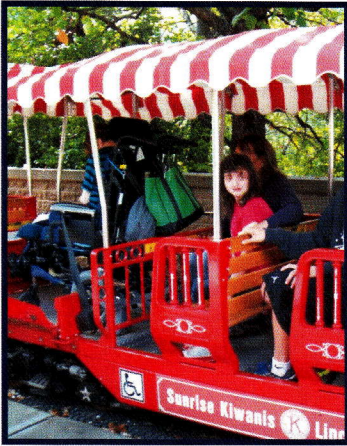


The afternoon was filled with exploring the inside of the Filley Stone Barn, learning about blacksmiths, playing the string game called 'cat's cradle,' and watching how marbles are made. This field trip was an introduction to what we will be learning about in the near future while studying Nebraska this year!



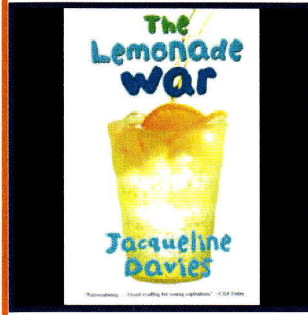
Ms. Schardt





The Learning Center Visits the Lincoln Zoo

Devon L. and Jaeden P. enjoyed a day at the Lincoln Zoo on October 1st with the rest of the students from The Learning Center.



The Lemonade War- One School, One Book

The Elementary students will read assigned chapters as a family at home throughout the course of the next two months. Every Friday, the students will then have a chance at answering comprehension questions about the assigned chapters for that week.

It is encouraged that you make it a routine to read the assigned chapters as a family each week. There may be surprises along the way, so make sure to stay caught up on the assigned reading!

LEMONADE WAR READING SCHEDULE

Please have the scheduled chapters read by THURSDAY NIGHT of each week. Comprehension questions will be asked on Friday Mornings.

Week of October 27th-31st

Chapter 1 Pages 1-10 (Will be read at school together)

Chapter 2 Pages 11-26

Week of November 3rd-7th

Chapter 3 Pages 27-40

Chapter 4 Pages 41-58

Week of November 10th-14th

Chapter 5 Pages 59-66

Chapter 6 Pages 67-86

Week of November 17th-21st

Chapter 7 Pages 87-100

Chapter 8 Pages 101-121

Week of November 24th-28th (Questions will be on Wednesday morning due to Thanksgiving break)

Chapter 9 pages 122-128

Week of December 1st-5th

Chapter 10 Pages 128-142

Chapter 11 Pages 143-152

Week of December 8th-12th

Chapter 12 Pages 152-154

Chapter 13 Pages 155-160

Chapter 14 Pages 161-173



We are pleased to announce that the TeamMates program at Sterling Schools has started! The TeamMates program establishes a one-on-one mentoring experience during school hours. The TeamMates board of directors will make "matches" that consist of one adult mentor and one mentee. Once the match is made, the mentor comes to the school once a week for an hour (this time can be split). It is up to the mentor what they would like to do during that time with their mentee. The list is long, but here are some things that they could do: read, play games, have discussions about their week, help with homework, work on an IPads, and so on. The list is endless! The mentor will NOT be allowed to work with the student outside of the school setting.

Sterling is starting the program with 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. If your child is interested in having a mentor, please fill out the Youth Nomination form and the parent

permission form that can be obtained from Mrs. Mackey or Ms. Shea!

We are looking for adults in the community who would like to mentor our kids here at Sterling! A mentor needs to be someone in the community who is older than 18 years old. Background checks are mandatory and are funded by the school. Mentors need to donate one hour of time each week to spend with their mentee. Are you ready to change a child's life?! If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please fill out the mentor application. 4th-6th graders took that application home with them in their packet. If you don't have a child in those grades but would like to be a mentor, please visit with Jill Shea or Erin Mackey to get an application!

We are excited to get this program started here at Sterling! If you would like more information about the program or have questions, please contact Jill Shea or Erin Mackey and we would be happy to assist you!

Jill:
jshea@sterlingpublicschools.com

Erin:
emackey@sterlingpublicschools.com



HOMECOMING 2014



Candidates: Nathan Thies, Becky Williams, King Paxton Donovan, Queen Jazzy Eickhoff, Tanner Shea, and Meri Hietbrink - Crown Bearers: Joie Janssen and Owen Uher



Class Attendants: Juniors: Haylee Boldt and Josh Masur; Sophomores: Sydney Goracke and Austin Buss; Freshmen: Heidi Eckhardt and Ben Hier

Students of the Month: September Tanner Shea & Malayna Wingert

Pumpkin Patch Field Trip 2014

