



# STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

### Superintendent's Message from Mrs. Dottie Heusman

Happy New Year! The second semester will start on Thursday, January 3, 2018. As the New Year starts I am sure that most of you will make some New Year's resolutions. I would challenge all of you to "Resolve to Raise a Reader!" What does that entail?

Read every day. Encourage your child to read for 20 minutes every day. This can be you reading to your child, your child reading to you, or sharing the reading with your child. High school kids can read too! Encourage them to read a book just for pleasure! Maybe do a mini book club at home. Make a family reading time each night!

Now the second resolution I would like you to help your child achieve is to, "Be Kind"

Kindness takes such little effort! Not being kind can be exhausting! Remind your child that playing with everyone at recess is a good thing to do. Talking to friends and really listening to him or her is a good thing to do. Sitting down beside someone at lunch and including him or her is a good thing to do. Saying hello to everyone is a good thing to do. Giving compliments is a good thing to do. We should throw kindness like confetti to all! Everyone has a job of making this world a better place. **#bekind**

### Board of Education News for December 2018

The Board of Education met for its regular monthly meeting on December 17, 2018. Board Members Agena, Harms, Hestermann, Horstman, Vollman and Wirthele were all present. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dottie Heusman, Principal Scott Harrington, Transportation Director Brent Heusman, and Guidance Counselor Addie Heusman. Stan Karr and Kevin McAuliffe were also in attendance. They will be sworn in as board members at the January meeting. They will be replacing Lois Agena and Mike Hestermann.

Items that were discussed during the meeting included:

- Galen Boldt, Interim Superintendent at JCC presented information to the board about the public meetings he has been conducting with the JCC communities.
- During the Public Comment section of the meeting Connie Nemec addressed the board about board policy 5006. Kirsten McAuliffe representing the Sterling Zoning Committee shared information about a possible zoning change.
- Jeff Deline Accountant at Dana Cole presented information to the board about the 2017-2018 school year financial audit. The board accepted the document during action items.
- Commendations were given to Mr. Derrick Gossard for his work with the Pep Band, Band, and Music students this year. Volleyball and football athletes that received honors were also recognized.
- Superintendent Heusman's Contract was renewed for the 2019-2020 school year.
- The board had first reading on the Wellness Policy (5417 & 5417AR).
- Annually the board also reviews policy 5006 Option Enrollment. First reading was held for this policy.
- The Board presented outgoing board members Hestermann and Agena with a clock for their dedication to the students at Sterling Public Schools.

The Board is holding a retreat on Wednesday, January 16. This meeting will be facilitated by Marcia Herring from the Nebraska Association of School Boards organization. The board will be looking at goal setting during this meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, January 21, 2018 @ 7:30 p.m. in the Media Center at Sterling Public School.



# From the Principal's Desk by Mr. Harrington

## Parent-School Communication...

We find that students are most successful when parents and teachers work together. The next day for Parent-Teacher Conferences is around the corner on February 7th. Parent-teacher conferences give you the chance to find out how your child(ren) are doing in class. You can try the following tips to get the most out of conferences:

### ● Before Conferences

- Prepare a list of question to take along and ask. Examples include: “What should my child know or be able to do by the end of the year?” “How does my child get along with or interact with their peers and adults?” “Do you have any concerns about my child ?”
- Feel free to share any information that might help teachers understand your child. You could share, strengths, weaknesses, hobbies, and interests (video games, music, movies, TV shows).
- Also consider sharing any personal news or changes that could be happening at home that may be affecting your child (i.e. a death in the family or pet, moving to a new house, etc.).

### ● During Conferences

- Make notes so you can remember points to share with your child or to follow up on later.
- Listen carefully to the teacher and then mention your most important concern first in case time runs out or you get to talking about different subjects/topics.
- Ask for guidance or resources on how you can help your child be successful.
- If you need more time, ask the teacher if you could schedule another meeting or maybe a phone call or email.

### ● After Conferences

- Be sure to talk to your child(ren) about what the teacher said.
- Be sure to include both compliments, as well as, areas to improve.
- Feel free to follow up with the teacher as needed for further clarification or resources or to simply check your child's progress. As always, a great place to check for child's progress is through our online learning management systems. Whether it be Class Dojo, Bloomz, SeeSaw, or Google Classroom, the teachers are constantly updated their platforms with tons of great information.

Be sure to subscribing to the girl's and boy's basketball YouTube channels so you can easily find the link to our live streams. You can subscribe to the girl's channel by going to <https://bit.ly/2FxFTSQ>. You can subscribe to the boy's channel by going to <https://bit.ly/2Kl9YZI>. As always, you can follow all of the school happenings by liking the school's Facebook page and by following us on twitter at the handle @spsjetpride. If you have a question on anything, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school or talk to me at school events. Go Jets!

**Parents:** Weather permitting, elementary students will be going outside for recess on days when the temperature and wind chill are above 20 degrees. Please help your child dress appropriately with layers as needed. Gloves or mittens, scarves, boots, hats, etc. should be sent to school each day. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

## BASKETBALL THEME NIGHTS

1/4 vs. HTRS - Gold Out

1/15 vs. OCA - Neon

1/25 vs. Lewiston - Color Quarter



## SENIORS...

- ❑ If you have not already done so, please complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using the FSA ID you created during our Apply2College Event.
  - ❑ Both you and your parent will need an FSA ID that can be created at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov). You'll need it to access and sign the FAFSA. [Click here](#) for instructions.
  - ❑ Review the [FAFSA Checklist](#) for a list of items to gather before you start the form.
  - ❑ Complete the FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov).
  - ❑ For free help with the FAFSA, see FAFSA Tools at EducationQuest.org or call EducationQuest to make an appointment: Omaha – 888.357.6300, Lincoln – 800.303.3745
- ❑ **Make yourself aware of scholarship deadlines at the colleges you have applied at.**
- ❑ Retake the ACT if the college(s) you are considering will still accept your score.
- ❑ See ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org for Nebraska-based scholarships and a list of national search sites. More scholarships are added each month. Local Scholarship information will be coming in late January or early February.

**2018-2019 ACT Dates...** Register at [actstudent.org](https://actstudent.org). School Code: 282-240

TEST DATE	FEB 9	APR 13	JUNE 8	JUL 13
<u>Registration Deadline</u>	JAN 11	MAR 8	MAY 3	JUN 14
<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>	JAN 18	MAR 25	MAY 20	JUN 24

## College Access...

- ❑ Some of you may remember that I applied for and received a College Access Grant from Education Quest for the next four years. This grant money is used to help students gain access to college visits and resources that might otherwise not have funding. Some of our visits we have been on are class visits and others are optional based on student interests. The visits included SCC Milford's Career Construction day, an Educational Planning Program in Beatrice, Doane College, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Nebraska Wesleyan University, SCC Lincoln Health programs, Bryan School of Nursing, Peru State College, and Northwest Missouri State University. Some of the highlights of our tours were the stadium visit at UNL, hearing directly from instructors about their respective programs at SCC, seeing the plasticized bodies at Bryan Health, listening to the Dean's speak at Peru State, and student's experiencing first time college visits along the way. If you have had a student that has been fortunate enough to go on one of these visits, it would be worthwhile to have a conversation with them about their experience. More trips are planned for this Spring.





## Hope Begins With You by Dr. Evi Wusk

"It just feels so good to give," she says as she walks over to the food table, the band-aid and cotton covering where had just minutes before been a needle in her arm. Something about this comment catches me off guard. "Really," I think. "Good?"

I've helped with blood drives twice as the sponsor of our National Honor Society, but each time I'm struck by members of our community who show up again and again as if donating blood were as normal as brushing their teeth.

Through each drive as person after person comes in, I can't help but wonder, "Why? Why do you give?"

And for most of these people I will never know. Some give because they can. Some even a double donation, their bodies hearty and strong. Others give in honor of a person they loved and miss. Still others give simply because one of our National Honor Society students asked them or because they had the time.

Sort of like Nebraska's new travel slogan, Giving Blood is "not for everyone," but for the people it is for, it matters.

I don't understand it, but it is something to see as community member after community member comes together to give back for reasons as different as the donors themselves.

So whatever your reason. . . **thank you** to all who donate in our Sterling school blood drives. Our Red Cross Coordinator recently sent a note to encourage us saying **this last drive was the highest donation with 50+ units for the first time since 2015**. Small Town Big heart. Thanks.

### How do I give?

Next Drive: 12 Noon to 6:00 PM

January 17, 2019

Sterling High School Gym

Contact Evi Wusk at 402-419-3011 or visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) and enter: SterlingNE to schedule an appointment.

By donating at this drive not only are you helping save lives, but you are also helping the high school earn a scholarship for graduating seniors.



**American  
Red Cross**

**The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give blood.™**



# Featured Staff Member - Mr. Zach Lempka

Mr. Zach Lempka is our new 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, assistant football coach, and assistant boys basketball coach! In case you don't know Mr. Lempka, here are some facts to keep you in the loop... Zach is a former graduate of Sterling Public Schools who attended college at Peru State. His favorite movies are *Tommy Boy*, *Dumb & Dumber*, and *Remember the Titans*. Zach's favorite class to teach is Math because: "It will be a skill every student will need in his or her life. It's a fun subject to relate to in the real world." If he weren't a teacher, Zach would be a Paramedic/Firefighter: "I have always enjoyed helping a person in need." His top two favorite television shows are *The Office* and *Impractical Jokers*.

We're very happy that you came back to Jet Country, Zach!



Mr. Lempka in action on the sideline!

## 2018 FOOTBALL AWARDS

### Pioneer All-Conference

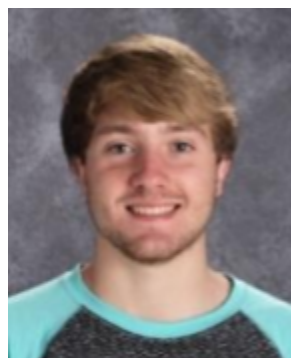
- ★ 1st Team Defense - Punter - Logan Jasa
- ★ 2nd Team Defense - Return Specialist - Tristan Dirks
- ★ Honorable Mention Offense - Tristan Dirks
- ★ Honorable Mention Defense - Logan Jasa

### All-District

- ★ 1st Team Offense - Tristan Dirks, Kaleb Masur
- ★ 1st Team Kicker - Logan Jasa
- ★ 1st Team Defense - Logan Jasa
- ★ 2nd Team Offense - Trace Dirks
- ★ 2nd Team Punter - Logan Jasa
- ★ Honorable Mention Offense - Cameron VanGroningen

### All State

- ★ Honorable Mention Offense - Logan Jasa, Kaleb Masur
- ★ Honorable Mention Defense - Logan Jasa



Logan Jasa



Tristan Dirks



Cameron VanGroningen



Kaleb Masur



## Featured Staff Member - Mrs. Laura Goracke

Mrs. Laura Goracke is the new Science teacher, assistant volleyball coach, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade sponsor here at SPS. Here's the inside scoop on Mrs. Goracke... After she graduated from Nemaha Valley in Cook, Ne, Laura received her undergrad degree from UNL and her graduate from Concordia University. Her family consists of her husband, Darrin and three children: Cardin (10), Kinlee (7), and Chaynee (1). Laura's favorite movies are *Tombstone*, *Last of the Mohicans*, and *McClintock*. Her favorite television show is *Yellowstone*. Laura loves shopping anywhere but she often finds herself spending her money at Barnes and Noble, Dillards, and Banana Republic. If she could have one superpower it would be the ability to change her appearance at will.

"I would love the ability to reinvent myself that quickly." Prior to being a teacher Laura wanted to be an Orthopedic Surgeon. Now if she wasn't teaching (which she loves), she would like to be a Genetic Counselor. If we have a day off from school, you could find Laura hanging out with her family. They enjoy shopping, dining out, reading, or anything Harry Potteresque!

Welcome to the Jet Family, Laura. We're glad to have you at Sterling Public Schools!



## Featured Staff Member - Mrs. KT Saathoff

Mrs. KT Saathoff is our new Special Education teacher and head volleyball coach here at her alma mater! Here are some more interesting facts about KT... She's yet another graduate of Peru State College who came home. KT's family consists of her husband, head boys basketball coach Andy Saathoff and twins: Luke and Braely. Current teacher Mrs. Salberg and former teacher Mr. Salberg are her parents; she also has a brother Jese and sister Brielle. KT's favorite class is Math, she LOVED it and still does, "I'm nerdy like that!" If she could have one super power, it would be to fly. KT also loves to watch the television show *Beat Shazam*. If she has the day off from school, KT might be playing volleyball, hanging out with her crazy family, or going to the movies.

We're very happy that you also came back to Jet Country, KT!

### 2018 VOLLEYBALL AWARDS

#### Pioneer All-Conference

- ★ 2nd Team - Nicole Harms
- ★ 3rd Team - Morgan Haner
- ★ Honorable Mention - Malayna Wingert

#### Lincoln Journal Star

- ★ Honorable Mention: Nicole Harms,  
Morgan Haner, Colby Thies, Ella Wingert

#### Omaha World Herald

- ★ Honorable Mention - Carly Wenzl



Morgan Haner, Nicole Harms, Carly Wenzl, Malayna Wingert



Colby Thies



Ella Wingert



# POWERSCHOOL CHANGES - AUTOMATED MESSAGING UPDATE

PowerSchool has updated the way it sends messages to parents. **If you are not receiving messages and would like to sign-up for messages and alerts, please use this information to help.**

To receive alerts from PowerSchool, please follow these steps.

- Log in to PowerSchool at [sterling.nebps.org/public](http://sterling.nebps.org/public) using your login information. If you need login information, please contact the office or Addie Heusman.
- Click on "SwiftReach SwiftK-12"

PowerSchool Powerschool | Help | Sign

Alerting

SwiftReach SwiftK12

Navigation

Grades and Attendance

Missing Assignments

Grade History

Attendance History

Email Notification

Teacher Comments

School Bulletin

Class Registration

Balance

### Grades and Attendance:

Grades and Attendance Standards Grades

Exp	Last Week					This Week					Attendance By Class				Absences	Tardies	
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F	Course						
	Q1	Q2	S1	Y1													
AM(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1st AM Attendance Email Phillips, Leah - Rm: 1st					0	0
PM(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1st PM Attendance Email Phillips, Leah - Rm: 1st					0	0
4(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	LangArts 1 Email Phillips, Leah - Rm: 1st		[1]		[1]	0	0
5(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Math 1 Email Phillips, Leah - Rm: 1st		[1]		[1]	0	0
7(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Science 1 Email Phillips, Leah - Rm: 1st					0	0
8(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Social Studies 1 Email Phillips, Leah - Rm: 1st					0	0
9(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	PE 1 Email Richardson, Harold					0	0
											Vocal Music 1						

- Click on Alert Preferences

PowerSchool Powerschool | Help | Sign

Alerting

SwiftReach SwiftK12

Navigation

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Home Contact Information **Alert Preferences**

### RSS Feed

### Documents & Files

Date	Name	Description
		Looks like there are no documents or files currently available

### Recent Alerts

Date/Time	Category	Name	Action
			Looks like there are no recent alerts.





# POWERSCHOOL CHANGES - AUTOMATED MESSAGING UPDATE

- Select the Alert Preferences button next to the contact method where you would like to receive notifications (email, mobile, work, etc.)

SwiftK12 Home A

### Contact Information - Addie Heusman

Basic Information [+ Add New Field](#)

Email (Current)	email@emaildomain.com	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Alert Preferences</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>
Landline (Mobile)	222-222-2222	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Alert Preferences</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>
Landline (Work)	333-333-3333	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Alert Preferences</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>

- You may also delete contact methods (red box on right) or “Add New Field” (green box near top center) to add additional contact methods (email, phone, etc.)

- Select the categories from which you want to receive alerts.

### Alert Preferences

Set Alerting Preferences for:

▶ Student:

▶ Email (Current)

Categories:

- Attendance
- Emergency
- Fee Alerts
- General Information
- Grade Alerts
- Lunch Balance
- Teacher Message

[Save](#) [Cancel](#)

- Push SAVE



# JANUARY 2019 MENUS

Alternate Entrée offered daily:  
Cold Sandwich or Chef Salad

<b>January 1-4</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS BREAK</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	WG Pancakes, Sausage OR WG Cereal/WG Pancake, Fruit/Juice, Milk Pizza, Corn, Applesauce
<b>Friday</b>	Toaster Pastry OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Hamburger on WG Bun, FF and/or Swt. FF, Peas, Peaches
<b>January 7-11</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	Omelet, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Strawberries
<b>Tuesday</b>	Breakfast Burrito OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Italian Dunkers, Green Beans, Pineapple
<b>Wednesday</b>	Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk BBQ Pork Sandwich, Tator Gems and/or Swt. Tator Gems, Broccoli Salad, Pears
<b>Thursday</b>	Bagel Bites, Granola Bar OR WG Cereal/Granola Bar, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Quesadilla, Spanish Rice, Corn, Peaches
<b>Friday</b>	WG Oatmeal, WG Breakfast Cookie OR WG Cereal/WG Breakfast Cookie, Fruit/Juice, Milk Mini Corn Dogs, Baked Beans, Mandarin Oranges
<b>January 14-18</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	Breakfast Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Hot Sub Sandwich, Munchies, Green Beans
<b>Tuesday</b>	Sausage Gravy over WG Biscuits OR WG Cereal/WG Biscuit, Fruit/Juice, Milk Tacos, Black Bean Salad, Corn, Peaches
<b>Wednesday</b>	Yogurt Parfait, Nutri-Grain Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Alfredo, Breadsticks, Peas, Applesauce
<b>Thursday</b>	Breakfast Tornado OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Sloppy Joes, Mixed Vegetables, Coleslaw, Pears
<b>Friday</b>	WG Donut OR WG Cereal, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Noodle Soup, PB&J Sandwich, Mandarin Oranges
<b>January 21-25</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Peas, Applesauce
<b>Tuesday</b>	Breakfast Bites (French Toast), Sausage Link OR WG Cereal/Sausage, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chicken Wrap, Spanish Rice, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges
<b>Wednesday</b>	Breakfast Slider (Sausage, Egg, & Cheese) OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Potato Bake, Tuna Salad or Chicken Salad Sandwich, String Cheese, Pears
<b>Thursday</b>	Omelet, WG Toast OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Chili, Cinnamon Roll, Pineapple
<b>Friday</b>	Mini Maple Pancakes OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Cook's Choice, Broccoli Cheese, Peaches
<b>January 28-31</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	Breakfast Burrito OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Pork Patties, Baked Beans, Mandarin Oranges
<b>Tuesday</b>	WG Oatmeal, Nutri-Grain Bar OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Hamburger, Tator Gems and/or Swt. Tator Gems, Lettuce Salad, Pears
<b>Wednesday</b>	French Toast Sticks OR WG Cereal/WG Toast, Fruit/Juice, Milk Submarines, Corn, Gelatin, Pineapple
<b>Thursday</b>	Yogurt Parfait OR WG Cereal/WG Muffin, Fruit/Juice, Milk Goulash, Garlic Toast, Green Beans, 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.

# JANUARY 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31 <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>	January 1 <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>	2	3 1st Day 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester <b>EARLY OUT</b> 1:37PM G/B BB @ Dorchester - 5PM (BJV, GV, BV)	4 G/B BB vs. HTRS - HOME - 4PM (BJV, GV, BV)	5
6	7 MUDECAS GBB vs. BDS - 3:30PM	8 CHRISTMAS BREAK - NO SCHOOL DEC 22-JAN 2 MUDECAS BBB vs. Freeman - 6:30PM	9	10	11	12
13	14 Pioneer Conference Instrumental @ Southern - Concert - 7PM	15 MUDECAS BB TOURNAMENT @ BEATRICE G/B BB vs Omaha Christian Academy- HOME - 4:30PM (BJV, GV, BV)	16	17 Freeman JH GBB Tournament - 4PM NHS Blood Drive 12- 6PM in the gym	18 G/B BB @ Southern - 4PM (4 Games)	19
20	21 JH GBB vs. Pawnee City - HOME - 2PM 9/10 G/BBB @ Johnson - Brock - 6PM <b>SCHOOL BOARD</b> <b>MEETING - 7:30PM</b>	22 G/B BB @ Neb. City Lourdes - 4:30PM (4 Games)	23 <b>NO PRESCHOOL</b> <b>EARLY OUT</b> 1:37PM JH GBB vs. Diller-Odell - HOME - 1PM	24 JV BBB vs. Falls City HS - HOME - 7PM	25 G/B BB vs. Lewiston - 5PM (BJV, GV, BV) <b>PARENTS NIGHT</b>	26 MUDECAS Speech Contest @ HTRS
27	28 JH GBB @ FCSH - 4PM	29 District LDE/ JH Speaking Contest @ SCC-Beatrice - 8AM- 2PM	30	31	February 1	2 Johnson County Spelling Bee - 9AM
PIO CONF BB TOURN @ PAWNEE CITY/HTRS		PIO CONF BB TOURN @ PAWNEE CITY/HTRS		PIO CONF ART EXHIBIT @ LEWISTON		PIO CONF BB TOURN @ PAWNEE CITY/HTRS (FINALS-LEWISTON)



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**SUPERINTENDENT**

Dottie Heusman

**PREK - 12 PRINCIPAL**

Scott Harrington

**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

Brent Heusman

**GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**

Addie Heusman

