



**Scribner-Snyder**

**Community Schools**

**Dec.-Jan. 2017/2018 Newsletter**

*From the Principal's Desk*

Dear Patrons:

By the time you receive this newsletter the Thanksgiving break will have ended and everyone will be looking ahead to the upcoming Christmas and New Year celebration. The winter sports season is gearing up with basketball games and wrestling meets which started the week of November 27<sup>th</sup>. We encourage everyone to come out to support our student-athletes.

The Academic Mentoring Program is in full swing. We currently have several mentors for the academic program this year for grades 1-6. With this program high school kids are assigned to an elementary student and are asked to build relationships with one another and/or work on academics. We're excited to have so many of our kids willing to participate in the program.

We'd like to give special thanks to our staff members who worked so hard to put on another outstanding Veteran's Day Program this year. The program was held on November 10<sup>th</sup> with a coffee/social time at 9:00 a.m. followed by the program at 10:00 a.m. The program is always well attended and is an exciting time to recognize all our past and present veterans for their dedication and service.

On Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, SSCS attended the Dodge County – County Government Day in Fremont. On this day, the junior class had the opportunity to learn about what the various county employees do while working at the Dodge County Court House. After an opening ceremony the students were broke into five groups and actually rotated around to each entity where they got to see the individuals actually doing their jobs. The students were also treated to a pizza lunch and played a game of Jeopardy provided by the Dodge County Sheriff's Office.

The SSCS Strategic Planning Committee has asked me to be the chairperson of the Lunch-and-Learn Program. With this event we're asking community groups to come to visit our school and have various school groups present what they do. As part of this project we're trying to have community members/students become more involved with one another. To start the Lunch-and-Learn Program this year, we invited Chamber Members to lunch at the school on Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> where a complimentary lunch was served followed by a presentation by the SSCS FFA Organization.

The end of the 1st semester is fast approaching, it is hard to believe the school is already ½ over. Wishing you the most blessed holiday season with friends and family. Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Stithem

# Computer Science Week

**Dec. 4 – 10, 2017**

The first week in Dec. is Computer Science Week in America. Computers are key for our students to get meaningful jobs in today's society. There isn't a field of study any more that isn't affected by computers in some way or fashion. So during Computer Science Week our students will be participating in Hour of Code activities K – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. On the evening of Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> some of our students will be hosting an Hour of Code for the community at 7 p.m. They will be here to show you how we use code with our technology tools and how we use code with our robots.

**Computing jobs are the #1 source of new wages in the United States.**



**500,000 current openings:** These jobs are in **every** industry and **every** state, and they're projected to grow at twice the rate of all other jobs.

In Mrs. Schafer's Room

One of the biggest changes this year has been the addition of Code Club for the Elementary students. This was started at the beginning of the year and the response was unbelievable. In fact we had more elementary students than what I had space for sign up. Currently there are 24 students who come and spend time coding once a month after school. They have given me some great feedback on the activities we have done. Osmo tools with the ipad have been a favorite this fall, followed by augmented reality coloring. We have also used a program called The Foos where they have to add the code to make the characters move and complete tasks. Second semester we will be working with Robots and creating games using a tool called Bloxels.



## **Christmas Concerts @ S-S**

**Jr./Sr. High Concert—Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.**

**Elementary Concert-Thursday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.**

# Don't forget to file your FAFSA!

If you haven't already, you and your parents can complete the 2018-19 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The FAFSA is the application for state, federal, and college - based financial aid.

Follow these tips to prepare:

Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID for you and one for a parent at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov). You and a parent will each need an FSA ID to access and sign the FAFSA.

Attend an EducationQuest Financial Aid Program (FAP) to learn about the FAFSA and the financial aid process. If you attend, you'll be eligible to register for a \$500 scholarship! FAPs are happening at high schools across the state. [Click here for dates and locations.](#)

Review the FAFSA Checklist at [EducationQuest.org](https://EducationQuest.org) to determine items you'll need to complete the FAFSA.

See FAFSA Tools at [EducationQuest.org](https://EducationQuest.org) for helpful resources.

For free personal help, call EducationQuest to make an appointment: Omaha - 888.357.6300, Lincoln – 800.303.3745

## WINTER SPORTS KICK-OFF Dec. 1st



The S-S Booster Club will be sponsoring their annual Winter Sports Kick-Off on Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 6 p.m. Pizza and brownies/bars will be served from 6-7 p.m. for \$5.00. High School Pride pin orders will take place as well as a membership drive. Introductions of the girls and boys basketball teams, wrestling team and all One-Act cast and crew will take place at 7 p.m. The evening will end with a performance from the One-Act cast/crew. All are welcome to attend.

## *Semester ends*

**Students and staff will get to enjoy the holiday season when classes dismiss on Friday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. Classes will resume for our students on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Staff will need to report on January 5<sup>th</sup> for a workday.**

# The Scribner-Snyder FFA chapter

has done many exciting activities so far this school year. Students have been participating in fundraisers, contests, convention, community service, and much more.



FFA has done a variety of fundraisers, such as tailgating at a football game, working the concession stands at sporting events, and selling fruit, meat, cheese, and sweets this year. We appreciate all of the support from the community in these fundraisers. This money helps us to attend conferences and conventions throughout the year. In addition, fundraisers help us to provide for the community as community service plays a huge role in our FFA chapter.

The chapter is constantly helping the community by cleaning up the highway, sponsoring a food drive at the school, working at the Faith Food Pantry, picking up recyclable items throughout the school, and donating a basket for Pink Out Night. The “I CAN Make a Difference” food drive is kicked off during American Education Week each year. This is when all of the classes Pre K- 12 donate nonperishable food items, toiletries and paper products for the Faith Food Pantry. This year the elementary classes are competing for breakfast, cookies, or candy; whereas the middle and high school have a goal of 500 items. If the goal is reached, they will be rewarded with a movie afternoon on December 22. We are always looking for opportunities to help in the community, contact Mrs. Ryun at the high school (402-664-2567 or mryun@sstrojans.org) if you have an opportunity.

Leadership Development Events practice night is when members present speeches and demonstrate parliamentary procedure or agricultural demonstrations. This evening was held on Tuesday, November 14th. This year we had two Public speeches (Junior Division): Jozelyn Ruppert and Faith Riggle; a Natural Resources speech: Rachel Lodl; an Employment Skills interview: Kaylee Boyle; a Discovery speech: Cailey Stout; and an Agricultural Demonstration: Faith Riggle, Tanner Brown, Kayden Peters, and Harrison Riggle. These district Leadership Development Events contest were held on Tuesday, November 21st in North Bend.

FFA members also got to participate in other contests this fall. These consisted of dairy evaluation and land evaluation. Dairy Evaluating helps students develop skills in dairy cattle selection. This contest takes place near Walthill, NE at Stanek’s Farm. Several students from S-S attended, and brought home red, blue, and purple ribbons. Land Evaluation is a contest that focuses on soil – texture, slope, permeability, capability class, etc. This year, this contest was located near Emerson, Nebraska. There were well over 300 participants in our regional contest; and Faith Riggle brought home a blue ribbon and 24th place!



We also had the opportunity this fall to help host the State FFA Land Evaluation Contest. The contest took place outside of Scribner, so the fairgrounds were used for registration and awards. The Scribner-Snyder FFA chapter helped make arrangements for the contest and supplied a meal for contestants while they were waiting for results.



A couple of conferences have been offered for students this year, also. District EDGE Conference was offered by the state FFA officers this fall, in Blair. A few Greenhand members attended workshops about engaging in the agricultural education classroom, building personal image, and communicating effectively. This is a great way to help Greenhand members (first year members) kick start their FFA career!

An additional activity this fall has been the Farm Bureau's Connecting Chapters. This is aimed at improving agricultural literacy in our schools. The first step in this program was to read a book to the elementary classrooms (we read to Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade), and then donate the book to the library. This book focused on different types of farming operations and how food gets to your plate. Then, a few chapter members attended a training session in Tekamah to learn how to present the provided lessons to the elementary students. Scribner-Snyder FFA Chapter received a binder with 15 lessons to teach elementary students more about agricultural literacy. We look forward to utilizing these during FFA Week when we do a lesson in the elementary classrooms.

With all the work, does come fun. The FFA chapter is looking forward to secret Santa, and possibly a game/movie night in December.

We are also looking forward to several events in the year to come; particularly our Barbeque and Auctions on Tuesday, March 20th. We hope to see you all there to enjoy the good food, silent auction items, friendships, and labor auction.

## **Here is what is happening in the high school science classroom:**

**Biology:** Currently, students are studying the parts of a cell. One project they enjoyed was creating a model of a cell using sugar cookies and various candy. To finish the year, students will learn about how a cell is affected by its environment and how our cells obtain energy.

**Medical Terminology and Health Careers:** This year in Medical Terminology, students have been participating in job shadowing opportunities at the Dinklage Medical Center. Students have been able to follow a variety of health career professional to help determine the medical career they would like to pursue. Students will continue shadowing throughout the second semester of school as well.

**Physics:** Students have been focusing on the concept of motion. At the beginning of the year, students focused on one-dimensional motion. Concepts such as distance, speed, velocity and acceleration were discussed. Currently, the physics students are studying movement in two-directional motion. Students are brushing up on their trigonometry skills to help them solve various vector problems. By the end of the semester, students will understand projectile motion.

**Anatomy and Physiology:** The Anatomy class is making its way through the systems of the body. Students have learned about anatomical position and the types of cells and tissues in the body. Also, they completed a unit over the integumentary system where they researched many disease that affect the skin and even got to build a model of the skin using cake! Students are now making their way through the skeletal system. They will feel a sense of accomplishment as they master all the bones of the body by the end of the semester.

**Standard Science:** Standard science is currently in our chemistry unit. This unit students have been learning the parts of an atom and understanding how atoms bond together. The next topics to be discussed include the law of conservation of mass, chemical reactions, and acid/bases. This unit always leads to lots of interesting experiments towards the end of the school year.



## Creating Power Points

### Ms. Rangeloff

This year's 4th grade class consists of 8 boys and 8 girls. About 6 weeks ago, we were thrilled to welcome Arianna Mister to our class. Arianna has been a great addition to our classroom.

Just a few weeks ago, the 4th graders spent time learning how to use the Microsoft One Drive Program thanks to the help of Mr. Meyer and his 9th grade students. The classes combined and worked together to create power point presentations on several Native American Tribes. The 9th grade students took a very active role in teaching the 4th graders how to use the program, how to find information on the internet, and how to create a power point. My plan is to use this program in the coming weeks to have the students work together to find information on the planets and then present their information to the class through this same program.

It's hard to believe but we are only 4 weeks away from the end of the 1st semester. I can't believe how fast the time has gone. This group keeps me on my toes and loving my job every day. I look forward to each and every day with them.

## CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

The 5th grade class will beginning work on their power points about Christmas in other countries this month. They made one earlier in the year on famous explorers. Mrs. Schafer and I work together to teach the students how to make a power point and how to research for their information.

The students are busy trying to reach their reading goal each month. Every month they are required to read one chapter book. We also work to reach 10 points on the reading chart. After every 10 points the students are rewarded for completing their goal. The students may choose from a list of items after every 10 points. Many of them are trying to see who can get the most points. It is great to see them reading and discussing which books are good to read.

The 5th grade class have been reading many of the Golden Sower books for extra points. I have been reading Paper Things to the class, which is also a Golden Sower book. So far the top books are Crenshaw and Ruby Lee and Me.

Christmas is approaching quickly so we will be busy getting our room decorated for the holiday season. The sounds from the Music room have been getting everyone ready for the holiday season.



After Christmas break we will begin preparing for the NESAs tests. We start taking practice tests to help us prepare. The students have been studying prefixes, suffixes, root words and genres.

The students have been doing an excellent job in the classroom and I hope it continues throughout the year.

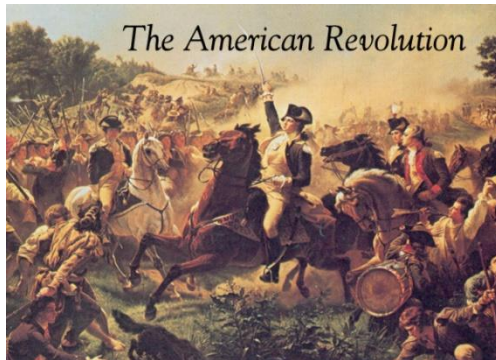
### *In the classroom with Mr. Ruzicka*

The school year is well on the way. Students have settled in, and gotten into a daily routine. With Holiday breaks coming up, students are beginning to grow restless again though. There is always talk about what they are going to get for Christmas, and what they are doing, or where they are going for break. Thanksgiving has barely past, and Christmas music is already being requested to be played during study times. Uggh!

My classroom is as busy as ever. There's constantly kids coming and going for various reasons. The students are working hard, and are looking forward to coming back after winter break for round 2 of MAPS testing. As winter sports season starts to kick off, kids are as busy as ever. On top of the daily school and athletic load, students are beginning to divert some of their focus to ACT preparation. Students are preparing to take ACT tests in December and February.

# Scribner-Snyder Social Studies Happenings

The end of the first semester is coming upon us and this year each class have been busy. The 7th grade have been studying world history. Currently we are working on the Roman Empire. As we complete each chapter the students work on a five paragraph essay on a selected topic from the most recent chapter, which they then turn into a power point presentation to share with the rest of the class.



The 8th grade is studying US history. We have incorporated various videos that help bring colonial America and the American Revolution to life. Recently the students worked on creating comic strips concerning the various protests leading up to the war. We are currently studying the American Revolution and will be moving into the 19th century in the near future.

The sophomore World History class have been busy with Ancient Greece and Rome. Many documentaries have helped bring this era to life by taking students to the locations and they are able to see what it was like for every day citizens of those cultures. We will be moving into other empires in Asia, Africa and the Americas in the near future.

The junior class have been working hard on their documentaries this year. This year's theme is Conflict and Compromise in History. Each student has chosen a topic in which to research, create an annotated bibliography, a process paper, in addition to a 10 minute documentary on their chosen topic. They have gathered a number of primary and secondary sources to help them tell their stories, all the while keeping it related to the theme. In addition, they attended County Government Day on November 8th. They spent the day at the courthouse in Fremont learning from the various offices.

The seniors are studying Government and Economics. We are working the Constitution and how the document impacts not only the national government, but the state government as well. In economics we have covered "What is Economics" and will be moving into "Economic Systems and the American Economy" in the near future.







## American Red Cross

On Monday, November 20th, Scribner-Snyder Community Schools hosted its fall blood drive. There was a great deal of student interest in donating blood this year. A total of 15 students signed up to donate blood. The goal for the blood drive was surpassed and a total of 28

units of blood were collected. A single blood donation can help save up to three lives. However, the Red Cross does offer some additional benefits to the school for hosting a blood drive. The number of blood units collected throughout the school year translates into a scholarship opportunity for graduating seniors. A big thank you to everyone that helped out and was able to donate at the blood drive!

Kelsey Piper

## Christmas music is in the air



As Mother Nature turns the page from fall to winter quickly, the students in the Scribner-Snyder Music Department do the same as they enjoy their successes and prepare for winter concerts. Due to a busy school calendar, our Junior/Senior High Winter Concert is scheduled on Sunday evening, December 10th at 7pm. This program gives the students a chance to show what they've been working on this first semester. There will be a mix of seasonal music as well as music from other areas that they have prepared over the past 4 months.

The elementary concert is set to hit the stage on Thursday, December 14th at 7pm. There has been a lot of time spent preparing for the concert and we hope that you will come join us as the kids give us their version of The Twelve Days of Christmas.

Several high school choral students were selected to and performed with the East Husker Conference Choral Clinic. Elissa Dames, Laythen Streit, and Machara Jusino went to North Bend on November 6 and performed their prepared music under the direction of Mr. Mark Harmon.

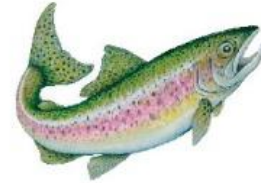
All of the students in the music department as well as myself truly appreciate all the support you give throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you at our performances!

## Middle School Science,

# Life Skills Physical Education & Strength and Conditioning

By: Justin McDuffee, Science Teacher & Life Skills PE Teacher

Wow! The school year is about half way done! This year the middle school science classes are working hard and having fun! 7th graders are eager to start dissecting worms, but they have a long way to go before they get to do that. Right now, the 7th graders are finished their first textbook called The Human Body. In this book the students learned about body systems and how the body works. The next book we will begin studying will be Ecology and the Environment. The 7th grade will be raising rainbow trout eggs in an aquarium provided by the Nebraska Game & Parks in January. The students are very excited to see how they grow and get a chance to dissect a trout (not the ones we raise!)



The 8th graders finished their first text book about Space. We were able to learn about the Solar Eclipse we had at the beginning of the school year. They are currently studying about the Earth! They will be learning some very interesting information about plate tectonics, volcanos, earthquakes and Pangea. They will have to research and create a power point about a volcano.

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The freshmen are learning the basics about chemistry right now. They have been studying the periodic table and how the elements are in their certain order in the periodic table. We have also covered the structure of atoms. We will soon be studying about motion, forces, and waves.

The science classes have been having a fun learning experience this year!

Life Skills Physical Education has been involved in some different activities this year. To start the year, they studied Bow Hunter Education, became certified to hunt with a bow and arrow, they are very efficient with shooting a bow and arrow. Students will be taking the Boater Safety Course and will become certified to drive a boat or personal water craft. We will also learn about different fish in Nebraska waters and will learn more about fishing. They will also learn about trapping and why it is important to the ecosystem. The students are extremely excited! We will also study about first aid and safety and how to create healthy eating habits.

The Strength and Conditioning classes have been hard at work trying to improve themselves physically as well as mentally. The students like to take this opportunity to improve their overall strength and health. Each student sets goals that they will try to accomplish!

## Notes from the A.D's Desk

Another season of Winter Sports is here. Where has the time gone? Basketball and Wrestling started practice on November 13. The LVSS Basketball teams look forward to a season of continued improvement and success. Both the Girl's and Boy's Varsity teams won in their Hall of Fame Jamboree games against Ashland-Greenwood on Nov. 27th. Their first official games will start Thurs., November 30 against Oakland-Craig. Each team currently has 25 players and the excitement for the upcoming season is running high.

The Wrestling Team has 7 members. Their first action will be Saturday Dec. 2 at the Howells-Dodge Invite. The Scribner-Snyder Wrestling team will host a Triangular here on Thurs., December 7 with Pender and Howells-Dodge participating. The Triangular will start at 5:30pm.

The One-Act cast and crew concluded its season with a strong showing at Districts at Humphrey St. Francis this past week. Five actors received Outstanding Actor Awards: Kaylee Boyle, Corben Burger, Kaylin Niewohner, Daymen Jurisch, and Nia Meyer. The One-Act will have one last performance at 7:15 p.m. during The Booster Club Winter Sports Kickoff is Fri., December 1. The meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. with introductions starting at 7:00 p.m. The One Act Play will perform following introductions.

Christmas Concerts are coming up for the Music Department. The High School Christmas Concert will be Sun., December 10 starting at 7:00pm in the High School Gym. The Elementary Concert will be on Thurs., December 14 starting at 7:00pm. Mr. Poessnecker and the kids always do a nice job in performing. Please come out to see them.

Exciting times to look forward to this busy Winter Season at Scribner-Snyder. Please come out and support the kids. I hope you have a Happy Holiday and hope to see you at the games.

### *Learning their alphabet*

SSCS (4 year olds) Preschool has been very busy during this first semester of school! The Preschoolers have learned 8 sight words and are reading simple books! They have also been working on recognizing and naming numerals to 5, AB patterns, spatial concepts and holidays. Lately, we have been learning and practicing songs for the Christmas program on December 14th. I am so excited to see all of the progress our students are making already! We have 12 students attending the morning class and 11 students attending the afternoon class. Our 3 year olds preschool program began on November 1st. They have been working on identifying/naming the first letter of their name, simple shapes, the alphabet song and following rules. It doesn't seem like it should be only a few weeks until Christmas! It's true what they say: 'Time flies when you're having fun!'

Sally O'Neill-Cole

Preschool Teacher