



Scribner-Snyder Community Schools

December/January newsletter

2023-2024

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Scribner-Snyder Community School Patrons,

The school year is flying by. We are almost halfway through. There are a lot of activities going on in the next few weeks. Boys' and girls' basketball and wrestling seasons have started. One Act is winding down and the speech season is fast approaching. Let's not forget the elementary and high school winter music concerts that are coming up. We encourage everyone to come out and support our talented students.

On November 10th, we celebrated Veterans Day. Coffee and cookies were served before the program and lunch was served afterwards to our local legion and auxiliary members. The students did a wonderful job with the program. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Wuestewald, Mrs. Schafer, Mr. Poessnecker, Sharon, Deb, and Becky & the kitchen staff for helping to prepare for a wonderful event.

Last week we celebrated American Education Week. Each day had a theme that students could dress up for. Parents were invited to school to join us for an apple nacho bar. Community business members came and read to elementary students. A new tradition was started this year. Seniors picked a teacher at Scribner-Snyder that has positively influenced their educational journey and presented them with a t-shirt. The experience was memorable for both the students and staff members. Thank you to Mrs. Gustafson, Mrs. Sedlacek, and Ms. Loth for organizing the event.

Just a couple of reminders as we move into the winter season. Please keep your child at home if he or she is running a temperature or feeling ill. Students with a temperature over 100 degrees will be sent home. Students must be fever free for 24 hours without medicine before returning to school. We ask that if your child has vomited or has bowel issues due to sickness, please make sure your child is feeling well enough before returning to school. Also, make sure all phone numbers are up to date. We will be using our school messenger phone system to call parents if there is a cancelation due to weather or for any other possible notifications.

Mark your calendars, December 21st is the end of the first semester and there is a 1:30 p.m. dismissal which leads to winter break. Classes will resume on January 4, 2024.

In closing, we wish you all safe and happy holidays.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Nemecek

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Joe Peitzmeier

As I write this, the fall sports/activity season has come to a close and the winter sports/activity season is already in full swing. By the time you read this newsletter, I am in hopes that you have recovered from an enjoyable Thanksgiving feast and special time with family. Last month the annual Veteran's Day program sponsored by the Scribner-Snyder Community Schools and the Scribner Chamber was held. Thanks to everyone that had a part in this outstanding tribute to our veterans. This program helps remind me to be thankful to the veterans for the sacrifices that they have made so that we can live the way we do in the greatest nation on earth.

We are in year two of the Continuous School Improvement process and currently working to combine this with the Strategic Planning Process. Our goal is to generate data by engaging our community, staff, students, businesses and families in an effort to define what it is that we do well and what we see as opportunities for growth. As part of this process, the board has also been working on a facility study to identify facility needs for the future. The board has been in negotiations with a developer to purchase the old high school and music room. These negotiations are nearly complete and more will be reported as we form clearer facility plans for the future.

I want to assure you that our teachers and support staff continue to be very proactive in continuing to provide the fine educational tradition at Scribner-Snyder Community Schools. We continue to evaluate curriculum, upgrade technology, fine tune testing procedures, and build on our Positive Behavior Support System in order to improve the education of our youth.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year! As always, my door is open. If you have concerns pertaining to the schools—do not hesitate to contact me.

School Closing/Dismissal Information

- *Please understand that safety for students is the main concern in the decision to close schools.
- *When school is dismissed early for bad weather, students who drive their own vehicles and live outside the city limits will be required to contact their parents by telephone prior to leaving school.
- *Bus/van students will ride home as usual.
- *My main contact is KTIC AM 840 & FM 107.9 radio and TV channels 3, 6, or 7 in Omaha for any school closing, late start, or early dismissal due to threatening weather. I will also attempt to contact KFAB 1110 radio.
- *We will also send out an all call to family's phones through School Messenger
- *On late starts, we typically plan to start school 2 hours late. We realize that some roads are more hazardous than others and we do not expect students or parents to endanger their safety in order to get to school. If a student legitimately cannot get to school because of weather conditions, they will be excused.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Mrs. Stewart's Kindergarten Class Update

The 9 kindergarteners have been busy. In September, we went to Harvest Moon Pumpkin Patch in Oakland, NE. The students had a great time and the weather was fabulous. Thank you PTA for paying for our admission. In October, we finished the 1st quarter of the school year and we had an end of the quarter reward party - we painted pumpkins, the fire department and the police department did activities with the students. Thank you to all who help with that, the kids enjoyed the afternoon. Also, in October we had a Halloween Party. In November we decorated for the Veteran's Day Program and started the pledge for the event. We also had American Education week where we got to dress up all week and enjoyed an Apple Nacho Bar with our families that could make it. In December, we will end the 1st semester have a Christmas/Winter Party and another quarter reward activity. Not to be forgotten, we have had learning time along the way. A lot of learning time because we grow so much in kindergarten.

Miss Cash's Life Skills Class Bebopping Through the Year

IMPORTANT DATES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Dec. 5th-FCCLA/One-Act Meal, 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 6th—Board of Education meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 12th—Elementary Christmas Concert, Prek-K-6:30 p.m./Grades K-5th—7 p.m.

Dec. 12th—Junior Class Cookie Tray Sales, 6 p.m.

Dec. 19th—Grades 6-12 Christmas Concert, 7 p.m.

Dec. 21st—End Semester 1/1L:30 p.m. dismissal

Dec. 22-Jan. 3rd—NO SCHOOL—Classes resume Jan. 4th

Jan. 10th—Board of Education meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Please check the sstrojans.org website for the most current and up-to-date information for activities and lunch/breakfast menu's.

Many changes have been happening in the Life Skills classroom this year! Life Skills has moved into a new classroom as well as is now split into two sections with two new teachers. Kindergarten through 5th grade and 5th grade through age 21 (Young Adult) are how students are split up this year. My name is Sam Cash and I teach 5th grade through age 21. I have enjoyed getting to know the students and trying new things in the classroom this year.

The whole class has been working on learning household skills such as cleaning, organizing, and cooking. Elementary and Middle School students have continued to get academic support as well as learning and practicing new skills. The high school has been working on a budgeting project that will continue throughout the school year. All of my students have been working hard this year and have transitioned through the changes like pros! I'm so proud of all they have done and are yet to do and continue to look forward to learning all the ways in which each student is special and unique.

One-Act: “Breaking the News” and Making News

By Laura Enos

● LIVE



SSCS One-Act Public Performance

Tuesday, December 5th

6:30-7:30 PM

(FCCLA Sponsored Dinner in the Commons)

7:30 - 8:00 PM

One Act Comedic Performance

“Breaking the News”

family-friendly content
(SSCS Gym)

Seniors’ “Send Off” following the performance

Free Will Donation

RSVP (helpful for food count) to

FCCLA Sponsor Kim Drey

kdrey2@sstrojans.org or (402) 664-2567

Just in! The 20 student members of this year’s One-Act cast and crew successfully competed at the East Husker Conference competition hosted at Pender High School on November 14th. Eight surrounding area schools performed their 15-30 minute shows ranging from comedy to drama. A panel of three judges independently ranked the performances and provided oral critiques to each school. The day was filled with talented kids appreciating theater, celebrating one another, and concluded with an Awards ceremony where the following honors were given to our SSCS Students:

Overall Production: 3rd Place

Overall Best Supporting

Actress: Hannah Ryun

Crew Tech. Individual Awards:

Izzy Carrier, Eli Enos, Jacey

Meier, and Shandera Simpson

Individual Acting Awards: Jill

Adams, Krista Beranek, Garrett

Hunke, Gillian Hunke, Rylee

Nemecek, Hannah Ryun,

Shandera Simpson, and Kadyn

Wheelock

SSCS One-Act competed on November 27th in Newman Grove at the Class D2-2 District Contest. Eight area D-2 schools performed for a panel of four NSAA judges. District Champion Overall Production and District Runner-Up Overall Production were honored, along with Best Overall Crew and individual acting awards within each individual school’s production.

Congratulations to the One-Act Cast & Crew on their Best of Show D2 District Runner-Up Award! Congratulations also goes out to the SSCS Crew who earned the Top Technical Award at the contest! Gillian Hunke was awarded Best Overall Actress for the whole competition! Individual Acting Awards were given to: Jill Adams, Krista Beranek, Emily Hull, Nattie Hull, Gillian Hunke, Rylee Nemecek, Hannah Ryun, Shandera Simpson and Ashley Stadt!

If you would like to watch our talented students’ performance of our comedic production “Breaking the News”, FCCLA and One-Act will be hosting a Community Dinner (6:30-7:30 PM in the SSCS Commons) followed by the One-Act performance (7:30-8:30 PM in the SSCS Gym/Stage) on Tuesday, December 5th. Free will donation. We’d love to see you there! Please RSVP to Mrs. Kim Drey (FCCLA sponsor) to assist with our food count at

kdrey2@sstrojans.org

THE TROJAN HUT

The Trojan Hut was busy this semester making over 100 apparel orders! While the class has 7 students, different school sponsored activities kept them from class on several occasions. This meant they had to work even harder to get all the orders done before Thanksgiving! Now that all of the orders have been delivered, the students are eagerly researching sublimation, hoping to perfect it in order to make new apparel items, mugs, and water bottles.

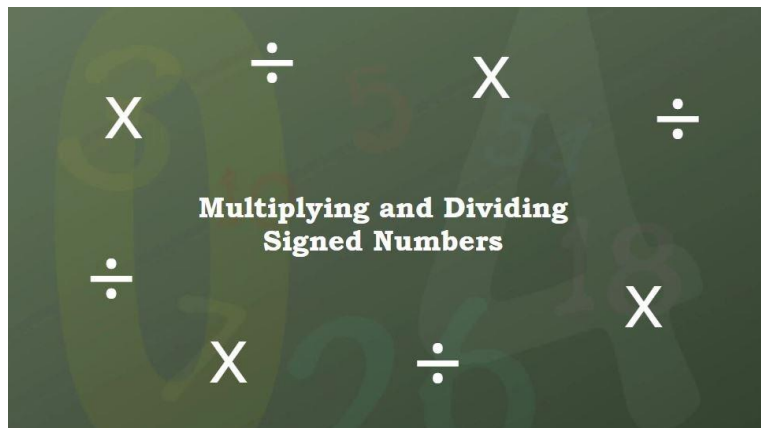
The Trojan Hut is part of the Entrepreneurship class, and in addition to making apparel, they are working through a project that simulates creating their own business. By the end of the year,

students will have worked through all parts of the process, including idea creation, business plan, marketing, and finances.

The Personal Finance class just wrapped up the module on banking. They learned about the different bank options, including accounts they can open that would benefit them. After each of their modules they play a Life Happens game, where they roll the dice to determine what happens to them in the game. This has been a fun way for students to understand and critically think about different parts of their life in regards to finances.

In the Media Center, elementary students ended the week reading books about Thanksgiving, making "Gobble Up a Good Book" book recommendation crafts, and creating Thanksgiving stories using a roll-a-story format. It was fun to see all of their creativity while writing the stories! December will be a fun month in the Media Center as well. Students will hear stories and practice library skills using the theme of Christmas.

The third grade class has been very busy during this second quarter of the school year. Kids are working on how to multiply and divide numbers using different methods and strategies. We have also been exploring static electricity and electrical currents in science. Our year has been very productive and we are all working very hard in the classroom. It certainly has been busy, but we have a great group this year that is working hard and doing a very nice job in the classroom! It's a great day to be a Trojan in third grade!



Sixth graders learn about 3D printing

The sixth grade just finished their reading unit called Designing the Future. Part of this unit focused on the incredible things 3D printers can create. The students were fascinated that there are now ways to make edible food with 3D printers! Along with learning that these machines can print food, we learned how these printers can help in the medical field and with transportation. Scribner-Snyder is lucky enough to have their own 3D printer here at school. We took a stroll down the hallway to visit with Nick Ell who is our technology coordinator through the ESU. Nick showed us how the printers work and was printing a few things while we visited. He took the time to answer our questions and really further sparked the interest of the students being able to see the machine in action!

Nebraska is home to some incredible colleges that offer great academic experiences. These institutions also extend a helping hand to make your college journey not just educational but also affordable.

1. Nebraska Promise: Tuition at the University of Nebraska's four campuses (UNL, UNO, UNK, & NCTA) can be covered if your family's income is \$65,000 or less (Adjusted Gross Income) or you are a Pell Grant recipient. In addition, keep those grades up with a 2.5 GPA, and you are golden. Mark your calendars for the May 1, 2024 deadline and get all the details at [Nebraska Promise](#).

2. Nebraska State College Tuition Guarantee: Thinking of going to Chadron, Peru, or Wayne State College? You can receive free tuition at these schools. If you are a first-time freshman or a transfer student, eligible for Pell Grants, and can commit to at least 12 credit hours per semester (including some on-campus classes). The deadline is April 1, 2024. Check out [NSCS](#) for more info.

3. Access NWU (Nebraska Wesleyan University): If you're eligible for the federal Pell Grant, planning to start college in 2024, and carry a full academic load of 12-18 credit hours per semester, you will qualify for Access NWU. The deadline is March 1, 2024. Details at [Access NWU Scholarship](#).

How to apply for these programs? File the FAFSA when it opens sometime in December. You may be asked to verify some information with the financial aid offices.

Will I get a Pell Grant? Your FAFSA results will determine if you qualify for a Pell Grant.

What expenses do these programs cover? Tuition only.

Should I still apply for other scholarships? Absolutely! Other scholarships can help with those extra college costs.

How do I get more info? Reach out to your school counselor, the college financial aid office, or contact your nearest [EducationQuest office](#).

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days a month..

They will miss **20 DAYS** a year.

They will miss **30 HOURS** of math over the school year.

They will miss **60 HOURS** of reading & writing over the school year.

They will miss over **1 YEAR** of school by graduation.

When a student misses 4 days a month..

They will miss **40 DAYS** a year.

They will miss **60 HOURS** of math over the school year.

They will miss **120 HOURS** of reading & writing over the school year.

They will miss over **2 YEARS** of school by graduation.

Greetings and warm wishes from the heart of the Resource Room!

I'm thrilled to take a moment to introduce myself – I'm Jenn Serafinski, the enthusiastic Kindergarten through 5th grade Resource/Life-Skills teacher at Scribner. What a ride it has been in this exciting year! As a newcomer to the Scribner-Snyder family, I've been embraced with open arms by both the dedicated staff and the incredible students.

We've been on a journey, working with students of all ages, nurturing their academic and life skills. The atmosphere at Scribner-Snyder has been nothing short of fantastic, making every day a new adventure. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we recently had a delightful bake-off that brought together the secondary Life Skills class, the High School Foods class, and even Mr. Peitzmeier. The apple desserts were a hit, leaving us with the sweet dilemma of choosing a favorite.

Looking ahead to the second semester, we're excited about the upcoming adventures. Our focus will remain on empowering students to build essential skills for both the academic realm and the wider community. From more delightful cooking activities to delving into the intricacies of money and finance, there's so much to anticipate.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the community for the warm welcome and unwavering support. Your encouragement plays a crucial role in the success and growth of our Resource program here at Scribner-Snyder Community Schools. Here's to more learning, laughter, and shared successes in the upcoming months!

NOTICE OF DISCRIMINATION:

The Scribner-Snyder Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender

identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Students, Employees and Others: Megan Stock, 400 Pebble Street, Scribner, NE 68057, 402.664.2567, mstock@sstrojans.org