

**Scribner-Snyder Community Schools
February/March Newsletter**

2020-21



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Patrons:

The students and staff have been very busy since their return back to start for the second semester. Both our elementary and high school students in grades 2-11 will be taking the second round of Maps testing which start Feb. 8th and is set to end Feb. 19th. The Maps scores from this testing cycle will be used locally in preparation for the new state Map tests, and will also be submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education. We'd like to thank Mrs. Fischer for doing an excellent job preparing the schedule and checking up on the tests as they're administered.

The second round of reading testing took place in December prior to Christmas break. A data retreat was held to review the testing results. The teachers and Rtl staff are using the results of these tests to examine how well our Rtl procedures are working. This will assist our struggling students to help them improve their reading skills as we continue with the second semester of school.

At the beginning of each semester students are given a chance to drop and add courses. With this process the student must get the signature of the teacher's class they're dropping and from the teacher they're adding. They're also expected to get a parent signature so their parent is aware of the change as well. To end the process, Mr. Stithem looks over the form and makes sure the change is being done for the correct purpose and we also have Mrs. Fischer check the student's transcript to make sure it doesn't affect their graduation requirements.

The basketball and wrestling teams continue their seasons with the upcoming conference competitions and several games/meets to be held in the month of February. As always, we encourage everyone to come and support our student-athletes during these competitions.

Hoping everyone is staying safe and healthy with COVID 19 still around, with the new vaccination perhaps the end of this pandemic will be ending soon.

Best Regards,

Mr. Stithem

SAVE THE DATES:

Feb. 19—NO SCHOOL-Teacher In-Service
March 9—Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 10-12---NO SCHOOL
March 27-29—High School Musical
April 2—NO School-Spring Break
April 24--Prom

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT



By Joe Peitzmeier

It is my hope that everyone had an enjoyable Holiday with their families. I have heard several interesting stories about family experiences during this past Christmas. The pandemic sure plays an important role in many of our plans. Just be thankful that we appeared to survive and now are looking forward to spring.

As far as the COVID pandemic goes, we continue to deal with the day-to-day issues related to the pandemic. I feel that we have done a great job keeping students and staff in school. We continue to monitor children for symptoms, frequently disinfect common touch points in the school, wear masks (except during meals), practice physical distancing and wash hands or use hand sanitizer often throughout the day to provide a safe as possible environment for students and staff. Thank you, to the families, for your diligence as well. Our daily numbers of students absent due to positive tests or direct exposures have been very low and manageable on the average. With that, I say “Job Well Done.” Let’s keep it up.

Over the past couple of years, the Scribner-Snyder School Board has been in negotiations with the Logan View School Board in school merger talks. As you may be aware, we currently co-op sports in softball, football, volleyball, and girls/boys’ basketball with Logan View. This seemed like a natural fit. A process like this has a lot of moving parts and a lot of work had been done by both parties. I want to inform you, that due to unreconcilable differences, both districts have decided to cease negotiations. This means that SSCS will move forward as a district on its own in the future. The challenge for our board now is to set goals that will set the stage for this district for the future. They are making the commitment to continue to provide a great education for the students of the communities of Scribner and Snyder. We understand that parents are such a vital link in every student’s success, it is important that schools work together with families and communities to provide the best learning environment possible. As we continue to evaluate and assess our current direction, we want to improve community involvement. In the next few months, I plan to host community meetings to inform the communities of that direction and to build a strong sense of community support for our schools. Keep an eye out for these invitations. We have great communities and a great school, and we all should be proud of that.

In closing, I want to mention that January 31 – February 6 is Nebraska School Board Recognition Week. Board members dedicate many hours and deal with many challenging issues that may affect them personally or professionally. Yet, the members of the Scribner-Snyder Community School Board continue to work to provide a safe and orderly environment for every student and also provide a learning atmosphere where every student feels welcome and can be successful. At your next opportunity, please thank these people for their time and dedication to this sometimes-thankless service. The 2020-21 school board members are: Laura Schnoor, President; Mike Fischer, Vice-President; Malia Nemecek, Secretary; Don Beck; Cory Schlueter and Andrea Vacha.

All Hands-on Deck

Article by Harley Baker

This year the Scribner-Snyder One-Act had a short season due to Covid. They were only able to compete in two competitions and perform for our school.

This year the play was "The Pirates of The Cafeteria" by Jon Silverman. A group of pirates without a ship take over a high school cafeteria and recruit students to join their pirate crew.

"This year was one of the better plays we performed," said Mrs. Heather Peters, the One Actor director." All of the students understood the story and enjoyed it."

On November the 17th the SSCS One-Act performed at the East Husker Conference competition and overall placed 6th as a school. Jillian Dames, Hannah Ryun, Cailey Stout, and Xavier Rangeloff all received Superior acting awards.

The one-act cast and crew performed for the school on December 1st. They started at 1:30 and performed for the school three times in a row so all students could watch the performance safely while social distancing.

"I liked going to practices and having fun with everyone, as well as sitting on the bus for 2 hours with Mrs. Peters," said junior Cailey Stout.

On the 2nd of December, One Act traveled to districts at Leigh. The school placed 7th with Rangeloff, Stout, and Harley Baker receiving superior acting awards.

Even though the season seemed pretty short and competitions were limited, students had a great time getting to know others and having a great time acting.

The Best Thing about being a Para

Article by Krystal Bigley

Mrs. Tina Palmer is a para at Scribner-Snyder School. She mostly works with 5th and 6th grade students. This is Palmer's 14th year at Scribner-Snyder. She took the job when her son was in preschool and now he is a senior.

Palmer moves around a lot throughout the day. "I start out in the commons area helping with breakfast and making sure the kids sanitize and have masks when they walk in. Then, I go over to sixth grade and we do math and then I go to the fifth-grade room to do reading. After that, I go work with a kindergartener one on one and then I go help with lunch and recess and sanitizing tables. I take my own lunch and then I go



back to sixth grade to do reading and reading small groups. Then I go back to fifth grade to do math and for the last hour or so of the day. I just help the students with their work,” Palmer said.

“The best part of my job is working with the kids because it is rewarding for me,” Palmer said.

Palmer loves when Christmas time comes around because she gets to help the kids with projects and see all of the excitement that comes from the students as they are getting ready for break.

I asked her who or what inspired her to be a para and her response was “I don’t think it was necessarily someone, but I do hair which is my second job and so I always wanted to be a teacher when I was little. When my son started preschool, I saw an ad about a para position and so I thought that it would be a good opportunity for me to be a para. It would work with my son’s schedule, and it would also make it less of a hassle to know who is babysitting him,” Palmer said.

“I always thought of being a nurse, but I thought that I was too old to be able to go back to school,” Palmer said. Palmer said that she doesn’t have a lot of energy or time during the day to go back to school to get her degree in nursing.



Science in the Classroom

Article by Krystal Bigley

Ms. Kelsey Piper is the high school science teacher at Scribner-Snyder. She has worked at Scribner-Snyder for five years now. Before she worked here, Ms. Piper worked at Schuyler High School as a Biology teacher.

“I love being around students and being able to help the kids with the knowledge of science,” Piper said.

I asked Piper what she was looking forward to doing with her class and her response was that she was looking forward to the experiments that she plans with all of her classes. She also likes the math that she teaches chemistry students.

Piper also talked about what inspired her to become a teacher. “It was kind of because my mom was a teacher, and I saw the way she treated her students and all the things that she did with them. I used to walk into school and watch how all the classes were being taught. My mom told me that she loved her job and that it was a good job to have, so I thought that it would be awesome to get a job at a school and be a science teacher because that is something I have always loved to do,” Piper said.

Ms. Piper loves her job and is glad to be a teacher at Scribner-Snyder and as a school, we love having her here.

Janitor of the Year

Article by Kaiden Jones

Today I interviewed Mr. Kevin Wisnieski our janitor. He has been working at our school for eight years this March. He is very well liked and he works very hard especially with a global pandemic going on. I asked him a couple questions related to his job.

I wanted to know what Wisnieski liked most about his job. “I like setting up for the games. It allows me to show my school spirit. I really miss setting up for the football games. It was something I enjoyed doing.”

I also wanted to know what the hardest part of his job is each day. His answer ended up surprising me. It wasn't something he had to do every day, instead it was at the end of the school year and part of summer clean-up. “Getting all the desks out of the rooms at the end of the year so carpets can be cleaned and floors can be waxed is the hardest part. The teachers' desks are always so heavy and awkward”, Wisnieski said.

Wisnieski also drives bus for the district. He drives it in the evening after school is over and has driven for junior high football and volleyball practices. He really enjoys driving in the evening because the kids have more energy. “I enjoy listening to stories the students have to tell about their days.”



Aide on the Way

Article by Sam Stadt



For seventeen years and counting, Mrs. Jan Schut has been helping kids achieve and helping set off their light bulb. Schut works in the elementary buildings primarily with first and second graders. She spends her time assisting these young kids with reading and math. Yet you won't only see her helping there, she also helps at their breakfast and lunch. She gets to see all the elementary students as she checks them in to eat. You may even see her helping check the high schoolers in to eat.

“For breakfast and lunch, I do the elementary report for Deb to put in the computer. As they come through, I mark down who's eating, and if Deb is gone I do the high school,” Schut said.

Between running back and forth helping those students you might expect her to be having a hard time, but contrary to that, nothing seems that hard for her. Working here for seventeen years,

Schut understands how to do things in the most efficient way making her job just a little bit easier thanks to experience. There is one thing that can get in the way and make her job harder.

“Older grades can be a challenge, since math has really changed. That can be difficult,” Schut admitted.

After seventeen years many may wonder, what keeps her going. Seventeen years is a long time in anything. When asked Schut explained the amount of joy she finds helping the kids.

“A lightbulb like goes off, and you can tell from their face, they got it,” Schut explains further.

For her it makes her feel like she really has made an impact on these kids. Just seeing it click makes her feel much better. Schut even brought up about how some kids are getting behind due to Covid related issues. There is plenty of homework that doesn’t get done and does indeed stress the kid out. Yet Schut takes all of her experience, buckles down, and helps those kids understand and excel at their homework.

Christmas in 4th Grade

Article by Thomas Baker

This Christmas Ms. Stephanie Rangeloff’s 4th grade class made presents for their parents. Rangeloff bought each student an 8 by 10 canvas to paint, decorate, and give as a gift to their parents. “I hope by making, wrapping, and giving a gift they understand the importance of giving a gift and not just receiving a gift. I also hope they will see it as a keepsake they can use as a decoration in the years to come,” Rangeloff said.

This year the project will be a little bit different because students won’t be able to share supplies like paintbrushes or writing utensils.

Rangeloff has only taught 4th grade at SSCS. Rangeloff has been teaching here for 17 years and likes to help the students when they get the idea through their heads. She enjoys helping them working one on one with small groups.



Middle School Science, Life Skills Physical Education & Strength and Conditioning

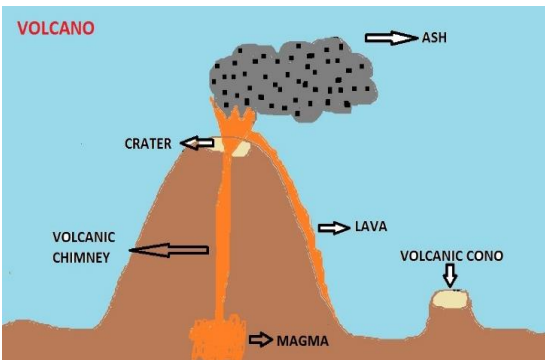
By: Justin McDuffee

7-9 Science and Strength & Conditioning 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 just 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 just began is The Diversity of Living Things. The 7th grade just received their rainbow

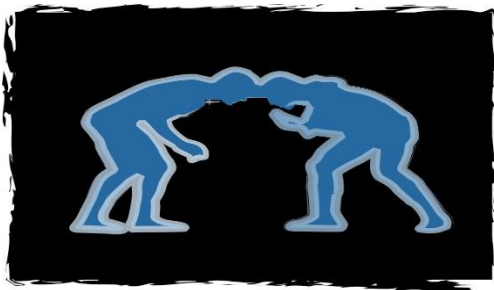


trout eggs that they will be raising in an aquarium provided by the Nebraska Game & Parks. The students are very excited to see how they grow and get a chance to dissect a trout (not the ones we raise!)

The 8th graders are working on their second text book about The Dynamic Earth. In this text book, 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. They started the school year with Space Science and built model rockets and had fun launching them. The freshmen are currently learning about forces, motion, and Newton's laws of motion. The science classes have been having a fun learning experience this year!

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!



Good luck to our Trojan girls and boys during district and state wrestling competition. Kristen Schellenberg and Ashley Stadt will compete at the state level January 29-30. Schellenberg's first opponent is Charlotte Dodd, a freshman from Plattsmouth and Ashley's first opponent is Ashley Tennille Warembourg, a sophomore from WAPA. Jaxon Smutz and Chandler Carrier will compete at sub-districts February 6th for their

chance to wrestle at the state tournament this year. If we have a qualifier, they will wrestle on Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 17 & 18th.

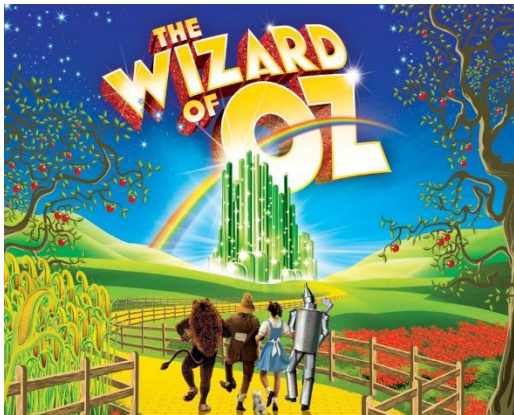
Community Benefit for Dan Mowinkel

A benefit for former Logan View teacher and LVSS coach is scheduled for **Feb. 21st** at the Uehling Auditorium. Dan is currently on the path to recovery from battling COVID. A drive-by sloppy joe to-go-meal will be served from 10:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. at the Uehling Auditorium. Follow the signs and stay in your car and your meals will be delivered to you. Free will donations will be accepted.

MUSIC IS IN THE AIR AT SSCS

One year ago, at this time I was sitting down to do this article and had no idea of how many changes were going to be coming down the road at us. As always, our students and staff rolled with the punches and have made this year successful.

We are working towards planned performances this spring at both the elementary and senior high level. A lot is still up in the air as to how those will look but the plans are as of now to continue on with things eventually getting back to “normal”. If there are changes, we will again “roll with the punches”.



January and February are busy preparing for the last two and half months of the school year. March is busy with preparations for *The Wizard of Oz*. This is our second attempt at performing the musical and the kids are excited to put it together with new faces on some parts. Participation again will be open to students 3-12 and that rehearsal schedule will be coming soon. The performances are scheduled for **Saturday, March 27 and Sunday March 28.**

Congratulations go out to Savanna Lundry and Rylee Nemecek who were selected to the East Husker

Conference (EHC) Honor Band. They will be participating in that event on Monday, February 8 at Stanton Public Schools. Also, congratulations go out to Krystal Bigley, DesiRae Svehla, Savanna Lundry, Cloe Lundry, Rylee Nemecek, Maycie Streit, Eryn Hull, Merivath Zamora, and Garrett Hunke for being selected to the EHC Honor Choir. This event was originally scheduled to be held at S-S back in November but had to be rescheduled for March 15. It will now take place at the Nielson Center in West Point. We are very proud of our music students who have worked hard for their accomplishments.

Additionally, we will be starting the music for spring concerts and District Music Contest. It's a busy few months putting all of these things together and we hope that we can once again get to see you at our performances. Have a safe spring!

SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS

SAMANTHA PAGE STADT

Plans after high school: College maybe, then live together with friends.

Favorite experience: eSports, because we can all be dumb together.

Favorite teacher: Mrs. Schafer, because she puts up with me and doesn't judge my jokes.

What motivated you in school: Money, friends and family

What will you miss most: My friends, Konnor and Harley, and eSports.



KRYSTAL LEE BIGLEY

Plans after high school: I am planning on getting a job and also getting an apartment with my boyfriend.

Favorite experience: Getting to know everyone and being an FFA officer for 2 years.

Favorite teacher: Mr. Meyer because he taught me how to believe in myself.

What motivated you in school: My mom and Nana motivated me to always keep going even though things could be hard.

What will you miss most: I'm going to miss being a student. I will miss younger friends and participating in activities.

SYDNEY FAYE WOLFGRAM

Plans after high school: Going to school at UNL for business and law.

Favorite experience: State FCCLA

Favorite teacher: Mr. Stevens. He was such a cool teacher and made English fun.

What motivated you in school: Just thinking about graduating motivated me.

What will you miss most: Seeing my classmates and friends.



FCCLA District STAR and FFA LDEs- Article by Matt Hull

January is a busy month for competitions in FCCLA and FFA.

FCCLA District STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) event competition takes place this month. Usually the members travel to Wayne State College but this year because of Covid, members will submit their projects virtually for judging. Six people are competing in the STAR events this year. Hannah Ryun will compete in Chapter website, Jillian Dames and Kelby Dames with Instructional video design, Eryn Hull in Career Investigation, and Izzy Carrier and McKenna Stewart with Chapter in Review.

This is Eryn Hull's first year competing in career investigation. "I am doing a career overview of a storyboard artist," said Hull. She is required to find out what classes a story board artist would need to take in college and how to get the job. Hull is also in contact with a storyboard artist to ask specific questions related to his job.

The Jillian and Kelby Dames are putting together an instructional video about the proper technique for weight lifting. They believe people should take an interest in their video so that they can maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"My goal is to qualify for Nationals in the summer," said Jillian Dames.

Kelby's said, "I want whoever watches the video to retain the information." They both said they do not mind the competition being online this year because their project is digital every year.

FFA LDE (Leader Ship Development Events) will be presented virtually the last week of January as well. SSCS FFA members competing in events are Public Speaking-Kristal Bigley; Jr. Public Speaking-Addison Lange, Ag Demo-Cailey Stout, Addison Lange, Jenna Adams, and Chandler Carrier, Ag literacy-Zoey Gathman and Keira Stout, Discovery Speaking-Nattlie Hull, and Creed Speaking-Hannah Ryun.

"I am doing a senior speech called Purposes and Introduction to Handling Cattle," said Kristal Bigley. Bigley presents her speech via zoom on January 27.

The Ag (Agriculture) demos are a demonstration about a topic in the agricultural field. The topic can span over many things. Some examples from previous years at the competitions are oil changes, changing tires, and various other things. This year the team from SS is competing with their Ag Demo over preg checking a cow. This is the process of checking to see if a cow is pregnant.

This month many competitions are happening for FFA and FCCLA. Both chapters at the school are going to try their best and are all aiming for state and nationals for their events.

Notes from Mr. Ruzicka---MAPS Testing/JH Wrestling

We will be doing MAPS tests February 9th – February 23rd, which will consume several days of solid testing. Each student, grades 7-11, will test in the areas of Math, Reading, Language Arts, and Science. They will do only one of the subtests per day.

We are also in the heart of our Wrestling season with both Varsity and Junior High seasons in full swing. The landscape of high school wrestling looks a little different this year with the growth of girls wrestling. We currently have 2 boys and 3 girls on the high school team. Weekends are often split with the boys heading one direction, and the girls heading in another. High school boys have tournaments in Pender for Conference, East Butler, Sub-Districts in Shelby and finally Districts at Weeping Water remaining. This is all leading up to the finale in Omaha on February 17th-18th. The high school girls have a tournament in Weeping Water with the State tournament finale in York, NE on January 29th-30th. Junior High season is also just starting. That eats up most Monday nights in steamy gymnasiums packed full of unruly JH kids. We currently have 8 JH wrestlers, 6 boys and 2 girls, and so far, have had two competitions. We started off at the Wisner-Pilger JH Invite and headed to a tough 17 team tournament at Oakland-Craig on January 25th. After a week off, action continues in Stanton on February 8th.

Seniors...make sure you complete the FAFSA process

Getting financial aid for college involves more than completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete each step of the process so that you don't miss out on money for college.

1. **If you haven't already, complete your 2021-22 FAFSA** at studentaid.gov using 2019 income tax data. Before you start, you and a parent must each create a [Student Aid account](#). If you need help with your FAFSA, [contact EducationQuest](#) to set up a free virtual appointment.
2. **Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) via an email link.** The SAR acknowledges that your FAFSA was received and lets you know if you need to take further action before the form can be processed.
3. **You might receive a verification notice** from the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA requesting documents to verify your FAFSA information. The college will not process your financial aid until you provide required documents.
4. **Watch for financial aid award notifications.** Once you're accepted for admission to the colleges you listed on your FAFSA, they will notify you of the types and amounts of financial aid they're offering.

What you need to know about scholarships

Most scholarships are based on academics, but others are based on community service, school involvement, or talent. Some are based on financial need as determined by the results of your FAFSA. Here's where to look for scholarships:

1. [ScholarshipQuest](#) at [EducationQuest.org](https://www.educationquest.org) houses over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. After you create a profile, you'll be matched with scholarships that fit your criteria. You'll also find links to national sites that EducationQuest recommends.
2. **Your school counselor's office.** Visit regularly to check on local and national awards.
3. **The college you plan to attend.** Contact the school for a list of scholarships they provide and the application procedures.

4. **Other resources** could include your coach, clubs and organizations, and your parents' employers and civic organizations.

Two easy-to-apply-for scholarships from EducationQuest

Don't miss out on these scholarships for Nebraska students in grades 9-12:

Get Social Scholarship – By following EducationQuest on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), you can enter into a drawing for a \$500 scholarship each time we hit another 250 followers.

Scavenger Hunt Scholarship – To apply for this scholarship, create a *ScholarshipQuest* profile at [EducationQuest.org](#) and then scavenge around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions on a survey. The deadline to apply is **March 31**. We'll draw two winners from those who answer all questions correctly.

Save the Date...Virtual College Fair is March 2-3

EducationQuest will host a Virtual College Fair Tuesday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m.-noon and Wednesday, March 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. During this event, you can chat with college representatives and watch live college-prep presentations. Watch for details!