



**SCRIBNER-SNYDER
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022**

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Patrons:

The first few weeks of school are flying by. By the time you read this article we'll be in the fifth week of the first nine weeks of school. The students and staff have settled in to their daily routines and extra-curricular activities are in full swing. The start of the year has gone smoothly and the staff are enjoying the start the year.

Our 4-5-6 grade students enjoyed having a guest speaker talk about Nebraska history on September 15th. Mr. Dunn brought a lot of knowledge and hands-on props to share with the kids about the pioneer days in Nebraska. We'd like to thank him for taking time to share his information with our students.

The first Parent-Teacher Conferences took place September 21st. The teachers and parents had an opportunity to talk to one another about the students' progress so far this school year. The conferences were well attended again this fall. We'd like to thank the teachers for prepping for these meetings and to all the parents who took time to attend.

SSCS staff and students will be participating in the 2022 Homecoming activities the week of September 26th-Oct. 1st. The students will be doing the normal dress-up days throughout the week, with the Homecoming parade and activities downtown being held on Friday, September 30th. SSCS's coronation/pictures will take place on Saturday evening, October 1st, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. The Homecoming dance will follow from 8:00-11:00 p.m. Logan View students are welcome to attend. SSCS students are also invited to attend Logan View's Homecoming Dance on Friday, September 30th after the football game.

Student grades are also available for your review at any time on Powerschool. If you have forgotten your Powerschool log-on code please call the school for assistance. A reminder that the eligibility list began on September 12th. The quarter is set to end on Thursday, October 13th with a 1:30 p.m. dismissal.

We want to wish our softball, volleyball and football teams much success this fall as they continue their sports season. If you get a chance please take some time to attend their games and support our student-athletes.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy fall.

Respectfully Yours, Mr. Stithem

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

October/November 2022

By Joe Peitzmeier

As of this writing, I can hardly believe that we just completed our 28th day of school. We have had a great start to the school year. It won't be long until we are celebrating Halloween and Thanksgiving will be right around the corner.

Just a year ago, I wrote in this newsletter: *"In this upcoming year, the school board will be investigating the facility needs of the district to provide the best resources to ensure the best education possible.* That process continues and the Board recognizes that a vital role of the Board of Education and administration is to gather input and recognize the expectations of district and community stakeholders on issues related to the education of students, their academic achievements, and the environment in which they learn. On behalf of the School Board, I am pleased to announce that the board and administration will be renewing the district's strategic plan to review and summarize success the district has made over the past 3 – 5 years and to support the continued program of education in our school district.

The board has enlisted the services of the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) and DLR Group to assist in the engagement of stakeholders to consider and discuss the mission, vision, beliefs, and data gathered throughout the process. Be on the lookout for an invitation to participate in online surveys and community focus group meetings. I look forward to working with you all throughout this process.

I wish everyone a great school year and hope that we continue to work together for the best possible education for our kids. If you ever have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or visit the schools.



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 the bus/van home as usual.

*Parents are asked to listen to KFAB 1110 radio, KTIC 107.9 (The Bull), or Channels 3, 6, or 7 in Omaha, and the School Website for any school closings,

late starts, or early dismissals in case the weather is threatening.

*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.

*In case of late starts, early dismissals, and/or school closings a message will also be sent out on School Messenger.

One Stoplight. Infinite Possibilities

By Laura Enos

“To make a small town achieve its potential, you need everybody.” This quote by former Marysville, Mississippi Mayor, Unita Blackwell, is just as applicable to our school district’s two amazing small towns right here in Nebraska: Scribner and Snyder.

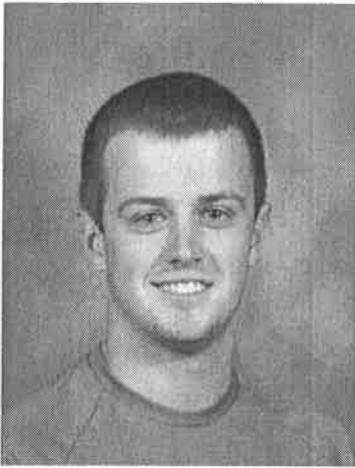


Every day that I arrive on the Scribner-Snyder Community Schools campus, I’m greeted by a gorgeous sunrise over the neighboring fields and school buildings. The students come into my Language Arts classroom with curiosity, smiles, and positive energy. It’s been a welcoming, upbeat vibe and learning environment to begin the school year.

As the One-Act Director, I chose a performance piece this year that pays tribute to one-stoplight-communities (The production is literally titled “One Stoplight Town”) and how all the different individuals who make up a small community are an important component to the town’s strong and supportive dynamic. We all play a part. I’m looking forward to seeing my 20 cast and crew members shine on stage this season. Just like in the classroom, and a student’s academic and overall school experience, we all have an important role in reaching our full potential. Thank you to my students’ families who encourage their children to be their best selves and cheer them on throughout the year.

Professionally, I’ve been more focused on providing positive energy and support for my students. I’m so impressed with how involved and busy our students are, yet they maintain a tremendous high level of spirit and commitment in their interests. Our students have big goals for themselves in both academics and activities. While my Language Arts students focus on their writing, reading, speaking and listening skills, I will be delivering a variety of lessons to encourage students to analyze, discuss and reflect on a variety of literary themes and personal reflection to help them grow not only as strong English students, but as mature and responsible individuals.

The Yearbook class, that I co-teach with Mrs. Drey, has a talented staff that recently chose their theme for the 2022-2023 publication they’ll be creating throughout the school year. The theme will be “Having a Moment”. It’s exciting to think about all the moments of success and growth our students will be achieving over the next four quarters. SSCS students are all fully capable of reaching their personal goals and it is my job to provide them the tools to foster these enriching moments. I appreciate your continued support.



Working at SS is a blessing!

It is hard to believe that we are already this far into the 2022/2023 school year. It is even harder to believe I have been teaching at Scribner-Snyder for over a year now. It seems like yesterday I was brand new to the community and I did not know a whole lot of people. Fast forward a year, and now I can say I have met some of the best teachers, students, parents, and other community members. Working at Scribner-Snyder and being a part of the small community has been a blessing. I can proudly say I work with the best coworkers, and I get the opportunity each day to work with some amazing students.

My favorite part about teaching PE at a small school is being able to work with kids at the kindergarten level all the way up to the senior level. It keeps the day interesting when you have students in the gym ranging from ages 5-18 throughout the day. I really enjoy working with the elementary students and introducing them to new skills and body movements. The most rewarding part of the job is seeing a student's face light up when they realize they did something that they previously didn't know they could do.

So far this year we have been busy with many different activities in the gym and kids are having a blast. At the lower elementary grades, we have been reviewing our locomotor skills, which include running, skipping, galloping, jumping, etc. We have also been working on our teamwork, communication, and cooperation skills with numerous fun activities and games that require the students to work together. In the upcoming weeks, we are going to be introducing some volleyball skills, throwing and catching, and frisbee activities to the elementary students. I look forward to a year of continued growth from all my students and of course, a ton of fun!

The high school students started the year sharpening up our volleyball skills. We have worked on bumping, setting, and serving. After our skill work was completed, we had some fun with a 4 on 4 volleyball tournament. Some of the units that students can look forward to as the year progresses is pickleball, badminton, basketball, soccer, frisbee activities, etc. I look forward to another fun year and to continue to develop relationships with each student I have in class!



**HOMECOMING PARADE IS FRIDAY,
SEPT. 30TH AT 2:45 P.M. ON MAIN
STREET BY Z'S BAR & GRILL. THE
PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.**

2nd Grade News from Mrs. Wuestewald

We have a dozen students in 2nd Grade. There are 5 girls and 7 boys. We're off to a busy and exciting year!

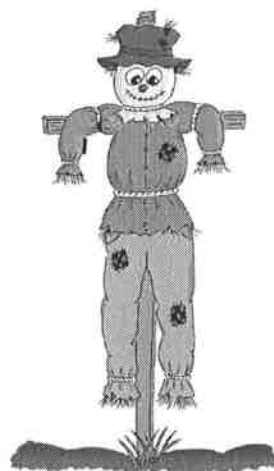
This year, we adopted a new Reading Series called Into Reading. This series is built on the concept of culturally responsive teaching. It incorporates attributes and knowledge from students' cultural background into instructional strategies and curriculum in order to improve educational outcomes.

In Math class, we've been learning our addition and subtraction facts. Memorizing our addition facts makes subtracting a lot easier.

During the first semester this school year, the Elementary students are getting the opportunity to learn some Spanish. Mrs. Schroetlin, our High School, Spanish/French teacher is teaching the 2nd Graders the color words in Spanish. It's been an exciting addition to our curriculum!

We'll be making necklaces, teepees, and totem poles as we study about the various Native American tribes in Social Studies.

Fall will be here soon! But, the warmer weather earlier this week makes a person wonder! The farmers are chopping corn and getting their combines ready. And, we're heading to the Harvest Moon Pumpkin Patch north of Oakland in October. It will be an adventurous, fun filled afternoon!



This year there are **incREDible things happening in FCCLA at SSCS!**

Three of the five officers recently returned from Fall Leadership Workshop in Kearney. At the workshop members were able to listen to keynote speaker Mike Donahue who is the founder and director of Value Up that focuses on positive school culture and embracing your value as a person. He was very relatable and his message was well received by the almost 500 students from 70 different chapters who were in attendance. In addition to listening to Donahue, the officers were able to participate in breakout sessions related to their offices and play FCCLA Jeopardy against members from across the state. They also wrote thank you notes to impactful people in their lives.

FCCLA members will be hosting a Pink Out night on Oct. 17 at the JV volleyball triangular. There will be raffle baskets, food, fun, and lots of pink. We hope to see you there supporting the team, FCCLA, and breast cancer awareness.

Fun Fest will be a night to come together for a good time. SSCS is hosting a dinner and hypnotist. While adults are at Mohr being hypnotized, FCCLA and Girls' Wrestling will be sponsoring a child care night at the school running the length of the event. There will be games, food, and lots of fun.

As the holidays draw closer, our chapter will also be displaying a tree at the Tannenbaum Festival held at Mohr Auditorium on

November 19. In the past the decorations for the tree have been colors related to FCCLA's red, black, and white. We have also made ornaments related to the state or national theme. This year's state theme is "Aspire to Inspire" and the national theme is "incREDible." Soon we will decide on ornaments to make and have a meeting to create those.

We are looking forward to some business as usual items this year while incorporating some new ideas as well. Activities that will remain the same are the delicious Valentine cookies, community service events, and attending local and state conferences. Exciting new opportunities such as chapter connections and a couple of new fundraising ideas are coming our way. We are excited for this year and all of the incREDible things that will be happening in our chapter.



SAVE THE DATE!
Scribner-Snyder Community School
is hosting the first annual...



S-S Fun Fest!

MOHR AUDITORIUM, SCRIBNER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2022
6 PM SILENT AUCTION & SOCIAL HOUR
7 PM DINNER
8:30 PM HYPNOTIST (ADULT SHOW)

TICKETS (\$30/TICKET) OR AN 8-PERSON TABLE FOR \$220

TICKETS GO ON SALE SEPTEMBER 1ST!

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE (ADDITIONAL COST) AT THE
S-S SCHOOL GYM & COMMONS

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MALIA NEMECEK AT 402.664.2567

For high school seniors, the time is quickly approaching to get your Free Application for Federal Student Aid

(FAFSA) filled out and submitted to the college(s) you're thinking of attending next year. Yes, you are submitting the FAFSA almost a year before starting college! October 1, 2022, is the first day you are able to complete a FAFSA for the 2023-24 academic year.

How to get started Before you complete the FAFSA, create an account at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). This is a unique username and password that is tied to your name, date of birth, and Social Security number, so it is very important that you write it down and keep it in a safe place. You will have to set up Two-Factor Authentication, which will require you to verify your cell phone number and e-mail address or use an authenticator app during this process. Make sure you use a personal e-mail address and not your school address. In addition, one of your custodial parents will also have to create an account.

Your usernames and passwords are used for various reasons:

- Logging into the FAFSA
- Loading parent and student's tax information onto the FAFSA directly from the IRS
- Signing the FAFSA for both parent and student so it can be submitted electronically
- Completing the student and/or parent PLUS loan process, if needed
- Keeping track of loan information

What is the FAFSA and when can I fill it out? The FAFSA is a FREE form that students fill out and submit to be considered for federal, state and college-based financial aid. The FAFSA opens

on October 1, 2022, at studentaid.gov. It is always best to get the FAFSA completed as soon as possible to be considered for the best financial aid offer you qualify to receive.

What if our financial situation has changed? The FAFSA asks for tax information from two years ago. If your situation has changed due to the loss of a job, a parent has passed away, excessive medical expenses, etc., we encourage you to do the following:

- Complete and submit the FAFSA as directed. You must report your 2021 tax information as it was reported to the IRS...you cannot alter it in any way!
- Contact the Financial Aid office(s) at all the colleges you listed on the FAFSA. Explain your situation and the college may be able to adjust the FAFSA results after they request and review your current tax documents.

How will I know my FAFSA is being processed? You will receive an email from Federal Student Aid 3-5 days after submitting the FAFSA. This email confirms that your information was passed from the Federal Processing Center to the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA. The email will include a link to your Student Aid Report (SAR), which will indicate if you are PELL grant eligible and if you were selected for a process called *verification*. The SAR is also important as a copy of it may be requested for some need-based scholarships.

What is verification? Verification is a review process done by the college to verify that the information reported on the FAFSA is accurate. Students need to watch their e-mail and college portals carefully for any requests from the college's Financial Aid office. The college may request additional documentation of some of your FAFSA information. Respond ASAP as colleges will not award financial aid until the verification process is completed. If you are selected for verification, don't panic! It is a simple process to complete and does not necessarily mean you did anything wrong when filing your FAFSA.

When can I expect financial aid offers? Each college you listed on the FAFSA will send you a Financial Aid offer, if the college accepted you for admission. The offer will be sent to your email address or posted on your student portal, so make sure you're watching those communication avenues closely! The Financial Aid Offer will indicate the types and amounts of aid you're eligible for, which can include institutional scholarships, grants, work-study, and federal loans.

If you've applied to more than one college be sure to compare your Financial Aid Offers to see which institution presented the best package. Ask yourself the following questions:

- How much did each college offer in scholarships and grants (which is money that does not have to be repaid)?
- What will my "out-of-pocket" expenses be?
- Will I have to take out federal loans and if so, how much?

Where can I go for help?

You have a number of resources available to learn more about financial aid and how the process works. Check out EducationQuest.org for upcoming statewide Financial Aid presentations and Livestreams, and to get signed up for Countdown2College monthly emails. Also, follow EducationQuest on social media for up-to-date information, and schedule an appointment with EducationQuest for FREE help!