STRAFFORD R-VI SCHOOL DISTRICT



YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

WWW.STRAFFORDSCHOOLS.NET

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

BY JOHN COLLINS, SUPERINTENDENT

The 2017-2018 school year is well under way and the beginning of the school year has gone very smoothly. All of the students and faculty are busy with the various activities and events planned for the school year.

The student enrollment for the district for the 2017-2018 school year is 1,192. The elementary has 550 students, the middle school has 267 students, and the high school has 375 students. The student enrollment is up 16 students from last year.

On Friday, November 10 the high school will sponsor the annual Veterans Day Assembly. The ceremony will start at 7:45 am in front of the high school with the raising of the flag followed by a breakfast for all veterans and spouses. The assembly will take place in the Strafford School Auditorium at 9:00 am. All area veterans and spouses are invited to attend.

At the July Board of Education meeting, I formally announced that I will be retiring at

the conclusion of this school year. It has been a tremendous honor to serve this great school district over the past 29 years. I have been blessed to work my entire career in one of the best school districts in the state.

The board of education has contracted with the Missouri School Board Association (MSBA) to lead the search for our next superintendent. MSBA has created a community survey instrument that we have linked to our school website. The survey will allow the community to have input into the search for the superintendent. The survey is anonymous and the results will be compiled by MSBA. MSBA will begin the search process in the next couple of weeks and the board of education plans to hire a new superintendent by the end of December.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OCTOBER 13

No School Staff Development

OCTOBER 17 & 19

Parent/Teacher Conferences

OCTOBER 20

No School District Offices Closed

NOVEMBER 22-24

No School Thanksgiving Break



<u>VETERANS HONOR PROGRAM</u> FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

7:45 am - Flag Raising in Front of Strafford High School 8:00 am - Breakfast for Veterans and Immediate Family 9:00 am - Veterans Honor Program in the Strafford Auditorium

We invite all veterans and their families to join us for this special morning of activities so that we may express our appreciation and gratitude. The event is free and open to the public.

For questions please call Lori at 736-7000 ext. 1423.

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September was a busy month here in the elementary and early childhood center. We celebrated Grandparent's Day on September 7 and 8 with over 1,000 special visitors to the buildings. Grandparents and students celebrated their special day with a music program along with either breakfast or lunch. Making the celebration possible is definitely a team effort and we appreciate all of the help and support we receive during these two very busy days.

The first quarter will end on October 12. School will not be in session on Friday, October 13 for staff development. On October 17 and 19 parents are invited to attend our annual parent/teacher conferences. Your child's teacher has emailed information about scheduling a specific date and time. We use Sign-up Genius to make the process quick and easy for everyone. Parents will have the opportunity to discuss their student's first quarter progress. Our goal is 100% participation. You should have received an email link from your child's teacher to sign up for conferences; if you do not have access to email, please contact your child's teacher to sign up. Please make note, no tutoring on October 17 or 19 due to conferences.

Students with perfect attendance for the first quarter will celebrate their achievement with an "Extra Recess and Ring Pop" celebration on October 12 in the elementary and on October 11 in the early childhood. School will not be in session on Friday, October 20.

Kindergarten students as well as early childhood students are invited to attend Family Fun Night on Thursday, October 12 at the early childhood center from 5:00-7:00 pm. The theme is "Outdoor Fun." All of the games and activities will take place outside. Come and enjoy a free dinner as well. We will be serving hotdogs, chips, and a drink. As always, great door prizes will be given out. Make plans now to attend the fun filled evening with your student.

October 23-27 is National Red Ribbon Week. The national theme is "Your Future Is Key, So Stay Drug Free." Staff and students will participate in daily activities to recognize the importance of being "Drug Free". Watch for more details from our school counselor, Mrs. Willis.

Third grade students will showcase their musical talents in their presentation of "The Adventures of Lewis & Clark", on Thursday, October 26. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

Strafford Elementary and Cogdill Early Childhood Center

MICHELLE GARDNER, PRINCIPAL ASHLEY BOUGH, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL LESA COLLINS, EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

Webster County Health Department will be offering a Flu Vaccine Clinic on Thursday, October 26 for K-5 students. Nurse Rolanda will be sending home forms for parents to designate participation. Please make note the flu mist will not be offered this year.

Fall classroom parties are scheduled for Tuesday, October 31. Watch for information from your child's teacher and/or classroom parent volunteer.

Fifth grade students will showcase their musical talents in their presentation of "We Haz Jazz", on Thursday, November 2. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

Please make note of the following for the week of Thanksgiving: no tutoring Tuesday, November 21 and no school Wednesday-Friday, November, 22-25.

Don't forget the best way to stay connected with our school electronically, is through the school website, mobile app, email and Facebook. If you have email and are not receiving elementary notifications, please contact the office to ensure we have your correct email address.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER NEWS:

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, October 5 and Thursday, November 9 as Parents As Teachers hosts their Little Indians Play Group in the early childhood center from 8:30-9:30 am. Come help your child work on social skills with other friends while enjoying mommy/daddy time as well. Plan on meeting at "Itty Bitty City" on Monday, November 27 for a Parents As Teachers Group Connection. Details will be given at home visits and monthly Play Groups.

Parents as Teachers is excited to announce a community wide Baby Fair on Tuesday, October 24 from 5:30-6:30 pm. Babies R Us, Pine Street Studio, Jean Marie's Cakery, and Emily Shook Photography are just a few of the sponsors and vendors that will be present. New parents will have an opportunity to learn about child safety, early learning, positive parenting, and healthy lifestyles. The event will include educational programs and informational booths from local agencies and non-profit organizations. There is no cost for the event and lots of great door prizes will be given away.

"IT'S GREAT IN THE MIDDLE"

MARCIA CHADWELL, PRINCIPAL

SHANE PIERCE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

It's hard to believe that we are already halfway through our first quarter! Grade reports will be emailed home on October 17. Reports will be mailed out to anyone without an email address on file. Please make sure that your contact and email information is current with the middle school office to ensure that you are receiving all emails and mailings from teachers and administrators.

All parents should have received a GradeWatch login. This program sends out a daily email that lets parents know if their child has any missing assignments for the day. This tool is designed to help parents know if their students are turning in their work.

Parent/teacher conferences are set for Tuesday, October 17 and Thursday, October 19 from 3:45-7:45 pm each day. Any student who has a C- or lower will attend a conference with their parents. Teachers will contact all parents who will need to schedule a conference time. Any parent who has questions or concerns is welcome to call and schedule a conference regardless of grades.

Junior high girls' basketball season will begin with their first game on Thursday, October 19 against Clever. Steve Frank and Kayla Davidson will coach the teams. The junior high boys' basketball season will not begin until their first game on December 7.

Please mark your calendars for no school on October 13, October 20, and November 22-24.

STUDENT FLU VACCINES

Flu season is right around the corner!
Webster County Health Department will be at our school to do flu shots for students in kindergarten through 12th grade on Thursday, October 26. The flu vaccine is only available in shot form. Please make note the flu mist will not be offered this year.

This year registration will also be online. Please watch for an email and on the building Facebook pages for more information. Contact your school nurse if you have any questions.

Rolanda Lawler, ECC & Elementary Nurse, rolandal@straffordschools.net (417) 736-7000 ext. 2205

> Anne Stever, MS & HS Nurse, annes@straffordschools.net (417) 736-7000 ext. 1442

STRAFFORD SCHOOL FOUNDATION BRICK PAVER ORDERS

The Strafford School Foundation continues to sell engraved brick pavers that will be laid inside the Indian Walkway at the front of the high school entrance. The next order deadline will be Friday, November 30.

There are two options available for purchase:

- * 4"x8" Paver will have 3 lines (17 characters on each line) of engraving available for \$99
- *8"x8" Paver will have 6 lines (17 characters on each line) of engraving available for \$149

These will be available for individuals, groups, and businesses to purchase. The entire purchase will be a tax deductible contribution to the Strafford School Foundation. The order form is available on the school website and can be turned into any building office with payment. Even though there is an order deadline, you can place orders at anytime. The additional pavers will be set as complete sections are sold.

If you have any questions please contact Marcy Easterly at marcye@straffordschools.net or 736-7000 ext. 1503.

"HIGH SCHOOL NEWS"

BRETT SODEN, PRINCIPAL

MIKE WILSON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The high school students and staff have had a smooth start to the 2017-2018 school year. We are very excited about the expansion of the high school into the old elementary building. It has allowed us to move a few classrooms that were being held in rooms outside of the building into the main building. The enrollment in the high school this year is 374. We have 27 new students, 90 seniors, 90 juniors, 96 sophomores, and 98 freshmen.

Parent/teacher conferences will be held on October 17 and October 19 from 3:45-7:45 pm each day. This is a great opportunity to visit with your child's teacher about their progress so far this year. You can email or call the teachers to set up your conference times. On Thursday, October 19, we will have college and career readiness night. The guidance counselor will have several different college representatives here that the students can visit with. There will also be speakers talking about different career path options, applying to colleges, scholarships, and much more.

We will continue to email our progress reports and report cards to parents. Parents that do not have an email will receive a hard copy in the mail as they have in the past. Please let the high school office know if you did not receive a progress report the week of September 18. This is a great time to come by the office to get your parent portal information so you can keep up to date on your student's grades.

We continue to stress the importance of good attendance. Strafford students have the opportunity to enroll in the A+ program that pays for two years of college at a Missouri public community college or vocational-technical school. One of the requirements for students to qualify is to maintain a minimum of 95% attendance for their four years in high school. If your child needs to miss school due to an appointment, please try to schedule on days we are not in session or late in the afternoon.

Strafford R-VI has an excellent website and mobile app that is full of information, announcements, events, and schedules regarding our schools. The guidance office webpage is a great resource for parents, especially those parents that have juniors or seniors. Scholarship information is posted frequently and there are several upcoming deadlines you will want to know about. You can find our website at www.straffordschools.net. We also post a lot of information and updates to our Facebook and Twitter pages. Please remember to "like" those pages to see those updates.

COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

Thursday, October 19
Area College Representatives and Military Recruiters
will have tables set-up in the
Commons Area from 5:00- 6:30 pm.
Career Speakers will present in the classrooms
for 25 minute sessions.
Session I: 6:00-6:25 pm

Session II: 6:30-6:55 pm Session III: 7:00-7:25 pm

SHS THEATRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

"Thoroughly Modern Millie"
November 16-18
Shows at 7:00 pm each night
Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time.

<u>Tickets:</u> Adults \$5 Students \$3

Follow us on Facebook at StraffordHSTheatre!

INDIAN PRIDE BAND EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 30 - STOCKTON BLACK WALNUT FESTIVAL PARADE

OCTOBER 14 - OZARK MOUNTAIN MARCHING FESTIVAL (REEDS SPRING)

OCTOBER 21 - ODESSA MARCHING INVITATIONAL

NOVEMBER 4 - WILLARD VETERANS PARADE

NOVEMBER 10 - STRAFFORD VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

2017 FALL ATHLETIC INFORMATION

DATE	SPORT	PLACE	TIME	OPPONENT
10/02/2017	7-8 Cross Country	Away	3:30 PM	Catholic Irish Invitational
10/02/2017	9-12 Volleyball	Away	6:00 PM	Conway High School
10/02/2017	Jr. High Volleyball	Away	5:30 PM	Stockton Jr. High School
10/02/2017	JV Football	Home	6:00 PM	Skyline High School
10/03/2017	Jr. High Football	Away	5:30 PM	Fair Grove Jr. High School
10/05/2017	Jr. High Volleyball	Away	5:30 PM	Ash Grove Jr. High School
10/05/2017	9-12 Volleyball	Away	6:00 PM	Skyline High School
10/06/2017	Varsity Football	Home	7:00 PM	Hollister High School
10/07/2017	Freshmen Volleyball	Away	TBA	Fair Grove Freshmen Tournament
10/09/2017	9-12 Volleyball	Away	5:00 PM	Carthage High School
10/09/2017	JV Football	Away	5:30 PM	Hollister High School
10/10/2017	Jr. High Football	Away	5:30 PM	Marionville Jr. High School
10/12/2017	9-12 Volleyball	Home	6:00 PM	Hollister High School
10/12/2017	9-12 Cross Country	Away	4:00 PM	MLC Meet at Fellows Lake
10/13/2017	Varsity Football	Away	7:00 PM	Ash Grove High School
10/16/2017	9-12 Volleyball	Away	TBA	Volleyball Districts Begin at Fair Grove
10/17/2017	Jr. High Football	Home	5:30 PM	Stockton Jr. High School
10/19/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Away	5:30 PM	Clever Jr. High School
10/20/2017	Varsity Football	TBA	7:00 PM	Football Districts
10/26/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Away	5:30 PM	Pleasant Hope Jr. High School
10/28/2017	9-12 Cross Country	Away	TBA	Cross Country Districts at Clever
10/30/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Home	5:30 PM	Stockton Jr. High School
10/31/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Away	5:30 PM	Marionville Jr. High School
11/02/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Home	5:30 PM	Mt. Vernon Jr. High School
11/06/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Away	TBA	Marionville Jr. High Tournament Begins
11/13/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Away	5:30 PM	Skyline Jr. High School
11/14/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Home	5:30 PM	Ash Grove Jr. High School
11/16/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Away	5:30 PM	Springfield Catholic Jr. High School
11/17/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Home	TBA	Strafford Jr. High Tournament Begins
11/20/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Home	5:30 PM	Fair Grove Jr. High School
11/21/2017	Jr. High Girls Basketball	Home	5:30 PM	Ava Jr. High School
11/27/2017	9-12 Boys Basketball	Away	TBA	Forsyth Invitational Begins
11/27/2017	Varsity Girls Basketball	Away	TBA	Ash Grove Tournament Begins

SHS CHEER STATE COMPETITION

The SHS Cheer Competition Squad will compete at the state competition on Saturday, October 28 at Hearnes Center on the University of Missouri campus. The squad will compete in the second session of the day at approximately 4:15 pm.

Good luck to our cheerleaders!

HOME SCHOOL INFORMATION NEEDED

The district is attempting to determine how many home schooled students reside in the Strafford School District. If you are currently home schooling your child or children and reside in the district please contact Vicki Tate in the central office at 736-7000 ext. 1500. Thank you for your cooperation.

SHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Strafford High School chapter of National Honor Society is pleased to announce the new inductees for the 2017-2018 school year. The students below will become members at the annual Induction Ceremony. As NHS members, these individuals will join the current members in completing community service throughout the Strafford area in the coming school year. Monthly community service activities will bring students together. Community service activities planned for the school year include the annual NHS Food Drive and volunteering for the Ozarks Food Harvest, Salvation Army, and Strafford Care Center.

Scout Askren	Mason Foley	Logan Owens
Makenzie Bast	Tilly Highfill	Megan Spears
Weston Boswell	Emma Johnson	Keirstyn Stroud
Skylar Busse	Logan Jones	Jacob Taylor
Andrew Caldwell	Clay Lawson	Jacob Tillman
Mica Chadwell	Nickolas Losh	Taylor Treat
Garrett Cobb	Ruth Martinov	Madalynn Ward
Makayla Core	Sofia Martinov	Madylin Wiertzema
Tabitha Crain	Clara Maughan	Reagan Williams
Chance Edens	Chase Miles	Austin Woodring



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Scout Askren Mason Foley Logan Owens Tilly Highfill Makenzie Bast Megan Spears Weston Boswell Emma Johnson Keirstyn Stroud Logan Jones Skylar Busse Jacob Taylor Clay Lawson Jacob Tillman Andrew Caldwell Mica Chadwell Nickolas Losh **Taylor Treat** Garrett Cobb Ruth Martinov Madalynn Ward Makayla Core Sofia Martinov Madylin Wiertzema Tabitha Crain Reagan Williams Clara Maughan Chance Edens Chase Miles Austin Woodring



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