

# Your School News Strafford R-VI School District

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019

WWW.STRAFFORDSCHOOLS.NET

## District News By Superintendent Brett Soden

The Strafford School District is excited to begin the second semester of the 2018–2019 school year. We hope our students and families had the opportunity to relax and enjoy the Christmas holiday. As we look ahead into the remaining school year activities, you will find a calendar of events for the district included in this newsletter.

I want to remind everyone of the upcoming MAP/EOC testing our elementary, middle, and high school students will be taking. This testing will begin April 29, and should be completed by May 10. In addition, we want to emphasize the importance of attendance, rest, and proper nutrition during this testing time. These forms of assessment allow our staff and administration to evaluate the progress of student learning. Also, the MAP/EOC provides a way for the district to evaluate the curriculum and identify areas in need of improvement.

### KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Kindergarten registration for the 2019-2020 school year will begin on February 5. If you are a Strafford resident and your child will be five years old before August 1, 2019, please sign up for a screening date and time by using the link on our school website at [www.straffordschools.net](http://www.straffordschools.net). For parents who do not have access to the internet, there will be a computer in the early childhood office that can be used daily from 8:00 am - 2:30 pm. Screenings are scheduled for March 25-28. These screenings will take place at the early childhood center. If you are not a current student, you will need to have proof of residency, the child's birth certificate, and an updated immunization record on the day of screening. All current students please bring updated immunization records. If you have questions, feel free to contact Lesa Collins, Early Childhood Director, at 736-7000 ext. 1102



There are several ways you can assist the school in communication efforts. For instance, visit the school website, download our app, follow our school social media pages, and provide a current email address to each building. We work hard to make sure our parents have opportunities to get as much information as possible from the Strafford School District.

Lastly, thank you for your continued support for the Strafford R-VI Schools. In keeping with our mission, our goal is to develop the potential in every student by providing a learning environment conducive to developing mature, responsible individuals who contribute to our changing society.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**FEBRUARY 15**  
School In Session  
Make-up Day

**FEBRUARY 18**  
No School  
District Offices Closed  
Possible Make-up Day

**MARCH 8**  
End of 3rd Quarter

**MARCH 11-15**  
No School  
Spring Break

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## Strafford Elementary & Early Childhood Center

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

Teachers and students are finding themselves working diligently toward their goals for the third quarter. Second semester tutoring has begun and will conclude on Thursday, March 28. Mid-quarter deficiencies will be emailed on Monday, February 4. Barring inclement weather, school will not be in session on Monday, February 18. Our fifth grade students will be hosting their D.A.R.E. graduation on Friday, February 22.

Elementary yearbook orders are being taken until March 9. The yearbook has all full color pages documenting classrooms and events for the year. Standard cost is \$15.00; yearbooks can be personalized for an additional \$5.00. Orders can be placed online at [www.ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://www.ybpay.lifetouch.com) by using our school code of 13037118. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

The elementary will be offering parents a chance to send a lip-shaped lollipop with a Happy Valentine's Day message to be delivered during their classroom parties. Lollipops may be purchased for 50 cents each. Order forms have been sent home with students and must be returned with payment by February 8 for order fulfillment. Classroom valentine parties are scheduled for Thursday,

February 14; KG at 1:45 pm, 1st grade at 1:50 pm, 2nd grade at 1:00 pm, and 3rd/4th/5th grade at 2:00 pm.

Mrs. Stone and her students are preparing for two upcoming musical performances. Second grade will perform on Thursday, February 21 and first grade will be performing on Thursday, March 28; both performances will be at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

Mrs. Willis is seeking presenters for the annual Career Fair on Friday, March 1. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mrs. Willis at [christyw@straffordschools.net](mailto:christyw@straffordschools.net) or call 736-7000 ext. 2208.

The third quarter of school will end on Friday, March 8. Don't forget to spring forward for the beginning of daylight savings time on Sunday, March 10, and set your clocks forward one hour. School will not be in session March 11-15 for spring break!

The Strafford Elementary Booster Club is excited to host their annual Mother/Son night on Saturday, March 30 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Save the date



for a night filled with dinner, dancing, and glow in the dark fun! More information and ticket purchases will be coming at a later date.

Mark your calendars for our annual Spring Carnival on Thursday, April 4 from 5:00-7:30 pm. We have many fun activities planned which includes a snack walk, face painting, inflatables, cookie decorating, pizza and much more! Watch for more details in a flyer to come home soon!

### PARENTS AS TEACHERS NEWS

Please join us for some family fun at our Parents as Teachers February group connection at Itty Bitty City on Monday, February 11 from 4:00-6:00 pm. On Friday, February 22, we will have "Music & Movement" for our February play group. Lynne McNeese will be leading us in some fun songs and ways to move. Our play group in March will be "Let's Exercise." Please watch our Facebook page for more details on all of our group times.

## Early Childhood Center News

The early childhood center is excited to host "Mom's & Muffins" on Thursday, February 7. We want to invite all the moms of our preschool and PACE students to a special cafe' in the gym; AM preschool is 7:45-9:00 am and PM preschool & PACE is 11:45 am-1:00 pm.

We will be offering parents/students a chance to send a lip-shaped lollipop with a Happy Valentine's Day message to be delivered during their classroom parties. Lollipops may be purchased for 50 cents each. Order forms have been sent home with students and must be returned with payment by February 8 for order fulfillment. Classroom valentine parties are scheduled for Thursday, February 14; AM preschool at 10:00 am and PM preschool & PACE at 1:30 pm.

During the month of February the students will be studying "Community Helpers." They will get a chance to visit many local businesses, have special speakers, and celebrate their future with a *Kids at Work Day*. On Thursday, February 28, the students are invited to wear clothing that would represent a career that they may be interested in exploring as an adult. As an added component the teachers and staff will be wearing their college, military, and/or trade-school gear to showcase where they attended for their post-secondary education/training.

Mark your calendars for our final Family Fun Night on Tuesday, March 5. Our theme will be "Very Hungry For Good Books." We have many fun activities planned and lots of great door prizes.

Our perfect attendance celebration will be a "Glow Party" on Thursday, March 7. We will celebrate the end of 3rd Quarter with our buddies on Friday, March 8. At our assembly we will recognize those students that have met their academic goals as well as attendance goals.

## “IT’S GREAT IN THE MIDDLE”

MARCIA CHADWELL, PRINCIPAL  
SHANE PIERCE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are already finished with our first semester! Spring break will be here soon for our students.

Middle school 2018-2019 yearbooks are on sale and must be ordered by Friday, March 8. Order forms are available in the office. The cost of a yearbook begins at \$33.00. Yearbooks can also be ordered online at [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com).

Mark your calendars for the upcoming award ceremonies to be held in the auditorium. The 6th/7th grade Honors Assembly will be held Wednesday, May 15 at 9:00 am to recognize our students for academic achievements. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Award Ceremony is also scheduled for Wednesday, May 15 at 1:00 pm. We will be recognizing all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, recognizing our top 10 students academically, perfect attendance students, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will be recognizing their top students in their classes. Group photos will be available for purchase. The district will be providing t-shirts for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to wear that day.

### “ACT UP” students:

These students are recognized for their Accountable, Considerate, Trustworthy, Useful, and Positive behavior throughout the school year. Teachers nominate ACT UP students and they are recognized at a PBIS assembly and given an ACT UP t-shirt. One boy and girl from each grade are chosen for each PBIS assembly. Congratulations to the students recognized for the last cycle:

### Third Cycle:

6th Grade: Ean Walker, Ellie Heil

7th Grade: Jackson Jacobson, Kyla Scrivener

8th Grade: Ayden House, Christina Buzhduha

### **STRAFFORD SCHOOLS SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Strafford R-VI School District special education department provides all information regarding the program for the public on the school website at [www.straffordschools.net](http://www.straffordschools.net). You can find this under the “Public Notices” section on the main district webpage. For questions, please contact Special Education Director, Dawnielle Baker, at 736-7000 ext. 1345 or [dawnielleb@straffordschools.net](mailto:dawnielleb@straffordschools.net).

### **MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE**

Missouri state law requires all incoming 8th grade students to have a tetanus booster shot and a meningitis shot before entering the 8th grade. Incoming seniors are required to have a meningitis shot after the age of 16. Webster County Health Department will come to the school to give these shots for 7th and 11th grade students who need them on Monday, March 18, 2019. Registration will be online. Parents can watch for an email with more information. Call Nurse Anne if you have any questions at 736-7000 ext. 1442.

## “HIGH SCHOOL NEWS”

DOUG FIELDS, PRINCIPAL  
BRETT BOUGH, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The second semester is well underway and our students and staff are wrapping up winter activities and gearing up for the spring. Many of our students have been competing over the last few months in academics, music, band, and athletics. We are very proud of our students and their representation of Strafford High School. Teachers have been working hard all year preparing students for EOC (end of course) testing. EOC tests are given in Algebra I & II, Biology, and English II. We will begin testing in May.

Attendance is always very important to each student. We had 55 students receive perfect attendance for the first semester. Many of our students are in the A+ program which requires 95% attendance throughout their entire high school career.

The student council students are busy getting ready for the next blood drive. The blood drive is open to parents and community members as well. It will be held Tuesday, February 12.

Our annual SHS Awards Assembly will be held on Wednesday, May 8. Seniors are preparing for graduation on Thursday, May 9. The graduation ceremony will be at High Street Baptist Church. Seniors, remember we are rapidly approaching deadlines for many scholarships. Please be sure to check in the counselor's office weekly and the counselor's page of the school website for available scholarships.

Scheduling for next year will be starting soon; the counselor will be scheduling time in the English I classes to help freshmen complete a four year plan and select classes for next year. Please watch for that information to be coming home with your student. A parent signature on the freshmen four year plan will be required. The high school counselor will be sending out more information to parents concerning scheduling.

Thanks again to our parents and community for the encouragement and support you have shown to our students this year. You are a vital part to keeping “Strafford Strong.”

### SPRING COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, February 12, 2019  
9:00 am-2:45 pm

Sign up to donate with Valerie Poynor at [valeriep@straffordschools.net](mailto:valeriep@straffordschools.net).

Walk in donors are welcome!

Hosted by the high school student council and the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks

### “WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE” SHS HOMECOMING WEEK

FEBRUARY 4-8 - SPIRIT WEEK

FEBRUARY 8 - ASSEMBLY

FEBRUARY 8 - CORONATION AT THE  
BOYS GAME

FEBRUARY 9 - DANCE 8:00-11:00 PM

DETAILS AT  
[WWW.STRAFFORDSCHOOLS.NET](http://WWW.STRAFFORDSCHOOLS.NET)

### JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM

The 2019 Strafford High School Prom will be held on Saturday, April 13. Any senior or eligible junior will be allowed to attend. Sophomores, freshmen, and non-Strafford students will be required to be brought as guests of a qualifying junior or senior. A meeting for those junior or senior students wishing to attend will be held on Friday, March 1 during the school day. Sign ups will be done March 19-March 21 during lunch. All paperwork and payment must be submitted to Mrs. Poynor at the time of sign ups.

**2019 WINTER/SPRING ATHLETIC INFORMATION**

DATE	SPORT	PLACE	TIME	OPPONENT
02/01/2019	9-12 Boys Basketball	Away	6:00 PM	Stockton High School
02/02/2019	9-12 Boys Basketball	Away	11:50 AM	St. Elizabeth at Camdenton Shootout
02/04/2019	9-12 Girls Basketball	Away	6:00 PM	Clever High School
02/05/2019	9-12 Boys Basketball	Home	5:00 PM	Clever High School
02/08/2019	9-12 Boys Basketball	Home	6:00 PM	Skyline High School
02/11/2019	9-12 Girls Basketball	Away	6:00 PM	Skyline High School
02/12/2019	9-12 Boys Basketball	Away	6:00 PM	Forsyth High School
02/14/2019	9-12 Girls Basketball	Home	6:00 PM	Fair Grove High School
02/15/2019	9-12 Boys Basketball	Away	5:00 PM	Fair Grove High School
02/18/2019	Varsity Boys Basketball	Away	TBA	District Tournament Begins at Clever
02/18/2019	Varsity Girls Basketball	Away	TBA	District Tournament Begins at Clever
03/16/2019	9-12 Baseball	Away	TBA	Lael Tournament Begins at Branson
03/16/2019	Varsity Softball	Home	TBA	Strafford Invitational
03/18/2019	Varsity Softball	Away	TBA	Mt. Vernon Tournament Begins
03/25/2019	9-12 Track	Away	4:00 PM	Republic Classic Meet
03/25/2019	9-12 Baseball	Home	4:30 PM	Skyline High School
03/25/2019	9-12 Softball	Away	5:00 PM	Pleasant Hope High School
03/26/2019	9-12 Softball	Home	5:00 PM	Pierce City High School
03/27/2019	9-12 Baseball	Home	4:30 PM	Springfield Catholic High School
03/28/2019	9-12 Baseball	Away	4:30 PM	Mountain Grove High School
03/29/2019	9-12 Softball	Home	5:00 PM	Stockton High School

**The spring sports schedule is not complete at this time.  
Please check the school website at [www.straffordschools.net](http://www.straffordschools.net)  
or the mobile app for further updates.**

**SPRING SPORTS PRACTICE**

Spring sports' practices for the high school will begin on Monday, February 25. Reminder that all middle and high school student athletes must have a physical, insurance information, and concussion forms on file. All athletes must have the required forms completed before the first day of practice or tryouts.

**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.