



STRAFFORD R-VI SCHOOL DISTRICT

YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

APRIL/MAY 2018

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

BY JOHN COLLINS, SUPERINTENDENT

The second semester is half over and the school year seems to go by quicker every year. The spring extra curricular activities have begun and the calendar is full in the coming weeks. The MAP testing for the district will begin in late April.

At the February board of education meeting the board approved the 2018-2019 school calendar. A copy of the calendar has been included with this edition of Your School News.

The 2018 summer school will begin on Tuesday, May 29 and end on Thursday, June 21. Summer school hours are from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Please contact the building offices for sign up information.

As the 2017-2018 school year draws to a close, I want to express my deepest appreciation for all of your support over the last 14 years. It has been a tremendous honor to serve as superintendent of this great district. The district annually scores in the top 10% of the state on our annual performance report. The academic and extra-curricular achievements of our students have been exceptional and have made Strafford one of the best school districts in the state. It has taken several years of effort, with all of us working together to strengthen all of our programs, to bring us to this point of achievement. Thank you very much for your continued support of the Strafford R-VI school district.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

School In Session

April 13
Make-up Day

School In Session

April 16
Make-up Day

Last Day of School

May 18
11:00 am Dismissal

CHANGES TO THE YOUR SCHOOL NEWS DELIVERY

The district has decided to change the delivery method of the newsletter in the future. The August/September 2018 edition will remain the same and be mailed as normal.

Beginning with the October/November 2018 edition, we will **not** be mailing the newsletter to every Strafford mailbox. The district will be emailing it to all staff and parents/guardians of current Strafford students. We will also continue to have it available on our school website and Mobile App. A mailing list will be created for anyone who wishes to still receive a paper copy in the mail. If you want to be placed on the mailing list, please contact Marcy Easterly at 736-7000 ext. 1503 or marcye@straffordschools.net.

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Strafford Elementary and Cogdill Early Childhood Center

MICHELLE GARDNER, PRINCIPAL

ASHLEY BOUGH, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

LESA COLLINS, EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

Spring is here and it is a great time to be a Strafford Indian! I am so proud of the continual generosity shown by our students, parents, and school community! In February, our K-5 students eagerly participated in our "Hoops for Heart" fundraiser, which benefits the American Heart Association. We are beyond excited to announce our students raised over \$16,683 for this great cause!

On March 26, we recognized the outstanding achievement of our fourth and fifth grade students on their Spring 2017 MAP testing. Trophies were presented to 21 students for scoring advanced in math and English language arts. Receiving blue ribbon medals were 81 students; 52 who scored advanced in math and 29 who scored advanced in English language arts. Receiving red ribbon medals for scoring proficient were an additional 157 students; 60 students who scored proficient in math and 97 students who scored proficient in English language arts. Our third, fourth, and fifth grade students are diligently preparing for upcoming Spring assessments that will be given in April. Keep your eyes open for more details to come soon. We look forward to recognizing even more students next Spring!

Lifetouch Studios will be on campus Tuesday, April 3 for Spring photos. Each student will have the opportunity to purchase individual photos and will receive a free classroom photo.

Mark your calendars for our annual Spring Carnival on Thursday, April 5 from 5:00-7:30 pm. We have numerous fun activities planned which include a snack walk, face painting, inflatables, cookie decorating, pizza, Culver's custard, and more! Admission armbands are \$3.00 in advance and \$5.00 the night of the carnival. We look forward to seeing students and their families interact with faculty and staff during a night filled with exciting activities, delicious food, and great prizes.

Our school counselor, Mrs. Willis, will be hosting the annual Career Fair on Friday, April 6 in the afternoon. Students always love hearing about exciting opportunities and careers.

Spring parent/teacher conferences are scheduled in the early childhood building for the PACE and preschool students on Tuesday, April 10 and Thursday April 12. A sign-up will be sent to parents soon.

Our Early Childhood Booster Club is excited to announce their Annual Daddy Daughter Dance on Saturday, April 21 from 6:00-8:00 pm in the early childhood center. Please refer to information sent home for details.

Teachers and students have enjoyed and are looking forward to their Spring field trips! Our field trips include:

* PreK/PACE	April 18	Butterfly Palace
* KG	April 6	Wonders of Wildlife
* 1 st	March 27	Springfield Little Theater
* 2 nd	April 13	Branson IMAX
* 3 rd	May 10	Wilson's Creek Battlefield
* 4 th	May 2	Wonders of Wildlife
* 5 th	March 28	State Capitol

Under the direction of Mrs. Stone, the elementary music department is busy preparing for upcoming Spring musicals. The kindergarten concert is scheduled for Thursday, April 26 at 7:00 pm. Students need to arrive by 6:45 pm. Honor Choir will have their Spring concert on Thursday, May 3 at 7:00 pm in the auditorium. They have also been asked to sing the National Anthem at the Springfield Cardinals game on Tuesday, May 8. Contact Mrs. Stone or any honor choir member for tickets.

We are looking forward to several events and student incentives in May. The early childhood students will have their Leadership Assembly on Thursday, May 3. Those students who have met their academic and attendance goals for the entire year will be recognized. Track and field day is scheduled for Friday, May 4, with a rain date of Monday, May 7. Preschool and PACE students will have their graduation ceremonies on Tuesday, May 8 in the auditorium. PACE graduation will take place at 8:30 am, morning preschool will be at 10:00 am, and afternoon preschool will be at 1:00 pm. Students with "Excellent Attendance" will have a field trip to Fritz's Adventure in Branson on Friday, May 11. Our school-wide Leader In Me celebration "bounce day" will be on Tuesday, May 15. A special thank you to Amberg Entertainment for their generosity! Our annual Talent Show will take place on Wednesday, May 16. Our last day of school is scheduled for Friday, May 18, with an 11:00 am dismissal, no lunch will be served.

Summer school will be held May 29-June 21 from 8:00 am-12:00 pm. The first week will be Tuesday, May 29-Friday, June 1. The remaining weeks will have school in session Monday-Thursday. Parents will be notified if your child is recommended to attend.

POW-WOW will be available through Friday, June 22. Please contact Mallory Ford at 736-7000 ext. 1107 for more information.

Thank you parents for your tremendous support as we "Learn, Lead, Succeed!"

“IT’S GREAT IN THE MIDDLE”

MARCIA CHADWELL, PRINCIPAL

SHANE PIERCE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The spring sports season is a busy time for many of our middle school students. Cindy Rear and Rachel Baker are teaming up to coach middle school boys and girls track. Aaron Luebbe is coaching the middle school softball team and Brandon Foley is the middle school baseball coach.

This is the season for MAP testing! Testing will take place from April 18 through May 3. Grades 6 and 7 will be tested over math and communication arts April 18-25. The 8th grade will be tested April 18-May 3 over math, communication arts, and science. We encourage all middle school students to get plenty of sleep, limit television, and to eat a well-balanced breakfast each day.

The middle school awards ceremonies will take place on Monday, May 14 in the auditorium. The 6th and 7th grade awards ceremony will begin at 9:00 am. The 8th grade awards ceremony will begin at 1:00 pm. Eighth grade students will go to the Max Evans gym for a group picture, which will be available for purchase. Each 8th grade student will receive a t-

shirt that they will need to wear to the celebration. Along with their t-shirt, students are asked to wear dress pants or nice jeans. Girls may wear nice jeans or skirts. All jeans, pants, and skirts need to meet school dress code requirements.

Lastly, our summer school program will once again focus on remediation rather than on enrichment classes. We want to wish everyone a safe and happy summer, and are excited about the year to come!

SPORTS PHYSICALS

The Cox Care Mobile Unit will be at Strafford Schools June 18-20 to do student sports physicals. Yearly physicals are required for all students participating in middle school and high school sports activities, including cheerleading. Please call Nurse Anne Stever at 736-7000, ext. 1442 for an appointment and the required paperwork. You must have an appointment and a parent or guardian must be present.

SPRING BAND AND CHOIR EVENTS

April 3 HS Choir District/State Large Ensembles, Willard	May 1 MS Band & Choir Spring Concert, Auditorium
April 5-7 Tri-M Band Festival, Auditorium/Band Room	May 3 EL Honor Choir Spring Concert, Auditorium
April 10 HS Band District/State Large Ensembles, Willard	May 7 HS Choir Spring Concert & Awards, Auditorium
April 19-20 Tri-M Choir Festival, Auditorium/Band Room	May 8 HS Band Spring Concert & Awards, Auditorium EL Honor Choir Performance, Springfield Cardinals Game
April 27-28 HS Band & Choir State, Columbia	

Reminder to Parents: All medication must be picked up in the school nurse offices before the end of the school year. Medication cannot be sent home on the bus or kept over the summer break. All medication not picked up will be disposed of.

“HIGH SCHOOL NEWS”

BRETT SODEN, PRINCIPAL

MIKE WILSON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

2018 has proven to be another very exciting and rewarding year for the students and staff at Strafford High School!

Many of our students have been competing over the last few months in academics, music, band, theatre, and athletics. We are very proud of our students and their representation of Strafford High School.

The girls' basketball team won the state championship for the third year in a row. This was a very exciting experience for our school and community. Thank you to the Strafford parents, students and community for your support during the games and giving the team a great welcome home.

The students have been very busy preparing for end of course exams that start in May. Attendance is extremely important at any time, but especially during exams. End of Course testing counts as 10% of the second semester grade. There will be several “Cookies and Cramming” events coming up to help students be prepared for their end of course exams.

The class of 2018 will graduate on May 10 at 7:00 pm at High Street Baptist Church. We have 87 students graduating.

We are excited to welcome Doug Fields as the new high school principal. Doug taught at Strafford for twelve years before he went to Fordland High School as principal. Doug, along with his wife and four children are long-time residents of Strafford. We know Doug will do a great job and we look forward to having him as an administrator for our district.

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”.

EOC/Testing Dates:

- April 25-26 - Biology
- May 2-3 - Algebra I and II
- May 8 - College Algebra Final
- May 8 & 10 - English II

Upcoming Events:

- April 14 - Prom
- May 9 - Awards Ceremony
- May 10 - Graduation
- May 18 - Last Day of School (Half Day)

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

Thank you to our community organizations for donating their time and resources to help the 2018 graduates further their college endeavors. The organizations that have contributed scholarship funds are: Strafford Community Teachers Association (CTA), Strafford Alumni Association, Athletic Booster Club in honor of Steven Lea Memorial, Community Blood Center, Strafford Chamber of Commerce (funding Future Business Leaders of America Club), MFA Foundation, Strafford Music Boosters, O'Bannon Bank, Strafford Ministerial Alliance, Mr. Jay Anderson with Shelter Insurance Foundation, Dr. Marion and Pat Wolf, William K. Berry, and Ronald Reagan Memorial Webster County Republican Committee.

Message from Food Service: Please watch your student's meal account closely during the fourth quarter. No charging will be allowed the last week of school. A more detailed notice will go out later in the school year.



STRAFFORD R-VI SCHOOLS
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