

Stanton Community Schools

Home & School CONNECTION! (Working Together for School Success)

Volume XVII, Issue 9

March 27, 2020

Reporters

Dr. Sieh Superintendent
Dr. Cunningham..... H.S. Principal
Mrs. Remm Elementary Principal
Mrs. Fernau..... Counselor
Mrs. Holoubek School Nurse

Events Calendar

- April 7**
Kindergarten Roundup (2:00 p.m.)
- April 10**
 - No School - Good Friday
- April 13**
 - No School - Easter Monday
 - School Board Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- April 23**
 - Curriculum Review Day (School is in Session for All K-12 Students)

From the Superintendent's Desk

By Michael J. Sieh

Moments Worth Treasuring!!

Jennifer Davies - Most of the memories that popped into my head right away involved your backyard at the beginning of the school year, so.....to keep things appropriate, I will say that the best memory I have of you in school is when you dressed up as Santa Claus and walked around jumping into all of the classrooms (and scaring the jeepers out of me) on the last day before Christmas break. 😊

Karen Beyke - I have several memories, but I will limit myself! My first time meeting you was when you and Mike Marotz stopped up to visit and see where we lived shortly after we moved to Stanton during the summer. Rod and I both thought that it was a friendly and team boosting act. Not all administrators take the time out of their personal lives to be neighborly! You have repeatedly talked positive about the community and encouraged us on how to be a part of it. Thanks for your sense of humor and enjoy your new adventures! Karen

Sarah Remm - In the few months I've worked with Dr. Sieh, I've appreciated the extent of his knowledge and the full support given to staff. He always focuses on what is best for students and encourages people to think outside of the box. Quality of education is of top priority! Never forgetting the nutritional needs of the staff and always providing great

food. From staff gatherings to parent-teacher conferences to in-services, never a disappointment! Love seeing the apron come out when it's time to flip those pancakes!

Raeann Patterson - Sharing holiday cheer!



Dave Stoddard - Dr. Sieh there are too many memories to count. We've had many conversations about school, activities, family, and life in general throughout the years. Some of the fondest memories will always be sports and activities related. I've always enjoyed the stories of your officiating and basketball playing days. I did fact check and can confirm your stories that you were truly unguardable from 1980-1983, as a Naper Bear. There were numerous football and basketball moments, as I had the privilege to teach and coach Mitchael and Broderick. With all of the challenges and successes over time that have included student-athletes and our staff, you have always been there to give advice along the way. Thank you for all of the time you have dedicated to the community of Stanton and

Stanton Community Schools. I wish you happiness and health, as you enter the next season of your career and life.

Carrie Jensen - My favorite memory is you taking the time to help me rewrite the conference band bylaws, including changing the event location. You were never too busy to answer my questions and always willing to help. Our conference honor band is now a much more positive experience for the students.

Teresa Paxton - Dr. Sieh is the same person to share his knowledge with staff in developing curriculum, assessment, grade book program, school improvement, and COVID-19 situational skills as the person who does a good job of flipping pancakes for staff breakfasts, discovering and returning lost items to students, and sharing his sense of humor with others. In the future may he continue to express these and other talents to all.

Becky Spotanski - You always did a great job of hosting our staff back to school picnics. You made them fun and inviting for the new staff. It was a fun way to kick off the school year and build camaraderie amongst people in both buildings.

Megan Olson - So this isn't a super specific memory, but I just wanted to let you know that one of my favorite "school activities" was the welcome

Please see **MOMENTS**, page 3



www.scs-ne.org
(402)439-2233

Questions??? Please Call!
Central Office – 439-2233
High School Office – 439-2250
Elementary Office – 439-2639

Happy Easter!

Connecting with Dr. Cunningham

By Dave Cunningham

The Unknowns...

As I type this newsletter from inside my office, in an extremely quiet school building, my mind wanders off to thinking about the students and staff and their well-being. We are currently in a time of uncertainty, as the school is closed to safeguard staff and students and help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Are the students and staff staying home to help with the social distancing that the CDC has asked all people to follow? Gas prices are dropping to an amount that I have not seen since the late nineties. People are hoarding toilet paper for some unknown reason. I have a cough from my allergies but am scared to death to cough in public, due to the fact that someone may take it the wrong way. We all have questions that we want to ask but understand that we are in uncharted territory.

The questions being asked cannot currently be answered. I am not sure how long before we will be able to answer many of the questions pertaining to the education of our children. Will this shutdown last only two weeks to allow the COVID-19 virus to pass or will the shutdown last longer? I have had the questions of - Will there be a track season? What about ACT testing for juniors? ACT has already postponed the April 4th test nationwide. If the shutdown carries on, we will begin having to think about prom and graduation. What do those look like moving forward? Students are missing a very important time in their life but the lives to be saved will be more important.

I read somewhere that this year's graduating class was born around the time of 9/11 and now as seniors they are dealing with a pandemic. It is amazing what these seniors have faced in such a short amount of time and how these events will shape them in

their lives ahead. Think of the knowledge they have gained from just these two experiences. It will be a graduation memory that only the class of 2020 will be able to lay claim.

As a parent I am beyond nervous and concerned for my children. The underlying concern I have is one of my children has no immune system. We must supplement the necessary steroids in his body because he does not produce any naturally. Although many people look at him as a healthy 9-year-old boy on the outside, many do not know what is taking place on the inside of the body. We do have fears each and every day he attends school as we are never sure of what he is exposed to for illnesses. We believe he needs the social structure of school to grow and be a better person and so we are willing to take that chance. The fear of illness is not that he gets sick. Is there a hospital near that can treat him, and a hospital that is not overcrowded from the influx of patients needing to be treated due to the pandemic, or the lack of emergency medicine needed.

There are many people in the world but also in our own community with autoimmune deficiencies. When you are out and about remember that not everyone has the same tolerance with their immune system. Good personal hygiene is important, washing your hands, covering your cough, and even proper social distancing is important as we work together as a community to fight the COVID-19 virus. I encourage students to stay home and limit your time with people from outside of your household. Keeping interactions to a bare minimum will help in disrupting the exposure period and periods of contagiousness. I want everyone to be able to return to school healthy when we are able to, and welcome all students and staff back into the building.

Reminiscing with Mrs. Remm

By Sarah Remm

Springing Into Action

With all the unknowns facing us right now, it is hard to say what the busyness of springtime has in store for us. Spring typically means field trips, plays, state assessments, increased outdoor time, field day, and much, much more. However, we are facing many uncertainties given the situation our nation is currently in. With constant meetings, emails, and webinars talking about the coronavirus, we've definitely been springing into action to address the many concerns that are impacting the educational system.

March 16th was meant to be the opening day for the statewide assessment, NSCAS. The Nebraska Department of Education has decided to suspend all state testing for the 2019-2020 school year. Therefore, students in grades 3-8 and 11 will not participate in any testing this spring.

Lil' Stangs Preschool registration opened on March 9th for the 2020-2021 school year. Our preschool operates Monday through Thursday from 8:00-3:30 for children ages 3 and 4. Applications will be taken for Lil' Stangs Preschool by appointment only. Several documents will be required for the appointment: proof of birth, up-to-date immunization record, proof of family income for the previous calendar year or the last 12 months, documentation of public assistance (if applicable), birthdates of all family members, and insurance or

Medicaid card. Parents will need to contact Casey Johnson to get the process started. Her email is cjohnson@nencap.org. She can also be reached at (402) 750-6808.

With the changes our country is experiencing, a "Learning at Home Plan" is taking on a much more significant role. What will be key for both parents and students is developing and maintaining a structure at home each day. Routines give a logical sequence and a framework in which we conduct daily activities. An established structure helps us feel safe and gives us a sense of confidence in managing changes. The structure within homes will look different. Not only will it include the usual chores and housekeeping expectations, but now increased learning times will become part of the norm.

Teachers are springing into action as they create alternate learning plans and look at ways of providing educational experiences to students in a nontraditional school setting. Learning materials and resources will be shared with students and families. As a staff, we will be thinking outside of the box as we determine how we can best educate our students, maintain skills, and meet individual learning needs. This will be a learning curve for all stakeholders involved, but we are strong. We are patient. We are understanding. We have hope and faith. We've got this!

Counselor's Corner

By Lindy Fernau

April Newsletter 2020

THE SPRING CAREER EXPO HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR THIS YEAR. THANK YOU TO ALL THE BUSINESSES WHO WERE WILLING TO SHARE THEIR TIME AND TALENTS TO GIVE OUR STUDENTS A

CHANCE TO EXPLORE DIFFERENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY. WE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING IT BACK NEXT

Please see COUNSELOR, page 4

Holoubek's Health Tips

By Lisa Holoubek

School Health Requirements for 2020-2021

Looking toward the 2020-2021 school year, here are the health requirements needed as mandated by Nebraska State Law. These are listed for Kindergarteners as well as 7th graders; however, any students transferring to Nebraska schools from out of state must provide the same health documents as Kindergarteners.

Kindergarten Requirements for 2020-2021:

All incoming kindergartners must have a physical exam, a vision exam, and current immunization records.

- Physical exam - performed by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.
- Updated and current immunization record (see attached for required immunizations)
- Vision exam- performed by an eye care provider (optometrist or ophthalmologist), physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.

Seventh Grade Requirements for 2020-2021:

A physical exam is a state requirement REGARDLESS OF PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS! There is a 7th grade tetanus requirement: all 7th graders must show proof of 1 dose of Tdap (must contain pertussis booster), given anytime after 10 or 11 years of age.

- Physical exam - performed by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.
- Tetanus booster (Tdap)- check with your healthcare provider to schedule.

Before school begins in August, the physical form, the eye exam form (for Kinders and out-of-state new students) and the dates of all new immunizations must be given to the office. Failure to do so will result in your child being kept out of school until all requirements are met. Please call the school office with any questions. (402) 439-2250 or (402) 439-2639.

Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1 st Grade depending on the school district's entering grade)	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4 th birthday 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.
Students entering 7 th grade	Must be current with the above vaccinations AND receive 1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.

MOMENTS

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back party at your house. My first year at Stanton I thought that was a great way to get to see and interact with everyone in a non-school environment. It was also great to see administration out of school as well. You have always made everyone feel so welcomed to your house, and that's something that I will miss!

Lindy Fernau - These are a few of the memories I have. I know there are tons more, but these were the ones that stood out for me. It has been my privilege to work with you and learn from you. I know you will continue to influence education in a positive direction through your work with WSC. You have a passion for education and a gift for expressing your views. Keep on, keeping it on!!

It has been refreshing to be able to share our philosophies of education without judgement but

seeking understanding and mutual respect. I have learned so much from seeing the direction of education from another point of view. You were always willing to listen to different ideas and take other's opinions in mind when making decisions. Thanks for your example and leadership.

I also admire the care and concern you have for the students in our district. You greet them all with the same caring regard. You want to spend time with them and get to know them. You have shared their joys, accomplishments and sorrows with them.

Last but not least, you throw the best "Back to School" faculty parties! Always fun to gather back together and start the year with silly games and good food in a relaxed atmosphere.

Russ Johnson - After (of course accidentally) hitting myself in the head with a large crowbar, trip to the doctor, all the paperwork, embarrassment of telling Mike what I looked like with an Arabian Headwrap from the doctor, I found myself a new nickname on our two way radios that I had to explain for years later to anyone who overheard Mike and I talk.

Karen Gray - The communities of Stanton Schools and the city of Stanton became my family. As a single person whose family lived out of state, I looked to the school and community for entertainment and friendships. In 2008 when illness caused me to miss three months of teaching, I found in the school and community emotional support. My biggest cheerleader was Dr. Sieh, who was a constant source of

encouragement. At a time when I feared I would never teach again, Dr. Sieh kept telling me I would. I saw a compassion and patience unexpected in a "boss." Thanks in large part to Dr. Sieh, I returned for six more years to the job I loved.

Also, when staff web pages were required, Dr. Sieh saved me from Boomer Tech Panic by creating mine as a sample for staff...loved it! Thanks, Dr. Sieh!

Sharon Schroeder - I remember you'd come around to the classrooms to wish everyone a Merry Christmas before we left for Christmas break.

I appreciated that on in-service days you would roll up your sleeves and put on an apron to make pancakes for the staff. (Maybe being a fry-cook is less stressful than being a superintendent!)

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**YEAR.
Future Juniors and Seniors -
Registering for Dual Credit
Classes**

Northeast Community College offers dual credit classes that are college classes and also count for high school credit. The college classes that are offered are general education classes that are easily transferrable for most college majors. These classes are only \$49 per credit hour, which is about one third of the regular cost. Future Juniors and Seniors from Stanton High School are eligible to sign up for these classes. It is recommended that they have a GPA of 3.0 or above to indicate their success in taking an online class. NECC is registering students differently for next year. The process is totally online and there are several steps that students need to take in order to register for a class. They first have to apply for admission online at <https://northeast.edu/Admissions/Early-College/> and click on "Apply Now". After your application is

processed:
1) An email will be sent to the email address provided with information including your Student ID and instructions on how to log in to your My Northeast account.
2) Contact Mrs. Fernau at lfernau@esu8.org for a list of the classes that are being offered and an instruction page on how to register for classes. Registration opens at midnight April 14th. Some classes (psychology and speech) fill up quickly so make sure you register right away if you want these classes. Be prepared with all of the CRN #'s before you register (you can get these from Mrs. Fernau). Remember, students will need to have gone through the admission process first and have a student ID.

SENIORS

The Stanton Community Schools Foundation Scholarships are due April 15th. All applications and information is available on the Foundation website that is linked to the

Stanton Community Schools homepage. Seniors have also been applying for many local scholarships that were due March 1st and April 1st. Mrs. Fernau will be contacting all the seniors through their emails about how to turn these local scholarships in. A big thank you to all of the scholarship donors for the amount of time, effort, and dollars that is dedicated to our student's educational goals.

College decision time:

Time to compare the college acceptance letters and financial aid award notifications. Write down the pros and cons for each school you are still considering.

Once a decision is made, you need to accept the financial awards offered and return it to the college of your choice. You will also need to contact the colleges you aren't going to attend so that they can offer your aid to another student.

FAFSA Completion

If you have not applied for financial aid yet and need help, please contact Mrs. Fernau at

lfernau@esu8.org or EducationQuest can help your students with financial aid or college planning issues online and by phone between 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. (Omaha - 402.391.4033 & Lincoln - 402.475.5222)

IMPORTANT REMINDER -

If you are accepting subsidized or unsubsidized loans as part of your financial aid package, you will need to apply for these with a separate application from an approved lender. You can get the information about the lenders and how to apply from the college, but a **separate application** is necessary or those funds will not be available for the student when tuition payment is due.

Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones. The world hasn't stopped; we are just pausing for a time to consider our priorities and enjoy those that are close to us. If you need help, please don't hesitate to reach out. Call the school for my number or contact me at lfernau@esu8.org.

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