

# R.F. PETTIGREW

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

## R.F. Pettigrew Elementary School

7900 W. 53rd Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57106  
605-362-3560

Relay Service for Hearing  
Impaired: dial 711, then desired  
number

Principal  
Mr. Kevin Dick,  
Kevin.Dick@k12.sd.us

School Hours  
8:10 a.m. to 2:55 p.m.

Playground is supervised begins  
at 7:50 am

If your Child is sick...  
If your child will miss school be-  
cause of illness, please call the  
office at 362-3560 before 8:30am.  
Feel free to leave a message on  
the voicemail if you have trouble  
getting through or if you need to  
call before school hours.

If your child will be absent in the  
morning, but will return by his/  
her lunch time, remember to call  
the office before 8:30am to add  
to the day's lunch count. Other-  
wise, you must pack a lunch to  
ensure your child has something  
to eat.



Sioux Falls School District and Pettigrew Elementary support the Fine Arts. It is amazing to see the improvement that a group of 84 musicians can make in a few short months. Orchestra starts in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and Band starts in 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Pettigrew, as in all the rest of Sioux Falls, but our students really seem to excel in their musical endeavors just as much as they do in their classroom achievements.

Both Band and Orchestra culminate their Pettigrew experience with a large, middle school festival that involves all the students from the surrounding elementary schools that participate in these activities. These events serve as a sendoff to the musicians, reinforcing their later efforts at both the middle school and beyond to the high school. In this way, the students get to meet their future classmates, and the schools are well on their way to being a feeder program for these higher levels of performance and skill.

But not only are the instrumental arts practiced and cultivated at Pettigrew, we also offer rich experiences to budding artist in the visual and vocal performing arts, through our regular specials classes that all grades get to participate in for almost an hour each week, from kindergarten all the way through fifth grade. The visual arts culminate their experience each year in a school wide art show. This year's event was just held at the end of April in conjunction with a book fair at Pettigrew. In addition, one month each year, our school participates in the "Off the Fridge" art exhibit at the Washington Pavilion, which highlights the selected art of 40 of our talented students. They host these families at a reception, and display their art to the public for a full month. Our entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade class participates in a program called "Paint the Plow", where the blade of a city snowplow is hauled to our school, and they get to design and paint their creation on this plow. This surely is another neat way that our community highlights the talents of our school and schools around us.

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## PTO BOARD AND CONTACT INFORMATION

### Co-Presidents:

April Grabow  
april\_grabow@yahoo.com

And

Marianne Mergen  
mariannelynn@hotmail.com

### Vice President: Carl Olimb

Carl.olimb@augie.edu

Secretary: Sarah Stokes  
smstokes@sio.midco.net

Treasurer: Rachel Nelson  
rnelson0309@gmail.com

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Our vocal music program is not to be outdone, as we host concerts each year that feature all of our second and fifth graders. These events always pack our gym, and now that we are able to live stream them on the web via the website called the Cube, this has become a popular medium, both in real time, and as a replay of the event that can be shared wherever an internet connection is available. Each year, Pettigrew PTO sponsors an Artist in Residence, and we are able to select a two-week experience where the entire school is able to participate. These artists have come from all disciplines of the Fine Arts, from performing artists, like Dallas Chief Eagle just this year, to past years' experiences with visual artists, writers, and actors and actresses. This is a wonderful program, and one that we hope will continue to be valued by our school community for many years to come. Pettigrew staff and students appreciate all the support that our parents and community give us in our pursuit and education in the Fine Arts, and we realize that these efforts truly do make our life that much more rich and full.

This spring, Field Day will be held at Pettigrew on Tuesday, May 30, and we will once again be recruiting volunteers from our parents to assist in this event. It is a fun time, hopefully with lots of sun, and having some volunteers makes for the event go even smoother. Soon, all families will be getting an e-mail from the school with an opportunity to sign up for as much or as little of the day that you can share with us. This is very much appreciated by all involved. Just remember, you must have completed the school's expectations of an unsupervised volunteer to be able to help in this event. If you have questions about whether you have completed that, ask your classroom teacher or call the office for assistance. It is amazing to think that we have almost completed another school year. The countdowns are on, and very soon we will be enjoying the warm and wonderful days of summer. Thanks for all your support of our efforts, and thanks for sharing your terrific students with us for another year!

# PTO Meetings

**May 15th 6:30-7:30pm**

**Preparing for Middle School with**

**Memorial Middle School Principal Carrie Aaron**

## Planning for the Future

By Dr. Brian Maher, Superintendent



Whether you grew up here and just never left, ended up here by “accident,” or made a conscious decision to call Sioux Falls your home, I would challenge anyone to find a better community to live and raise a family. As a recent transplant – but a proud one, at that - it is safe to say Sioux Falls is a rare gem – “a diamond in the rough,” as the phrase goes

The purposeful way in which members of this community embrace diversity, put the needs of the less fortunate ahead of their own, serve as “big brother” by watching out for others before watching out for themselves is something special. Sioux Falls has created a culture of caring without making it seem like work.

Make no mistake, there is much work being done – among the business community, by non-profit organizations that support specific needs, by teachers, parents and all of those in a position to create and sustain a thriving community. Sioux Falls answers the call to many needs with a progressive and caring attitude.

Moreover, it is my hope that the community will respond yet again as your public schools set out to define their future. While school districts across the country scramble to “save” their schools from declining enrollment, the vibrant Sioux Falls economy has created the opposite issue for South Dakota’s largest city. Student enrollment has consistently increased by 300-500 students each year for the last several years and incoming Kindergarten classes are markedly larger than exiting senior classes.

While the schools are not currently cramped for space, it will not be long before we notice there is less-than-adequate learning environment from a space perspective. Less progressive communities would call this a problem. Sioux Falls calls this an opportunity.

We have been mentioning enrollment and future facility needs in public meetings for the past year and, within the next year or so, will begin more focused conversations. There are many possibilities to consider. Nothing is assumed. Will enrollment require a new school – or schools? Will online learning eliminate over-crowding? Will specialized spaces be the way of the future?

These are questions we will seek to answer over the next few years as we plan for the future with our community. Just as Sioux Falls has done so many times before, I am confident there will be stakeholders willing to bring their ideas to the table. Sioux Falls’ culture of caring makes the community conversation one in which I look forward to participating.

**Thank You To all the  
Art Show  
and  
Book Fair Volunteers  
You all make Pettigrew GREAT!**

## IMPORTANT DATES MAY AND JUNE 2017

Date	Time	Activity
May 1-5	All Week	Teacher Appreciation Week
Tues May 2	AM & 7pm	4th and 5th grade Orchestra Concert and Matinee
May 8-26	Window	5th Grade MAP testing
Tues May 9	6pm-8pm	Roller Skating Party at Skate City
Thurs May 11	8:30am/9:15am	Images of World Assembly K-2 at 830/ 3-5 at 915
Mon May 15	630-730pm	PTO meeting in Pettigrew Library– Preparing for Middle School
Thurs May 18	3-8pm	Pettigrew Night at SkyZone
Fri May 19	All Day	Pettigrew Spirit Wear Day
Mon May 29	All Day	NO SCHOOL Memorial Day
Tues May 30	All Day	Field Day (tentative)
Wed May 31	All Day	5th Grade Retreat Day
Thurs June 1	All Day	Last Day of Quarter 4
Thurs Jun 1	8:45 & 10am	Awards Day Ceremony in Pettigrew Gym (tentative)



### **Lunch Accounts**

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**Reminder about student meal accounts. Please check your student account often to make sure they have sufficient funds to cover the cost of meals. Remember checks/cash may be sent to school in an envelope with your student's FIRST AND LAST NAME/ROOM NUMBER clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. To make a deposit online use the "Myschoolbucks" link on the [sfsd@k12.sd.us](mailto:sfsd@k12.sd.us) web site.**

**Thank You!**



**Spread the word!**

# **2017 Panther Dash**

**Sunday, October 1st, 2017**

**2:00pm**

**Pasley Park on the bike trail**

**Kids Little Panther Dash**

**Kids Panther Mile**

**5K walk**

**5K run**

**10k run**

**5k and 10k runs chip timed**

May 2017

Siouxland  
Libraries

### Library Closed

**Sunday, May 28** – all day

**Monday, May 29** – all day

### Tail Waggin' Tutors

Has your child's reading gone to the dogs? Help them practice by reading one-on-one to a trained therapy dog. Sign up for an available 15 minute timeslot.

**Monday, May 1** – 3:15, 3:30, & 3:45 p.m.

**Monday, May 8** – 3:15, 3:30, & 3:45 p.m.

**Monday, May 15** – 3:15, 3:30, & 3:45 p.m.

**Monday, May 22** – 3:15, 3:30, & 3:45 p.m.

### School Age Events (Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

#### **The Imagineers**

Wednesdays from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Registration is not required.

**May 3** – Celebrate the joy of reading during Children's Book Week

**May 10** – Create your imaginary garden.

**May 17** – Use creativity to make something extraordinary.

**May 24** – Celebrate with us for our last day!

### Teen Events (Grades 4-8)

#### **P.W.P.D – Prairie West Prairie Dogs**

Tuesdays at 4:15 p.m.

Registration is not required.

**May 2** – *No program.*

**May 9** – **Page to Screen** – Diary of a Cartoon Ki: This week, create a cartoon diary kid.

**May 16** – *No program.*

**May 23** – **Page to Screen** – The Imagination of Middle School: This week, draw on your imagination.

**May 30** – **Page to Screen** – Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life: This week, wrap up the year with the new movie based on *Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life!*

### Special Events

#### **Elephant & Piggie Day**

**Saturday, May 6 at 10:30 a.m.**

Celebrate Children's Book Week with Storytime at 10:30 a.m., followed by crafts, activities and a big surprise!

## Siouxland Libraries' Summer Reading Program

Kids who don't read over the summer can begin the new school year nearly three months behind their peers in reading skills! Playing catch-up is hard, and your child may end up slipping farther and farther behind. Encourage summer reading by joining Siouxland Libraries' READsquared program.

### Here's how:

**Step 1:** Create a free account at [siouxlandlib.readsquared.com](http://siouxlandlib.readsquared.com).

**Step 2:** Log reading to earn points and prizes.

**Step 3:** Let us know what you've been reading; we have great prizes for your hard work!

Program Begins#	Program Ends#	Last Day to Pick Up Prizes#
June 5#	August 10#	August 20#

**Note:** No longer awarding extra points for secret codes, reading lists, or missions. #

Children: K-3#		
Log reading by days, not minutes or pages. 1 day = 20+ minutes of reading that day.#		
Level 1#	Level 2#	Level 3#
15 days of reading#	30 days of reading#	45 days of reading#
Vendor Coupons#	Jumbo Coloring & Activity Book#	Book#

\*Paper Logs: Each bookmark has 15 tools to color for each level. Will need 3 bookmarks total. #

Kids: 4-6#				
Log reading by number of books + a book review of 80 characters or more. 100 points = 1 book of 100 pages or more#				
Level 1#	Level 2#	Level 3#	Level 4#	Level 5#
100 points#	200 points#	300 points#	400 points#	500 points#
Digital Badge#	Vendor Coupons (Canaries, Catfish Bay)#	Digital Badge#	Animal Ribbon# Bookmark <b>OR</b> Small Keyring Flashlight *while supplies last#	Book#

\*Paper Logs: Bookmark has 5 lines to write book titles for entire SR program & no reviews necessary. #

# SUMMER READING OPPORTUNITIES!

**Dear Reader,**

A book is a magical thing. Once you open one up and start to read, you can find yourself transported to any place in the world, any time in history, or any realm of fantasy an author can invent or your imagination can envision. The best part is that you can reach the most exciting destinations without ever leaving home.

The Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Program is here to help you on your way, encouraging you to read books of your own choosing and earn a FREE book, simply by following these three easy steps:

1. Read any eight books this summer and record them in this Summer Reading Journal. Tell us which part of the book is your favorite, and why.
2. Bring your completed journal to a Barnes & Noble store between May 16th and September 5th, 2017.
3. Choose your FREE reading adventure from the book list featured on the back of the journal.

**This Summer Reading Journal belongs to:**

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

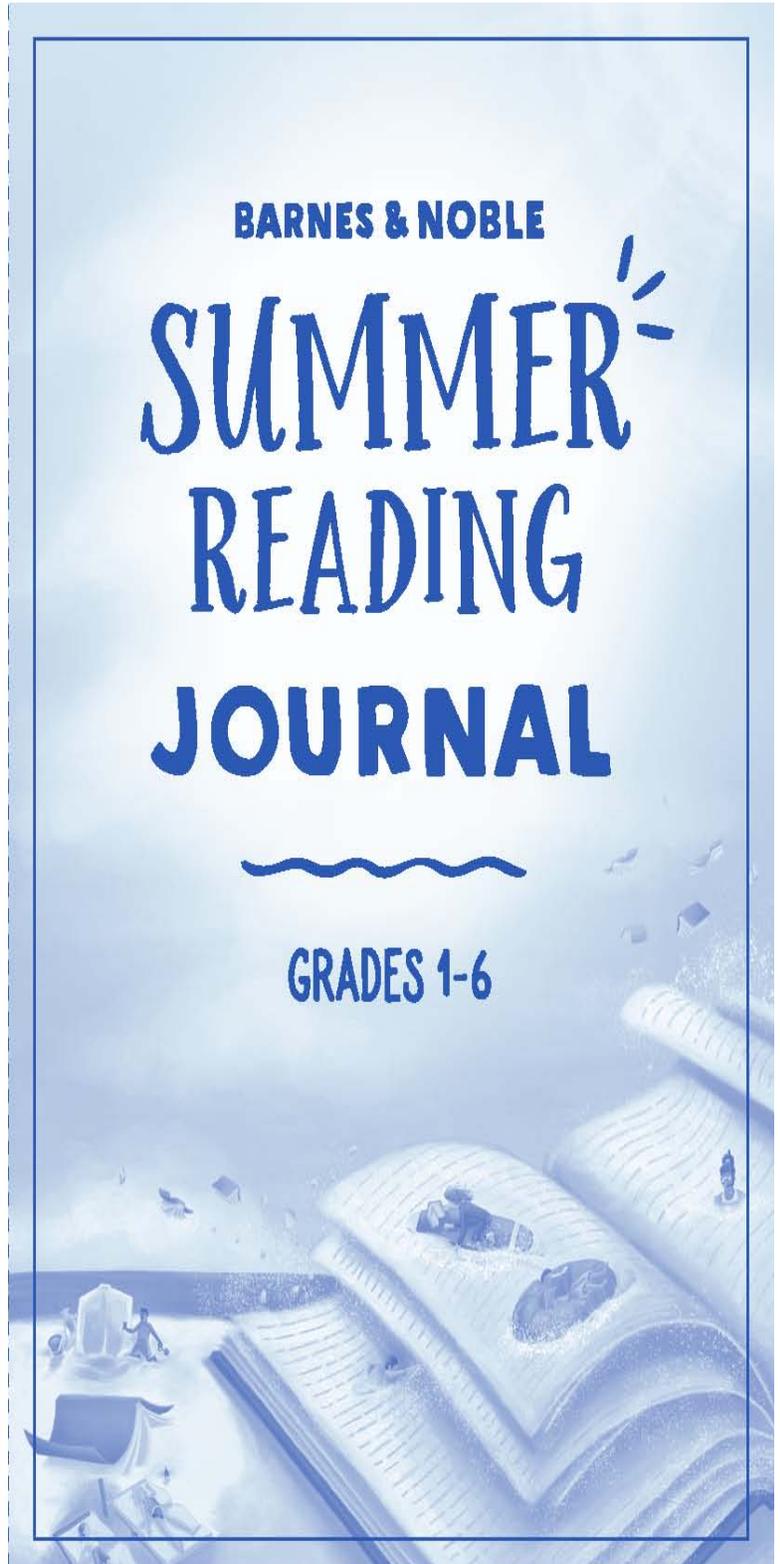
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL\*: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE TO RECEIVE COUPONS, SPECIAL OFFERS AND MORE:  \_\_\_\_\_

**BARNES & NOBLE**  
**BN.COM/summerreading**

\*Your email address will be used in accordance with our Privacy Policy, which can be found at BN.COM/privacy



# Chip Timed 5k, 3-Person 5k Relay, & 2 Mile Walk FEATURING ALL NEW FUTURE CHAMPIONS KIDS FUN RUN!

*Date: June 10th*

*Location: Cherry Rock Park*

*Time: 9:00 a.m.*

*AWARDS, MUSIC, & FUN!*

*Register at [www.allsportcentral.com](http://www.allsportcentral.com)*



**Support Sioux Falls Public High School Activities**



**Children's Safety Camps  
Grades 1-4 Completed**

Do you know what to do in an emergency?  
Do you know the skills to keep you safe in case of a fire, water,  
poison, or natural disaster?  
Have you ever wanted to be a policeman, firefighter or  
emergency medical technician?

Get ready to have fun and learn safety tips from our  
community's first responders:

**Children's Safety Camps  
June 6 or June 8  
12:30 – 3:30 pm  
at the Safety Village  
Grades 2-5  
\$10.00 per child**

The half-day Children's Safety camps will promote child safety and personal responsibility through demonstrations and question-and-answer sessions by first responder professionals from our community.

Safety Village of South Dakota is located on the WH Lyon Fairgrounds in Sioux Falls.  
Safety Village: "Educating to save lives."

**Register by May 15. Space is limited.**

To sign up or for more information, call the Safety Village  
605-334-7233 or visit [safetyvillage.org](http://safetyvillage.org).



## **Heroes Summer Camp Grade 5 Completed**

Do you know what to do in an emergency? Have you ever wanted to be a policeman, firefighter, emergency medical technician or crime scene investigator?

Here is your chance to experience these important careers!

Get ready to have fun and learn from the **HEROES** of our community's first responders:

### **HEROES Summer Camp**

**June 13-15 and**

**June 20-22, 2017**

**8:30am-3:30pm**

**at the Safety Village**

**\$75.00 per child** (financial assistance is available)

### Activities and Demonstrations by:

Sioux Falls Police Department, SFPD K9 unit, SWAT,  
Bomb squad, CSI unit, Sioux Falls Fire Rescue, Metro 911

The Heroes Summer Camp will promote child safety, character building, teamwork and personal responsibility through demonstrations, question-and-answer sessions, recreation activities and hands-on activities by first responders from our community.

Safety Village of South Dakota is located on the WH Lyon Fairgrounds in Sioux Falls.  
Safety Village: "Educating to save lives."

**Register by May 15. Space is limited to 50.**

To sign up or for more information, call the Safety Village  
605-334-7233 or visit [safetyvillage.org](http://safetyvillage.org).



# Project: SOS

## “Supply Our Students”

### FOR ALL STUDENTS

Free school supplies for families with limited resources.



### Distribution Day: Bring Child & Identification for Child\*

**Saturday, August 19, 2017**

**9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Whittier Middle School**

**930 E. 6th Street (East Gym Door)**

*Please do not arrive before 7:00 am.*

**This is the only date supplies will be distributed until school begins September 5th!**

**\*REQUIREMENTS:**

- ✓ CHILD MUST BE PRESENT
- ✓ CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
- ✓ CHILD MUST HAVE ONE (1) FORM OF IDENTIFICATION

Approved forms of identification displaying the child’s name:

- Social Security Card
- Medicaid Card
- Birth Certificate
- Passport
- Library card

**IF YOU HAVE A BACKPACK  
BRING IT AND WE WILL  
FILL IT WITH SUPPLIES!**



*The Sioux Falls School District*

*Presents...*

**Community Education  
Summer Youth Band Camps  
2017**



**Camps~**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays  
June 13<sup>th</sup>-July 20<sup>th</sup>  
Concerts~ June 22nd, July 6th, July 20th

**Grades 7-8 ~** 8:30-9:30am  
**Grade 6 ~** 9:45-10:45am  
**Grades 9-12 ~** 11:00-12:00pm

**Location~**

Edison Middle School

**Registration Fee~**

**\$49**

*Prepare to be inspired, grow as a musician & have fun at summer band camp! Join director Bob Carlson for six weeks of mentoring, instrumental creativity, leadership, and collaboration! Students entering grades 6-12 will learn a variety of musical concepts, develop performance skills, and delight our community with concert opportunities! Spend this summer exploring the world of all things "band", and join other creative and passionate musicians as you nurture your love of music!*

**To register, go <http://www.sf.k12.sd.us/our-district/community-education>  
-or call 605-367-7999**

*\*Community Education Summer Youth Band Camps were previously under the direction of the Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation Department.*