



R.F. PETTIGREW panther tracks

A monthly newsletter from the Pettigrew PTO

ISSUE NUMBER: **APRIL 2021**

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CONNECT:



www.rfpettigrew.org



Pettigrew Elementary PTO Parents

From the Principal's Desk: Mr. Kevin Dick



As the fourth quarter of the school year began just last week, several events that traditionally mark the beginning of spring and the ending of the school year are again looming in the very near future. Although this school year has been unlike any other that we have seen, there are some familiar tasks that we are once again commencing and will be completed before the school year closes. Some of these tasks were not able to be completed in a remote format last year at this time, so it seems that they have been held in our distant memories from years ago, but indeed, they are efforts that press upon us and must be attended to for the school year to properly give way to summer and once again a new year.

One such task is Kindergarten Registration for the coming school year. Until the very day of this writing, it appeared that we would be doing this task in a remote fashion, since parents are not allowed into the school building this year, to protect the health and safety of our students and to allow us to keep our doors open to students as we conclude the academic year in person. See this [link](#) for a video that was made, with others planned for production, to account for this event that was traditionally held and was thought to be impossible this year. Just today, it will be announced that a face-to-face event will be held for the parents of our new kindergarten students and allow them to come into the school on Thursday afternoon and early evening, April 22, 2021. Help us spread the word and let any families you know with upcoming kindergarten students for next year to attend this event. See information about our event [here](#).

Another set of events that began this week and will continue until the end of the school year is gathering of data regarding the achievement of students in the area of academics. We have begun our regular battery of state-required standardized testing in 5th grade this year and it will gradually roll out in the next few weeks, to fourth grade and then to third. Parents will be notified of the weeks of these tests, but should be aware that the format this year is in a much more spread-out and even pace, rather than waiting for the end of the year and cramming them all into a short span of time. This data is important for us to collect, this year especially, as we measure the impact remote education had on our students' knowledge base that we could not gather last year due to the remote setting. Also, we want to compare our levels of achievement this year to those in the past and see how our work has progressed toward making up the gap caused by remote learning last year. At the end of the year, we will once again have the third installment of our triannual MAP testing that all students in K-5 take, in order to measure progress over time.

Besides the data that is collected from these standardized and regularly occurring assessments, our teachers working in collaborative teams, have been collecting data about the achievement progress made by our students in the area of literacy and reading as well as in math instruction and math intervention. We also look at the social and emotional health of our students and this year, are looking at the impact that the pandemic has had on those areas of our students. All this data rolls up into the efforts of assessing the levels of success our school was able to meet, and we examine this for two reasons. One is to assess our progress and monitor that as we compare it to historical information about Pettigrew and about the Sioux Falls School District. The other reason is to plan for areas that we can improve on and areas we need to focus on for next year. All of these items are combined into a document that is called a School Improvement Plan and is an annual requirement for schools in Sioux Falls and indeed, around the state and nation. A Guiding Coalition of staff members meet regularly to discuss this data and to articulate and

implement the plan, as stated. This past year, our threefold focus has been on continuing our efforts of literacy instruction and intervention, implementing a new math intervention program, and encouraging the development of social and emotional health of our students and staff by focusing on ways to make our school more responsive and engaging in these important areas. This spring, our group will meet again to conceptualize, plan, and document the areas we will focus on for next year. Stay tuned for more information about these plans that will align to the Strategic Planning that is going on in the district. This strategic work in the district has been and will be involved in a number of staff and community listening sessions, and the information gathered will lead to a Strategic Plan document that will be implemented and referred to for several years to come. More information about these efforts can be found [here](#).

Even though some of our community events such as PTO Pizza Bingo Night, Art Show, in-person musical concerts and other social school gatherings have not been able to be held in the school setting, and even though parents have not been able to come into the school, we are hopeful for the future, and envision most of these traditional events returning to our community activity. And while we are not able to gather at these social events, we are still able to perform the academic tasks that traditionally come at the end of the year and have been outlined and explained in this document. We hope you have a nice spring, as the weather turns the corner, and we draw closer summer and the activities.





R.F. PETTIGREW ELEMENTARY

SCIENCE

FAIR

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!

Alex H

Avy O

Beatriz HL

Brinley B

Ella K

Emma C

Hayley O

Ireland M

Jakob M

Kaiden W

Kyson S

Liam M

Lilja O

Lucas M

Lucy O

Mary K

Micah B

Mina K

Nixon B

Nixon P

Veronica S

Xander H

Xavi HL

How to Raise a Reader

1. Start a reading habit early.
2. Read every day.
3. Keep books all around your home.
4. Visit the library or bookstore on a regular basis.
5. Let your children choose their own books.



6. Be a reading role model.

 SCHOLASTIC

Support reading at Pettigrew by shopping our
Scholastic Spring Book Fair!

April 16 - 29

Proceeds will sponsor Scholastic News subscriptions for K-5
classrooms and new books for the school library.



**Summer
Skate Cards
Just \$6.00 each**

Skate for \$1.00
Admission All Summer Long!

Summer Skate Card
Skating Schedule
Starts June 1st

(Card good for each of these sessions)

SUN	12-2PM, 2-4PM
MON	Closed for Private Parties
TUES	Closed for Private Parties
WED	12-2PM, 2-4PM 6-8PM
THUR	12-2PM, 2-4PM
FRI	12-2PM, 2-4PM 6-8PM
SAT	12-2PM, 2-4PM 6-8PM

R.F. Pettigrew Elementary

How it Works

Purchase a Skate Card for \$6

Skate for **\$1**

Admission Per Session

(\$3 Skate Rental Rate Applies If Needed)

Cards available for purchase
online from

April 1st - May 31st

Your school receives \$1 from
each card purchased

Order your Summer Skate Card Online Today at **www.skatecitysd.com**

Cards available for pickup at the rink two days after purchase

150 Years: Celebrating Public Education in Sioux Falls

by Dr. Jane Stavem, Superintendent



ses·qui·cen·ten·ni·al - /ˌsɛskwəsenˈtɛnēəl/

adjective

1. relating to the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of a significant event.

If the Sioux Falls School District was holding a spelling bee in 2021, a good word to stump even a few of our best spellers might be “sesquicentennial.” A common practice at spelling bees is for the announcer to say the word, define it, and then use it in a sentence. That sentence might be “The Sioux Falls School District is celebrating its sesquicentennial in the 2021-22 school year.”

The Sioux Falls School District was formally established on July 3, 1871. Old records indicate the first school opened in 1870 in the Government Barracks under the direction of teacher Mary A. Benton who trained 17 pupils. However, it was the summer of 1871 when newly elected Minnehaha County Superintendent John Bippus divided the county into seven school districts as one of his first official acts. District #1 was comprised of the entire Sioux Falls township. Still, it took another two years for its first school board to be established with elected members being A. Gale, Director; R.F. Pettigrew, Clerk; and D.S. Goodyear, Treasurer.

It is humbling to think about the exponential value public education has brought to the community through the students who have graduated with a Sioux Falls School District diploma over the past 150 years. We have launched so many successful people who fill every career and job title currently and previously needed and known. We believe this is a feat worth celebrating!

A Planning Committee made up of parents and community members has been meeting since February to determine a fitting theme, and design memorable activities that can be embraced by all stakeholders.

Before school starts again in the fall, we will launch our plan for activities and events to be held throughout the 2021-2022 school year. The theme is “Rooted in Our Past ~ Reaching for Our Future.” The committee is hoping to engage with former staff members, alumni, community members, current parents, students, and employees to highlight all we have achieved in the previous 150 years and to establish new and exciting goals to launch us into the next 150 years. If your path took you through SFSD, dig out your old photos and memorabilia. We are setting up a digital time capsule by decade.

The launch of the District 150th Anniversary celebration will also include the unveiling of new strategic priorities to guide our work as we aspire to be the best school district in the nation. This is a lofty goal, but who better to achieve it than a school district that has 150 years of success in its rearview mirror and one that is committed to continuous improvement for the next century and beyond.

Sesquicentennial isn’t an easy word to say or to spell. But, paraphrasing the great Theodore Roosevelt, we believe *nothing worth doing comes easy*. We look forward to celebrating this milestone in our history with all of you!



Every year South Dakota schools welcome Junior Achievement (JA) volunteers into classrooms to share lessons and activities about money, careers, owning a business, and ethics. Although it looked different this year, the impact of the program remained strong.

During the 2020-21 school year, schools and JA volunteers modified their plans to ensure students did not miss out on JA programs. Thanks to classroom teachers and JA volunteers who were innovative and adaptable to host the program remotely, JA was able to continue its longstanding partnership with our school despite challenging circumstances.

JA volunteers virtually shared information about their career journey and examples of how businesses adjusted to a changing economy. By describing their personal and professional experiences, JA volunteers led students to make the connection between what they learn in school and how it applies to life after graduation.

Please extend a special thank you to the volunteers and teachers listed below who participated in JA during the 2020-21 school year. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and business experience with students in our community or would like to sponsor a student for \$25, please contact the JA office at (605)336-7318 or jasd@ja.org.

Grade	Teacher	Volunteer	Employer
1	Erica Neeves	Jami Gates	Greater Sioux Falls Area Chamber Of Commerce
1	Jordan Seefeldt	Andrea Fischer	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
1	Karla Gors	Lauren Thompson	Lamfers & Maas LLP
1	Nicole Highby	Joel Harrington	Revival Animal Health
1	Sarah Fischer	Andrew Paradise	Cigna Corporation
1	Sue Coomes	Melissa Brinkman	PREMIER Bankcard
2	Jennifer Breidenbach	Jason Breidenbach	Interstates Control Systems Inc.
2	Jessica Vandrovec	Aaron Fickbohm	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
2	Kahryn Boyer	Aaron Austin	The Bancorp Bank
2	Sarah Hanson	Aaron Fickbohm	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
2	Stephanie Heil	Dean Stoick	Citigroup Inc.
2	Tricia Runyan	Lora Hayes	Teammates Mentoring Of Sioux Falls
3	Anne Rock	Jackie Iverson	The First National Bank in Sioux Falls
3	Kendra Kooiker	John Gintvainis	CCC Information Services Group Inc.
3	Lindsay Weaver	Michael Laverman	CNA Surety
3	Megan McManus	Evan Brown	Great Western Bank
3	Michelle Nelson	Stephanie Holsing	A&B Business Solutions

4	Brady Wrede	Benjamin Swenson	Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center
4	Melissa Simpson	Steve Herman	Coffee News of Sioux Falls
4	Michelle Julius	Tiffany Von Wald	Sanford Health Fertility & Reproductive Medicine
4	Rhonda Begley	Angela Woolridge	The First National Bank in Sioux Falls
4	Sarah Thoene	Stephanie Holsing	A&B Business Solutions
5	Ashley Kracke	Alisha Palmer	The First National Bank in Sioux Falls
5	Julie Stjernholm	Michael Richardson	Dacotah Bank
5	Shannon Tomlin	Jan Oleson	Wells Fargo
5	Stephanie Baxa	Carly Nord	TSP
5	Tiffany Mailey	Matt McMillen	Dorsey & Whitney Trust Company, LLC
K	Amy Dreke	Kellyna Warnke	USD Foundation
K	Amy Schaffner	Stephanie Rebnord	Dorsey & Whitney Trust Company, LLC
K	Kayci Halbersma	Jenna Martin	Sammons Financial
K	Myra Koerner	Carolyn Braaten	Community Volunteer
K	Sarah Greer	Yuliya Freeman	Fiserv

Junior Achievement of South Dakota

300 S Phillips, Suite L102

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Phone: (800) 871-7007 or (605) 336-7318

Email: jasd@ja.org www.jasd.org

Junior Achievement | Inspiring Tomorrows™

**THANK
YOU!**





Siouxland Libraries is pleased to announce that the following students finished the Winter Reading Program! Each student read three books and completed two activities in order to complete the program.

Addison Schelling
Jillian Neeley
Logan Bailey
Mina Karaca
Nardos Gebremariam
Enwei Wong
Emma Clay
Sabrina Gebremariam
Bennett Laughlin
Jameson Neeley
Peyton Hockersmith

Every year Siouxland Libraries offers both a winter and summer reading program. We encourage students and families to participate in the summer reading program, which will begin **May 22**. More information to come!





Job Description:

School Bus Inc is looking for part time school bus drivers who will make it a priority to provide students with a safe and enjoyable experience to and from school each day.

- No experience necessary, paid Training
- \$500 sign on Bonus (\$1000 for those who come with CDL w/passenger & school bus endorsements)
- \$18.15 hourly rate
- 20-25 hrs./weekly (possibly more at certain times of the year)
- No nights, weekends, or Holidays!
- A work schedule that matches your child's school schedule!

Why Join Our Team?

- Safety: Our top priority is the safety of all passengers and employees
- Value our Employees: People are the foundation of any great business.
- Customer Focused: SBI will continue to build on the strong partnerships that we have built over the years, based on trust and integrity.

Minimum Requirements:

- 18 yrs. Of age or older
- Able to pass a background check.
- Drug Screen
- Willing to work a flexible schedule.

Apply today as it will take a minimum of 20 days for licensing and training.



FUNDrive® Coordinator

Teresa
(605) 366-8050
tdzwonek@gmail.com

Our Goal: \$1000

218 Large Yard Bags
75 Medium boxes (household
goods)

Fundraiser Dates:

04/01/2021 - 06/05/2021

Community Collection Days

April 17 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Roosevelt High School Parking Lot -
by football field
6600 W 41st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

May 11 05:00 PM - 07:00 PM
Roosevelt High School Parking Lot -
by football field
6600 W 41st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

June 05 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Roosevelt High School Parking Lot -
by football field
6600 W 41st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

Clean out your closets and cupboards for Roosevelt High School Band!

We are fundraising for Roosevelt High School
Bands by collecting all of the things
from your clothes or linen closet that you do
not need. Free up space and help us raise
money!

You can help by filling bags with gently used
clothes, bath, linens. Drop your bags off at
one of our community collection days!

THANK YOU!

We Are Collecting

Clothes

men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes,
scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties,
belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen,
tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware,
glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home
decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small
electronics

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly
packed boxes for small household goods.

All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



*FUNDrive® is an eco-friendly fundraiser for nonprofit organizations.
Collect gently-used items in your community and FUNDrive® will buy them.*

Visit <https://FUNDrive.savers.com> to learn more.





The 2021

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

SUMMER CAMPS

Basketball

Volleyball

Tennis

Cross-
Country

Gymnastics

Football

Soccer

SIGN UP TODAY AT:

WWW.LHSPATRIOTCAMPS.COM