



# R.F. PETTIGREW panther tracks

A monthly newsletter from the Pettigrew PTO

ISSUE NUMBER:     SEPTEMBER 2021

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## CONNECT:



[www.rfpettigrew.org](http://www.rfpettigrew.org)



Pettigrew Elementary PTO Parents

# From the Principal's Desk: Mr. Kevin Dick



## Anticipation for a New Year!!!

As the school year begins, we want to remind all our families of the importance of monitoring the social and emotional health of our children with intentionality to maintain positive growth. We all want the same thing for our students and our children. We want them to be happy, to overcome challenges, to have positive emotions, to build meaningful relationships, to be engaged in life, and to attain authentic accomplishments.

As we embark on this new year, we want to assure you that Pettigrew Elementary will continue to focus on the social and emotional well-being of our students. As part of that commitment to our students and families, we have chosen to adopt a new social-emotional learning platform called 7 Mindsets. This program promotes self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. The students learn the mindsets each week through engaging lessons, activities, discussions, journaling, and reflective exercises.

The 7 Mindsets are based upon three years of research that started with a simple question: What do the world's happiest and most successful people have in come? The research revealed that the game-changing commonalities of happiness and success are based on how the world's most successful people think. The 7 Mindsets are Everything is Possible, Passion First, We are Connected, 100% Accountable, Attitude of Gratitude, Live to Give, and the Time is Now.

### Learning Objectives

- #1 Everything is Possible**  
Dream Big, Embrace Creativity, Think Positive, Act & Adjust
- #2 Passion First**  
Focus on Strengths, Explore Your Interests, Take a Stand, Be Authentic
- #3 We Are Connected**  
Embrace Everyone, Maximize Positive Relationships, Dream Team, Lead with Value
- #4 100% Accountable**  
Own Your Life, Overcome Limiting Beliefs, Focus Your Energy, Grow Through Life
- #5 Attitude of Gratitude**  
Treasure Yourself, Be More Grateful, Thank It Forward, Elevate Your Perspective
- #6 Live to Give**  
Stretch Yourself, Make a Difference, Receive Gracefully, Create a Legacy
- #7 The Time is Now**  
Embrace Every Moment, Get into the Zone, Let Yourself be Vulnerable, Act with Purpose

7 MINDSETS™

The goal is to encourage positive conversations, connects, and relationships at school, at home, and in the community. Each week, they will share in fun and engaging activities to empower growth, happiness, and success.

Throughout the halls of Pettigrew, each student will be learning about the same core principle each week. This common language and connection will be shared with our entire staff - EAs, Classroom Teachers, Specials Teachers, Clerical, Administration, and Custodians - and be another way for any staff member to engage and build relationships with students. The materials in the program provide a tiered level of learning for K-2 and 3-5 students that are appropriate for their age and stage of learning. The depth of the program also increases each year as it focuses on Bloom's Taxonomy: Remember and Understand, Apply and Analyze, and Evaluate and Create. The students will engage with the program through interactive videos, classroom discussion, activities, and reflections. The teachers will also be learning about the 7 Mindsets and how they can apply them in their own lives and impact the students and families that they serve. Additionally, we can engage our families to immerse their students in conversations about the mindsets that reach into their homes and lives outside of the classroom and truly make a difference in their hearts and minds.

Nelson Mandela said, "There is no passion to be found playing small and settling for a life that's less than the one you're capable of living." We need our kids, staff, and families to be vulnerable. Failure and embarrassment in life is inevitable. But we want to build the capacity of our students, staff, and families to keep moving forward and falling forward to the next opportunity. We can take steps to achieve that by developing the 7 Mindsets in our students by making a blueprint for an extraordinary life. As their mindsets develop and change, we hope for our students to transform their lives from the inside-out. We believe this transformation will be seen through improvement in self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, resilience, social awareness, cultural competence, and hope for the future. Because of the personal changes that occur to the Mindset of our students, we believe it will positively impact daily attendance rates, decrease office referrals, and increase grade level mastery of content. Every young person possesses incredible potential. It is our responsibility to uncover the potential, take pride in our uniqueness, and put the skills and interests to build a better future for ourselves and our world.

It's going to be a great school year at Pettigrew, we are already off to a fantastic start. Please see the other important information located in this edition of the PTO Newsletter. Our PTO is so supportive of Pettigrew School, and we look forward to all the cooperative activities we will be able to offer the school community this year, after a year-long hiatus. Consider getting involved in PTO and support these activities that will be upcoming this year.



# New Programs and Changes at Pettigrew this year!

Pettigrew will join the district in our **Student Health and Wellness Initiative** as we seek to follow the SFSD Wellness Policy.



All **Birthday treats** that students bring in will be Non-edible, Non-Food Items. Here are some ideas that you can consider:

- Donate a book to your classroom or the school library. You can check with the teacher if there is a title he/she would prefer. Or a child can choose one of their favorites to donate, chances are, other students will love this book, too. Check with the school librarian about possible titles that can be donated. These books will be recognized inside the book cover with a dedication sticker.
- Here are some great birthday treat alternatives:

## Non-Food Items

- Glow Sticks
- Chap Stick
- Pencils/Erasers
- Stickers
- Stress Balls
- Pencils/Smencils
- Bracelets
- Crazy Straws
- Bubbles
- Bookmarks
- Silly Putty
- Dollar Store Items
- Water Bottles w/  
flavored water packet

## School Lunch Program:

- All school breakfasts and lunches are free this year.
- We are also going to gradually work into the Offer versus Serve program, as the State Child Nutrition office and the Child Nutrition Office of SFSD allow. We also are working within the constraints of our staffing and scheduling resources at the school. Your patience is appreciated as we work through these logistics.
- We are still in a distanced environment in the lunch room, since students cannot wear masks as they eat lunch or breakfast.
- Parents are not able to join us for school lunch at this time. We hope to be able to make this available to families later in the school year.
- Outside restaurant food will not be allowed to be served to students at school.



**Classroom Parties:** Here is an excerpt from our school handbook:

### **CLASS PARTIES**

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**Class Parties** – Children will be allowed to bring a snack of their choice to enjoy during classroom-scheduled activity at the end of October, end of December, and middle of February

The rationale behind this is for the health and safety of all students. We have many food allergies and other special diets that we must observe during school hours. Students will not be allowed to share their party snack with other children.

Parents will not attend classroom activities at these times. Only regularly scheduled classroom volunteers, coordinated through the classroom teacher and completing all volunteer paperwork, will be allowed in the classrooms during these activities, and only if their regularly scheduled volunteer time coincides with these activities.



## OTHER STUDENT HANDBOOK REVISIONS AND IMPORTANT EXCERPTS:

### ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

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**Arrival** – Students who eat breakfast at school may arrive at 7:40 AM. All other students should arrive at 7:50 AM or after, unless they are meeting with a teacher or attending a meeting. Students should go to the playground before school. The bell rings at 8:05 AM for students to line up and enter the building. Students are expected to be in their classroom ready for the day at 8:10 AM. Students who arrive after 8:10 AM will be marked tardy and need to get an “Admit to the Building” slip from the office before going to class. To see our drop-off loop expectations, please visit our online drop-off procedure video linked [here](#).

**Dismissal** – Classrooms prepare for dismissal at 2:50. At 2:50, students who ride a school bus begin exiting the building and walking to the bus loop. At 2:55, students who walk or are getting picked up in front of school will exit the building through their classroom designated exit door on the playground. Kid’s Inc students will report to the MPR at this time. At 3:00, students who ride day care transportation will be dismissed to their designated van or vehicle. Students meet other children in the group they walk or ride with on the playground after exiting their designated door. Parents/Guardians may choose to meet children at their door or another designated location on the playground after school. Parents/Guardians are expected to inform the office of after school plans by 2:00 pm so they may help students reach their destinations following the school day. Following these expectations helps to create a safe and orderly dismissal.

### PARKING & TRAFFIC AROUND THE SCHOOL

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**Parking & Traffic Around the School** – Safe parking and driving around the school is critical. Parking is only permitted in the parking lot located on the south side of the school and [along side streets](#) of the school. No one should drive in and/or park on the west side of the school in the bus drop-off and pick-up area. Only designated vehicles (garbage trucks, delivery trucks, and custodian maintenance vehicles) may drive in the area on the east side of the school (next to gym). Drivers should follow speed limits and traffic signs to ensure safety for students and vehicles, as well as orderliness around the school. **Violators of the traffic and parking rules may result in ticketing by police officers. The circle drive is a fire lane - it may be used for drop-off and pick-up only. Drivers may not park and leave their cars in the circle drive.** If you plan to meet your child on the playground, please park in the lot or on the street. You can also view the video of our drop-off procedure [here](#).

### PETS OR ANIMALS AT SCHOOL

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Unless otherwise authorized, animals may not be brought onto school grounds between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm on days when school is in session. The building administrator or designee must grant permission before any animal or pet is brought into the school. The SF School District recognizes that animals can offer valuable student learning experiences. Animals may be allowed in school only for specific and appropriate educational purposes.

### CELL PHONES/SMART WATCHES

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**Cell Phones/Smart Watches:** Student cell phones are to be turned off and placed in their backpacks once they enter the school grounds and may not be turned on until the student is off the school grounds following dismissal. If a student is found with their cell phone during school hours or the cell phone is not turned off and becomes a distraction to the learning environment, the phone will be taken away. The first offense is considered a warning and the phone will be returned to the child at the end of the school day. Subsequent offenses will constitute an Office Referral and parents will be contacted. Other electric devices that have cellular capabilities (including Smartwatches) will be treated as a cell phone.

# Attendance Matters!



SFSD will provide your child with one of the most valued commodities that can be offered, an education. We need YOU and YOUR CHILD to join us on this adventure!

One of the most important things students can do to achieve success is also one of the most basic: attend school every day and on time! Students who attend school regularly achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance.

Please partner with us on one of the most important aspects of your child's education. Be sure your child has plenty of rest each night and is prepared for the school day. If you need any assistance with school materials, necessities, or other aspects of arriving to school on-time daily prepared to learn, meet with your child's counselor, school administrator, social worker, or another school official to assist. As a reminder, student meals for both lunch and breakfast are free this year. Let's make this year a great year and make school attendance a priority.

Sincerely,  
Dr. James Nold - Assistant Superintendent  
Sioux Falls School District

## Help Us Help Your Students!

**5  
days**

When a student misses 5 days of school for any reason - except for school sponsored activities - SFSD gives parents/guardians a heads-up with an email or letter. This is an FYI to help families plan for the remainder of the year.

**8  
days**

The same email or letter arrives when 8 days of school are missed. This is a gentle reminder that your child has missed valuable instruction time and that achievement could be impacted.

**10  
days**

Students who miss 10 days of school each year are dangerously close to missing a whole year's worth of instruction by the time they're seniors. Ten missed days are considered excessive. All absences beyond 10 days need medical documentation.

**17  
days**

Missing just 1 day every 2 weeks quickly adds up to 17 days in a year. When this happens, parents/guardians are notified that they and/or their child are being referred to the State's Attorney for truancy or failure to send charges.

**25  
days**

Students who miss 25 days of school are missing 5 weeks! Academic progress is less likely. Parents/Guardians are again notified that they and/or their child are being referred to the State's Attorney for truancy or failure to send charges.

## R. F. Pettigrew Activity Schedule -- 2021-2022

August/September 2021		
Date	Time	Activity
Thurs, Aug 05	7:00-4:00	School Offices Open
Mon, Aug 23	5:00-7:00	Early Childhood Open House
Tues, Aug 24	4:00-7:00	K-5 Open House
Thurs, Aug 26	8:10-2:50	K-5 First Day of School
Thurs, Aug 26-31	All Day	Early Childhood Home Visits
Wed, Sep 01	All Day	Early Childhood First Day of School
Fri, Sep 03	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Mon, Sep 06	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Tues, Sept. 07	4:00-8:00pm	Chipotle Fundraiser
Tues, Sept. 14	4:00-8:00 pm	Sky Zone Fundraiser
Mon, Sept 20	6:30-7:30 pm	PTO Meeting Pettigrew Library
Thurs, Sep 23	All Day	Pettigrew Picture Day
Thurs, Sep 23	All Day	Early Childhood - NO SCHOOL
Friday, Sep 24	8:30	Pettigrew Rule Creation Delegate Assembly in MPR
Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.		

October 2021		
Date	Time	Activity
Fri, Oct 01	All Day	Spirit Wear Day
Thurs, Oct. 7	6:00-8:00 pm	Skate City Fundraiser
Mon, Oct 11	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Tues, Oct 12	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Tues, Oct 12	1:00-7:30	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Tues, Oct 12		Book Fair
Thurs, Oct 14	4:00-7:30	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thurs, Oct 14		Book Fair
Tues, Oct. 19	5:00-8:00 pm	Culver's Fundraiser
Tues, Oct 26		Picture Retake Day
Thurs, Oct 28		End of First Quarter
Fri, Oct 29	6:30-8:30 pm	Fall Carnival
Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.		



## R. F. Pettigrew Activity Schedule -- 2021-2022

November 2021		
Date	Time	Activity
Thurs, Nov 4	7:00	5th Grade Music Program
Fri, Nov 5	1:00	EARLY DISMISSAL
Fri, Nov 5		Spirit Wear Day
Fri, Nov 5-14		Online Spirit Wear Sale
Thurs, Nov 11	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Mon, Nov 15	6:30-7:30 pm	PTO Meeting Pettigrew Library
Tues, Nov 16	3:00-8:00 pm	Sky Zone Fundraiser
Thurs, Nov 18	6:30	4th Grade Orchestra Concert
Thurs, Nov 18	7:30	5th Grade Band and Orchestra Concert
Wed, Nov 24 - Fri, Nov 26	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.		

December 2021		
Date	Time	Activity
Fri, Dec 03		Spirit Wear Day
Thurs, Dec 16	3:00-8:00 pm	Sky Zone Fundraiser
Wed, Dec 22 - Fri, Dec 31	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.		

January 2022		
Date	Time	Activity
Mon, Jan 3	All Day	School Resumes
Fri, Jan 7		Spirit Wear Day
Mon, Jan 10	6:00-8:00 pm	Skate City Fundraiser
Thurs, Jan 13	All Day	End of 2nd Quarter
Fri, Jan 14	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Mon, Jan 17	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Mon, Jan 17	12:00-3:00	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thurs, Jan 20	4:00-7:30	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Mon, Jan 24	4:00-7:30	Parent/Teacher Conferences

## R. F. Pettigrew Activity Schedule -- 2021-2022

**Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.**

### February 2022

Date	Time	Activity
Fri, Feb 01		Spirit Wear Day
Fri, Feb 04	6:30-8:30 pm	Bingo/Pizza Night
Thurs, Feb 10	3:00-8:00 pm	Sky Zone Fundraiser
Mon, Feb 21 - Tues, Feb 22	All Day	NO SCHOOL

**Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.**

### March 2022

Date	Time	Activity
Tue, Mar 01	5:00-8:00 pm	Culver's Fundraiser
Thur, Mar 03	3:00 to 5:00 pm	Kindergarten Registration for SY 22-23
Fri, Mar 04		Spirit Wear Day
Mon, Mar 14	6:30-7:30 pm	PTO Meeting
Tues, Mar 15	6:00-8:00 pm	Skate City Fundraiser
Fri, Mar 18	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Wed, Mar 23	All Day	End of 3rd Quarter
Thurs, Mar 24	TBD	Science Fair
Mon, Mar 28 - Fri, Apr 1	All Day	Early Childhood - NO SCHOOL Transition Week and Home Visits

**Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.**

### April 2022

Date	Time	Activity
Fri, April 01	1:00	EARLY DISMISSAL
Fri, April 01		Spirit Wear Day
Thurs, Apr 7	7:00	2nd Grade Music Program
Thurs, Apr 14	3:00-8:00 pm	Sky Zone Fundraiser
Fri, April 15 - Mon, April 18	All Day	NO SCHOOL
Fri, April 22	4:00-7:00	Pettigrew K-5 Art Show
Sat, April 23	TBD	Orchestra Solo/Ensemble Contest
Mon, April 25	TBD	5th Grade Band Festival @ MMS

## R. F. Pettigrew Activity Schedule -- 2021-2022

Thurs, April 28	7:00	4th Grade Orchestra Concert
Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.		

May 2022		
Date	Time	Activity
Mon, May 3-7	All Week	Teacher Appreciation Week
Fri, May 06		Spirit Wear Day
Thurs, May 19	All Day	EC Last Day of School
Tues, May 24	All Day	K-5 Last Day of School
Dates are subject to change. For current information, please check school website.		





RF Pettigrew Elementary

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT SCHOOL

# PTO MEETING

Monday, September 20th AT 6:30PM

Pettigrew School Library

Working  
Together For  
A Better  
Future

## TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- Meet the board members
- Share your ideas for the upcoming year
- Find out how you can help

We Hope to See You There!



You shop... your child's school wins!

# Three easy ways to support RF Pettigrew Elementary PTO!



Turn your Coca-Cola product purchase into cash for our school!

1. To donate go to [coke.com/give/schools](http://coke.com/give/schools) or download the app.
2. Select RF Pettigrew Elementary.
3. Scan or enter product codes from participating Coca-Cola products. Codes can be found under the flap on cardboard boxes, bottle lids and on plastic wrapped packaging.

Amazon Smile is now in the shopping app!

1. Download the Amazon Shopping app.
2. Select 'Settings'. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process by selecting RF Pettigrew Elementary Parent Teacher Organization.
3. If you do not have Amazon Smile already activated, visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select 'RF Pettigrew Parent Teacher Organization'. There are no extra fees associated with this program.



amazon smile



Box Tops 4 Education has changed!

1. Download the app. Most Box Tops are now digital & can be earned in the app.
2. Select RF Pettigrew Elementary.
3. Scan your receipt & earn dollars for our school.



# SCHOOL SPIRIT TASTES GREAT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support Pettigrew Elementary. Come in to the Chipotle at **4035 West 41st St** in Sioux Falls on **Tuesday, September 7th** between **4:00pm** and **8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 33% of the proceeds will be donated to Pettigrew Elementary.

## NEW! ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP

Use code VXJVAKE before checkout in 'promo' field. Orders placed on Chipotle.com or through the Chipotle app for pickup using this unique code will be counted towards the fundraiser.



MEXICAN GRILL

All online orders must be placed for pickup at the same time/location of the fundraiser. Delivery cannot be counted at this time. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

# School Night



## Pettigrew School Night

Come out and support Pettigrew Elementary! Come jump on these nights and get some kick back money that goes to your school!

- 
- September 14th 2021
  - November 16th 2021
  - December 16th 2021
  - February 10th 2022
  - April 14th 2022
- 

**\$14.00**

1 Hour

**\$21.00**

2 Hour

## Cant Wait to See You!

### SKY ZONE SIOUX FALLS

5129 S Solberg Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57108 • (605) 553-9910

[skyzone.com/siouxfalls](http://skyzone.com/siouxfalls)

Terms Apply. See park for complete details.

**SKY ZONE**  
**TRAMPOLINE PARK** 





# SCHOOL SKATE NIGHTS

**R.F. PETTIGREW  
♥'S SKATING**

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**2021-2022  
SCHOOL SKATE  
NIGHTS**

**THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**MONDAY  
JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>**

**TUESDAY  
MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>**



**6-8 PM**  
ADMISSION \$6  
RENTALS \$3

2901 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

605-332-7915  
[www.skatecitysd.com](http://www.skatecitysd.com)

Sioux Empire

**Smiles**

A Free  
One Day  
Children's  
Dental Clinic



**A Free One Day Children's Dental Clinic**

**Saturday, October 2, 2021**

**Children's Dental Center**

**3813 S Kiwanis Circle, Sioux Falls**

**8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**(Dress warm, you might have to wait outside)**

This clinic is for children through 18 years of age who need dental care or who may not have seen a dentist in several years. The first 150 children will be seen.



Sioux Empire  
**Smiles**



**Un Día Gratis En La Clínica Dental Para Niños**  
**Sábado, 2 de octubre de 2021**

**Clínica Dental De Niños**  
**(Children's Dental Center)**

**3813 S Kiwanis Circle, Sioux Falls**

**8:30 a.m. a 2:00 p.m.**

**(Vístase abrigado, puede que tenga que esperar afuera)**

Esta clínica es para niños hasta los 18 años de edad que necesitan cuidado dental o que no han visto un dentista en muchos años. Un evento para niños de bajos recursos y sin aseguranza dental. Se verán los primeros 150 niños.



Tratamiento, sumi-  
nistros, y educación  
dental gratis



# CAN A LIBRARY CARD CHANGE A LIFE?



**Rahele Megosha,**  
**winner of the 2021 national *Poetry Out Loud* competition**

During her years as a student at Anne Sullivan Elementary, Rahele Megosha settled in at the library across the street. "If I wasn't home or at school, I was at Oak View," she remembers. "It was my safety blanket."

"I was always there when I needed peace and quiet, time to reflect." Living in someone else's life for a few hours offered focus, understanding. "They figured it out," Rahele realized, "I can, too."

"I've always had the library and literature to fall back on when I need to understand things in a different way," Rahele says. "Books help you know people and yourself in a way social media doesn't. It offers a surface view."

Brief pause, big smile: "Bookworms have a deeper understanding."

*Rahele Megosha is the national winner of the 2021 Poetry Out Loud competition. She graduated from Washington High School this spring and will soon begin her freshman year at New York City's Columbia University, where she has a full-ride scholarship.*



These are the card designs  
from which to choose.  
Here's everything you need  
to know. **SIGN UP** today!




# Meet the Riders!

 **Boys Golf** Tuesday Sept. 7 - 4:00 at Kuehn Park

 **Boys & Girls Soccer** Thursday Sept. 9 - Boys 4:00 & Girls 6:00 at Howard Wood

 **Girls Tennis** Friday Sept. 10 - 4:00 at Kuehn Park


 **Softball** Tuesday Sept. 14 - 6:00 & 7:30 at Sherman Park

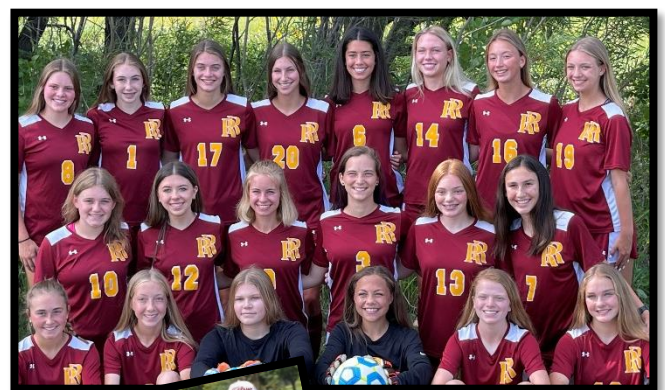


From Ashes, We Will Rise  
2021 Sioux Falls Roosevelt High School Marching Band

 **Competitive Cheer & Dance** Saturday Oct. 2 - at the Pentagon

 **Volleyball** Thursday Oct. 7 - 7:00 at RHS

 **Football & Band** Friday Oct. 15 - 6:00 at Howard Wood



**CHARGE FORWARD**



**WE ARE ROOSEVELT  
WE ARE ONE**