

Parent News

News about Streetsboro Middle School for parents

Students Honored in September and October

Once again this year, the faculty and staff of Streetsboro Middle School are honoring students who go above and beyond what is expected of them.

Each month, Students of the Month are selected based upon their performance both in and out of the classroom. The PACES quality of the month is especially considered when selecting which students will be given this award.

Teachers are asked to individually nominate one boy and one girl for each team that they teach. A list of nominated students is compiled and teachers vote one boy and one girl from each of the teams to be named Students of the Month.

In September, the PACES quality being high-

lighted was respect. Seventh grade students receiving this distinction were:

Anna Lesak, Preston Collins, Daniel Banks, and Amaris LaFleme.

The eighth grade Students of

the Month for September were: **Casey Bacon, Annie Fernandez, Nik Tempestilli, and Nadia Cuevas.**

October Students of the Month were recognized for displaying responsibility. Seventh graders, **Justin Zielinski, Megan Curran, Sidney Grimm, and Shannon Lynch,** were honored. **Cory Antoncic, Kayla**

Wells, Hamza Alnasar, and Kristy Clark were the eighth graders awarded in October.

Congratulations to all of these students. They each received a certificate to commemorate their achievements and were treated to



September Students of the Month: (front from left): Anna Lesak, Preston Collins, Daniel Banks, and Amaris LaFleme; (back from left): Casey Bacon, Annie Fernandez, Nik Tempestilli, and Nadia Cuevas (not pictured).



October Students of the Month: (front from left): Justin Zielinski, Megan Curran, Sidney Grimm, and Shannon Lynch; (back from left): Cory Antoncic, Kayla Wells, Hamza Alnasar, and Kristy Clark.

doughnuts one morning.

Thank you to Dunkin' Donuts of Streetsboro for donating doughnuts to honor all of our nominated students.

From the Principal

Can you believe it? We are already through the first marking period, and a quarter of the school year is complete. It has been a great school year so far; all of the students have navigated through their schedules, their lockers are all working, and our rituals and routines have been established.

As I walk the halls or



visit our classrooms, it is wonderful to see the students working so hard, and engaged in learning. All of the teachers have been working since the beginning of the year, not only on their individual plans but collaborating with one another to ensure that our students are successful.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all of our fall

athletes and their coaches on a successful conclusion to the fall sports season. Our students practiced hard, played hard, learned to trust each other and to play together as a team. Team is what it is all about.

As we enter November and the beginning of the holiday season, I wish you good health, and enjoyment with your family and friends.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

November:

4: Report Cards Mailed

9: Conferences 3-6 pm

10: Board of Education Meeting 6:45

10: Cookie Dough Pick-Up 11:30 am to 5:00 pm

11: Turkey Trot

15: Conferences 4:30-7:30

17: 8th Grade Pie Pick Up 3-6 in MS cafeteria

23: NO SCHOOL-Comp Day

24-25: NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Break

December:

2: Interims mailed home

6: Winter Choral Concert-7:30 in HS Gym

13: MS Band Concert 7:00

14: Winter Sports Pictures

19-30: NO SCHOOL: Winter Break

January:

2: NO SCHOOL: Winter Break

3: NO SCHOOL for students: Waiver Day

13: Formal MS Dance: 6-8 pm

16: NO SCHOOL: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

19: End of 2nd Quarter

20: NO SCHOOL: Teacher In-Service Day

27: Report Cards Mailed

Counselor's Corner

In the United States, suicide is the third leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 10 and 24. This adds up to about 5,000 young Americans every year. Some experts

believe that the actual number could even be 10% to 30% higher because many suicides are misreported. However, many of these deaths are preventable through education and teaching young people to recognize the warning signs, as well as what to do if they are concerned that a family member or friend might attempt suicide. Because of this, each middle school student will take part in a 3-lesson unit designed by the Jason Foundation and presented by the school counselor, **Mrs. Holzapfel**, to teach them warning signs of possible suicide and to help them make a plan to implement should they see those warning signs in a friend. Lessons will be conducted on the following days:

- 7th Grade Blue Team: November 8, 9, and 10
- 7th Grade Gold Team: November 11, 14, and 15
- 8th Grade Blue Team: November 16, 17, and 18
- 8th Grade Gold Team: November 28, 29, and 30

If you have concerns about your child participating in these lessons, please call Mrs. Holzapfel at the middle school.

Warning signs students will learn include:

1. Suicide threats, including comments like:

- “I would be better off dead.”
- “Nobody would miss me if I were dead.”
- “My family/friends would be better off if I were not here.”

2. Previous suicide attempts

- Four out of five completed suicides are NOT the first attempt.

• Physical mutilation (cutting) is a sign of wanting to hurt one's self physically to relieve an emotional pain. When that no longer relieves pain, thoughts could turn to suicide.

- Even if the attempt seems to be “only for attention,” take it as a serious attempt.

3. Sudden changes in behavior, such as

- A quiet person becomes very loud and obvious.
- A loud person becomes very quiet and reserved.
- A person withdraws from activities he or she used to enjoy.
- A gentle person becomes aggressive and angers easily.

- An outgoing person becomes withdrawn.
- Changes in grades or class attendance.

4. Depression

- Feeling sad and hopeless of long periods of time.
- Feelings of being alone or of no one caring.
- Sleeplessness or wanting to sleep

an abnormal amount of time.

- Eating problems—eating too much or not enough.
 - Lack of interest in activities once enjoyed.
5. Making “final arrangements”
- Giving away “prized” possessions.
 - Actually making funeral plan, like selecting music for their funeral “in case something happens.”
 - Sending notes to friends asking them to “take care” of something if they are not around any more.

Using the acronym LIFE, students will be taught to respond to the presence of these warning signs. L represents LISTEN; students are taught to listen to their friends without judgment, allowing them to talk about feelings of despair. I stands for INSIST ON HONESTY. Students are encouraged to talk honestly to their friend about their own feelings and to ask their friend to do the same. Let them honestly know that they are cared about. We encourage students to let their friend know that they will NOT keep the information a secret if they are concerned and to notify an adult as soon as possible. F represents FEELINGS, in that the concerned person needs to share his/her feelings with the other person, as well as encouraging the other person to do the same. Finally, the E stands for EXTEND A HELPING HAND. Young people are encouraged to go with their friend for help and to not leave their friend alone in this type of situation. Resources will be identified and explained to the students.

At the end of the unit, students will be given the opportunity to sign a pledge card, promising to always be there for their friends in the future. The pledge card also contains a summary of the signs of concern, as well as what to do if these signs are seen in a friend.

Further information about the program can be found at www.jasonfoundation.com.

L: Listen

I: Insist on

Honesty

F: Feelings

E: Extend

a Helping

Hand

Students Are Preparing for Conferences

Hopefully, by now you have heard about Student Led Conferences. Conferences are November 9th from 3-6 and November 15th from 4:30-7:30. Students have been working very hard to prepare for their conferences, and the staff is very excited about this program. During these conferences, students will present their portfolios which they have been compiling. It is a wonderful oppor-

tunity for your son or daughter to share and showcase his/her work and progress. Each student has been assigned a staff mentor who has been working closely to guide him/her in preparation for their conference. Mentors assist students in goal setting, monitoring progress, and advising the student's with their portfolio.

Parents should have already completed a conference preference sheet

for date and time and should have received a post-card confirming their conference appointment.

In addition if you requested to meet with any of your child's teachers, an appointment will also be listed on your post-card. After your conference please be sure to stop in the cafeteria for a tasty treat.

News from the Library Media Center

Mrs. Angela Wojtecki, the district library media specialist for Streetsboro City Schools, would like to tell you a little about her duties. She spends two days per week at the middle school (Wednesdays and Fridays) and helps students in the library media center, as well as collaborates with teachers on various classroom projects.

During the first quarter, she worked with **Mr. Day's** 7th and 8th grade computer technology classes on plagiarism and citing sources, as well as sharing information about the free online research database, INFOhio. This is a great source for reliable and current information for student research assignments. The website is www.infohio.org and it can be used at home, school, or anywhere there is Internet access (a username and password is required). Please email **Mrs. Wojtoecki** at the address below if you would like the username and password information to check it out too! She has also gone over copyright and fair use lessons for students, to help them become more famil-



iar with these for the future. She has also worked with **Mrs. Hand's** classes on their career research and **Miss Andrews'** monument and Presidential websites as well. **Mrs. Wojtecki** posts all of her recommended websites on the Streetsboro's Middle School website under *Library* and then *Student Resources*. Click on the *Class Research Project* addition symbol on the left-hand column to access the different websites and classes.

One of **Mrs. Wojtecki's** goals for this year is to help all students learn the importance of evaluating information they find on the Internet, in book materials, and media, then apply them to their daily work and lives. Students first need to be able to locate, evaluate, and apply the information they find on the Internet, as well as in print sources. The Internet has made our students want immediate answers, but the challenge for them is how to trust that those answers are correct and current. They should also learn to be able to justify why one source is better than another. Using



databases such as INFOhio is a great way to show the students the best online resources for their academic success. Two NEW databases in INFOhio include **Mango Languages**, which teaches over 30 languages in a step-by-step approach. The other is **ProQuest Ancestry**, which searches military, birth, death, and census records for genealogy information; however, this one can only be used on school computers.

Mrs. Wojtecki is fortunate to have a library school graduate student, **Miss Garrison** completing her 100 hour Practicum experience in Streetsboro! She spends one day a week with **Mrs. Wojtecki** and helps with library and teaching projects. It is great to collaborate with another librarian, and it helps our students have more access to the library's resources! As you can see, **Mrs. Wojtecki** has been very busy with students in the middle school library media center!

Students Help at City Mission in Cleveland

Mrs. Betts, the Study Skills teacher, took 6 middle school students up on their offer to help her with some volunteer work this July.

With their parents' permission, the kids helped cook and serve a wonderful meal to men at Crossroads at the City



Maurina Nunn, Haley Franklin, and Prince Franklin help out at the City Mission.

Mission in downtown Cleveland. They served meatloaf, potato casserole, green beans, biscuits with gravy, and chocolate cake. Everyone loved their meal and the kids loved helping out.



Mikaila Brown, Haley Franklin and Nataya Miller clean up as part of their service.

News from Mr. Campbell

It's hard to believe the first nine weeks is already over. **Mr. Campbell's** classes have been working very hard in Language Arts and completing a variety of assignments and activities. They recently finished a unit on the writing of Edgar Allen Poe. Students have read many of his stories and poems, as well as filmed movie trailers for a selected work of his. The students have seemed to enjoy Poe, especially since it is around Halloween and Poe is considered "The Godfather of Horror." Next, they will be starting a new unit on

the novel The Hunger Games. This is a newer work that is very popular. It was made into a movie that is coming out in the near future. The Hunger Games is a science fiction story about a futuristic society where young people compete against each other in the annual Hunger Games. The story is a heroic tale of these individuals with vivid scenery, as well as many opportunities to uncover themes of the novel. **Ms. Graning**, who is a practicum student from Kent State University, will be teaching the first part of the novel in November.

In American History we have declared independence! The unit on the Declaration of Independence and the Revolutionary War has come to an end and classes will move into the study of the Constitution and how our government was formed. Students will have a simulation for the Constitution having to do with cake and other hands on activities. Please follow my website for lesson plans and assignments. <http://www.streetsboroschools.com/Page/2534>

7th Grade Happenings

The seventh grade celebrated "Fantastic Friday" on Friday, October 28, 2011 for students who had high grades, had turned in all assignments, had remained free of "P" points, and not received any detentions. Students received pancakes for breakfast and played games for the first half of the day. There will be another celebration at the end of the second grading period, and the teachers hope to see even more kids there!

Students did really well on their Realistic Fiction and Fantasy book



reports that were due in September. **Mr. Stitzel** and **Ms. Jurkovic** are excited to see the October book reports. The November/December genre for the book report is Biography and Autobiographies. Students should be getting started on these as soon as possible.

Students are getting Simple Solutions assignments every week on Friday in math class. These are always due the following Friday.

Students are getting Vocabu-



lary Packets every Tuesday in Language Arts. These are always due the following Tuesday. Also every Tuesday the students take quizzes over the vocabulary words from the previous week.

In social studies, the students participated in Greek Day. Students dressed up as a typical character from ancient Greece, made Greek food or presented a 3-D model of something from ancient Greece. The students enjoyed putting what they had learned about ancient Greece into practice.

STEM Club Offers Exciting New Opportunity

The Streetsboro Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) Club has begun. This STEM Club is an after school opportunity for students to participate in exploring various STEM challenges using the Lego NXT Mindstorm robot kits in hands on activities. The STEM Club meets after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays under the supervision of **Mr. Day**.

The Streetsboro STEM Club will begin exploring the robotic world



Mr. Day leads Adam Schmitt and Casey Bacon through an introduction to STEM Club activities.

through a series of engineering challenges to be completed. Students will be divided into teams with each student assigned specific team roles: Programming Director, Engineering Director, Video Production Engineer, and Web Designer. Each team member will be required to be involved with all aspects of the team challenge, while being responsible for the success of their roles. **The use of**



21st Century Skills to meet the challenges will increase student interest in Math, Science, and Technology.

The challenges provide an opportunity for the students to analyze and evaluate their options as they apply their knowledge to build a robot to meet specific goals.

Many thanks go out to the Streetsboro Educational Foundation and the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation where all club monies for supplies and materials were received through grants.



Foreign Language Classes Celebrate Cultural Events

Delicious and fun! The **French and Spanish Cultural Events** were exciting, and yet full of learning for grading period one! More than 80 people were in attendance!

French students celebrated Mardi Gras by making mini Mardi Gras floats with the themes of Concerts, Volleyball, America, **Mardi Gras**, Gir, **The Beach**, Spongebob!, Dragons, Nike, **Dance Party**, Disco, World Cultures, **Mini Cooper Car**, Breast Cancer Awareness, The Enigma Zen Band, **Angry Birds**, Vacations, **Dance** and Paris at Night. Floats that are in bold print won the contest of the best looking floats.

Mardi Gras Recipe winners were **Shayla Hawkins, Dustin Dye, Preston Cegelski, Nick Diulus, Alyssa Miraglia, Darian Milliken, and Jessica Gomula.**

The Queens, Princesses and Princes of Mardi Gras were crowned. These special students went above and beyond in class and participated the most. Queens were **Annie Fernandez** and **Haley Franklin**. They had the highest number of participation points. The Princes of Mardi Gras were **Clayton Malone, Preston Cegelski, Nick Diulus, and Jaylon Gray.** The Prin-



cesses were **Kayla Wells, Mikaila Brown, and Samantha Csorba.** Special guests at the Mardi Gras included the families of **Arrin Sanders** and **Alyssa Miraglia.** Many staff members came to the Mardi Gras, wore beads, tasted delicious French desserts and voted on our mini Mardi Gras floats, our Mardi Gras masks and judged the best French desserts. Many thanks to all of our guests! **Spanish students participated in a Quinceañera** at

the end of the grading period. A Quinceañera marks the passage of a girl into womanhood. It is an elaborate celebration that has much cultural significance for the 15 year old girl and her family. **Shannon Lynch** and **Alliyah Wimberly** "turned 15." Special guests in attendance at the Quinceañera included 20 staff members and **the family of Sidney Grimm.** We really enjoyed sharing our day; thank you for coming!

The winning salsas for grading period 1:

- **Tastiest:** Austin VanReeth and Kyler Griffin
- **Smoothest:** Daeja Robertson and



Tysean Allmond

- **Chunkiest:** Josh Miller and Sidney Grimm
- **Spiciest:** Anthony Mella and Mike Carey
- **Sweetest:** Zachary Schuttenberg and Logan Sangston
- **Most Unusual:** Bryce Carlin

The top participators for Spanish classes grading period 1 were **Robert Walker** and **Braden Hatz.** The runners up were **Josh Miller, Anthony Mella, Treasure Ellerbe** and also, **Sidney Grimm, Dwayne Frazier** and **Tysean Allmond.**

Mrs. Bohn truly appreciates the efforts of all of her students, especially the top participators who worked tirelessly throughout the entire grading period. Special thanks to **Ms. Jenni Cales**, a member of the **Streetsboro Education Foundation**, who attended the Mardi Gras event. Thank you again to **all**

of the guests who attended the events. These events are partially sponsored by the Streetsboro Education Foundation; many thanks to the Education Foundation Board for supporting us.

Mark Your Calendars...

The cultural events for Spanish and French classes have been planned for the 2nd marking period. All parents and grandparents of marking period two Spanish and French students are invited to our cultural events.

French classes will be celebrating Mardi Gras, showing off their Mardi Gras masks and mini-floats and will be serving French desserts on **Thursday, Jan. 12th.**

Rats 1 classes will celebrate from 9:45 until 10:30. Rats 2 classes will celebrate from 10:40 until 11:25.

Spanish classes will be cele-



brating a Quinceañera, which is a rite of passage for a 15 year old girl. We will re-enact a Quinceañera, with one young lady from our class playing the role of the 15 year old birthday girl. The rest of the students will play other important roles in the event. Students will be serving all kinds of fresh salsas. The Quinceañera is on **Friday, January 13th.** Rats 1 classes will celebrate from 7:50 until 8:35. Rats 2 classes will celebrate from 1:05 until 1:50.

Check your student's schedule for Foreign Language Class and plan to join us in January. Students will bring home invitations in December to remind you to attend!

Cookie Dough is Coming!

Thank you to all our parents and neighbors who helped make the Magazine /Cookie Dough fundraiser so successful. For those of you who ordered cookie dough, **cookie dough orders will be in on Thursday, November 10th.**

Cookie Dough orders may be picked up here at Streetsboro Middle School on Thursday, November 10th between 11:30 and 5:00 pm. During school hours please check in at the office and our office staff will direct you to where you may pick up your orders. Again thank you for your support, you do make a difference!



Related Arts Teachers Collect for “Soles4Souls”

The Related Arts Teachers at Streetsboro Middle School have adopted a charity this year. It is called Soles4Souls. Teachers have donated more than 65 pairs of shoes this year. **Miss Koppel** collected the shoes from the teachers and took them to the drop-off center.

Soles4Souls is a charity that collects shoes from the warehouses of footwear companies and the closets of ordinary people. The charity distributes these shoes to people in need, regardless of race, religion,



class, or any other criteria. Since 2005, Soles4Souls has given away over 14 million pairs of new and gently worn shoes (currently donating one pair every 7 seconds.) The shoes have been distributed to people in over 127 countries, including the United States, Kenya, Thailand, and Nepal.

Soles4Souls is a 501 (c)(3) recognized by the IRS and donating parties are eligible for tax advantages.

The idea behind gifts of shoes is nothing new to the Soles4Souls team, as

they coordinated relief efforts for the Asian Tsunami and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, netting over 1 million pairs donated for these disasters. The team originally operated as www.katrinashoes.org with several churches partnering in the collection and distribution of footwear.

Anyone can join our cause, and we need your help. Please visit www.soles4souls.org to find out where you can drop off your shoes for the needy of our country and of the world.

Reminder About District and Board Policies

At the beginning of the school year, each student received a Streetsboro Middle School Handbook. Parents reviewed and signed an acknowledgment that they and their student read and understood the student handbook. **Mr. Hatch** would like to also remind

parents and students, that in addition to the rules and regulations set for in the Student Handbook, Streetsboro students are responsible for reading and complying with the Streetsboro City School District Board of Education’s policies and administrative guidelines. The

policies and guidelines can be found on the District’s website at <http://www.streetsborocityschools.com> (go to the “For Parents” tab, and scroll down to District Policies).

Washington D.C. Trip News

The 8th grade students are already getting excited about the annual Washington DC Trip! The trip will be May 23-25, 2012, and students have already begun fundraising by selling delicious Market Day pies. The pie sale began on October 24 and will end on Monday November 7, 2011. The pies will be delivered on Thursday November 17th, just in time for the holidays. Parents and students can begin picking up their pies at 3pm in the middle school cafeteria.

Please don’t forget that the first \$100, non-refundable deposit is due on November 10th. Checks can be made out to Streetsboro Middle School. If you have any questions about the trip please contact Miss Andrews.



Student Council Happenings

Streetsboro Middle School held student council elections on Friday September 30th. Candidates for Vice President were Jonathan Cramer and Daniel Banks, Secretary candidates were Kelsey Arnold and Matt Campisi, and Treasurer candidates were Meghan Freeman and Jeffrey Rondo. The winners of the election were Daniel Banks (VP), Kelsey Arnold (Secretary), and Meghan Freeman (Treasurer).

Student Council has been very busy so far this year! Representatives volunteered at the PASS Pancake Breakfast, held a Halloween Door Decorating Contest, sponsored Red Ribbon Week, and held a Halloween-themed dance. Student Council representatives are also responsible for taking care of the recycling needs of the building. There are many more activities planned as the holidays approach!



Winter Choral Concert Set for December 6th

The Winter Choral Concert will be held Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011 in the HS gymnasium. The concert begins at 7:30 pm – participating students should report to the HS music room by 7:00. This is not only a concert, but an opportunity for learning. Therefore, all students are required to attend the entire concert (about 80 min).

