



# HOOFPRI NT

Shickley Public School - Preparing Students for Success



Mark your calendars for the following important dates:

December 1st

No School for PK-6.  
We are hosting Distict One Act Competition.

December 4th

School dismissed at 2:30.

December 14th

High School Music Concert at 7:30 for grades 5-12.

December 18th

Celebration of Success at 2:30 for grades K-12.  
Last day of quarter one and first semester.  
Christmas breaks starts.

December 19th through

January 4th  
Christmas break.

January 4th

Teacher Cohort in Shickley.

January 5th

Back to school.

**Look at Joyce's calendar for many more important dates.**

## Notes from Mr. Jorgenson

As the semester begins to close, the focus in my office turns to finishing out the year and beginning to prepare things or changes for the 2016-2017 year. I know one change that we will see next year deals with the school calendar. Because of how Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Sunday of next year, Christmas break will not be two full weeks as it has been. The good in that is that we will not start school until August 17th. I thought I would let you know this ahead of time, as people plan for vacations and such. A copy of the calendar will be available on our website as soon as it is approved by the school board. Other than that, we are in the planning stages of some other items, and I will update you on any changes once those items are complete. Here are a few things of note:

1. Recycling. Thanks to all who are making the effort of keeping our trailer bag free. Please continue to remember that we do not want paper sacks or any other trash items.
2. Basketball is right around the corner. The first regular season game is December 4th vs Hampton in Bruning.
3. We will be having a Celebration of Success for all K-12 students on December 18th @ 2:30. Everyone is welcome to attend the celebration of what students are accomplishing in the classroom.
4. December 18th is the last day of the quarter, and it also will mark the beginning of Christmas Break.
5. Congrats to the BDS Football Team on the State Title.
6. Good luck to the Shickley Longhorn One Act team as they enter districts.

Bryce Jorgenson  
Superintendent  
[bjorgenson@longhornpower.org](mailto:bjorgenson@longhornpower.org)

## Kindergartners Learn About Living Things

The kindergarten class has been learning about how living things change and grow. Brandy VanDeWalle, from the UNL Extension Office in Geneva, and Megan Burda, from the UNL Extension Office in York, made special visits to the classroom to further enrich studies. Mrs. VanDeWalle taught the students about seeds and how all plants grow from seeds. The students performed a seed dissection and identified parts of a seed. The class also made a seed necklace, and are waiting for those seeds to grow. Mrs. Burda taught the class about the life cycle of a pumpkin. The students ate pumpkin seeds, read a book about pumpkins, and made a craft showing how a pumpkin grows and changes. The students and Mrs. Schultz enjoyed having these ladies share their knowledge with them.



Picture at right is Mrs. VanDeWalle and the kindergarten class.

## Third Grade Class Trick Or Treats For Food Pantry

The Shickley third grade students have been learning about the importance of being good citizens and helping others. The class participated in a Trick or Treat project. The students did not hunt for candy; instead, they

Trick or Treated in Shickley for the food pantry. They collected, sorted, and counted the boxed and canned goods. The third grade collected over 300 items! Stella Ippensen explained, "I learned that helping others makes you feel good. We made a difference! I learned that alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much." After students participated in this activity, they were able to feel that "good feeling" of what it is like to help others!



Pictured at left are the third graders and all the items they collected for the food pantry.

## Thank You Businesses

The Shickley Public School elementary and daycare students want to thank the many local businesses for giving them Halloween treats during the Halloween Parade. The children were so excited to show everyone their costumes. Thank you for supporting our school!

Pictured at right are the kindergarten students ready to go trick or treating.



## Thank You Shickley Community Foundation

The Shickley Community Foundation is making an impact throughout the community, but especially here at school. Kristin Witte, ag teacher and FFA advisor, was awarded \$10,000 from the Foundation for a greenhouse project. The project will give students hands-on experience working with plants. This project will also be utilized by Karli Busboom, science teacher, and her students. Kindergarten teacher, Gwen Schultz,

was awarded a \$600 grant to fund the purchase of an online program called IXL. IXL is a standards based program that gives students multiple opportunities to practice skills in language arts and math. The teachers are able to view student progress as they work through each skill. Nearly all of the students in preschool through sixth grade will be using the program to help improve their skills. The teachers would like to extend many thank yous to the Foundation, and all of its donors.



Pictured are Gwen Schultz and Kristin Witte at the foundation meeting receiving their grants.

## Early Learning Facility

The older infants at the Early Learning Facility practiced using their fine motor skills while making sensory bottles. They filled plastic water bottles with pipe cleaners, acorns, popsicle sticks, and other small objects. Their project is now used daily to make "music."

Pictured at right is Maddie Mussman putting pipe cleaners in her bottle.



## Veteran's Day Program

On Wednesday, November 11th our school held a Veteran's Day program in the main gym. We worked with our local Legion Post 164 to honor the many men and women who have served for our country. Many of our students took part in the program by speaking, playing in the band, or participating in the poppy poster contest.

Pictured, Earl Dean Frieden presents a medal to Robbie Grote for being a legion member for 55 years.



## Fine Arts Night

Shickley High School students performed the One Act play "Cinderella's Fella" by Craig Sodaro at Shickley's Fine Arts Night on Monday, November 9th. Co-directors Kristin Witte and Rebecca Jorgenson were proud of their actor's hard work and performance at the event. Following the play's performance, community members enjoyed ice cream provided by the Shickley Music Booster Club and viewed an art exhibit by students in grades K through 12. Exhibits included clay birds by the 2nd grade class, color wheel action paintings by the 5th and 6th graders, chalk pastel landscape drawings by high school students, portrait drawings by junior high students, and many more projects. Following the art exhibit, the Shickley band performed a court show on the gym floor.

In the picture on the left Drum Majorette Tristen Mosier salutes the crowd as she presents the band before their court show performance.

In the picture on the right school board members John Mick and Tim Lichti look at the artwork on display.



## Students Visit Colleges

Seven Shickley High School students recently visited the UNO and Creighton University campuses as a way to learn more about the individual campuses and college life. The students enjoyed a thorough tour of each campus and received information about what it will take to be a successful college student and what they can be doing now in their classes to prepare themselves for future success.

The students standing beside Durango, UNO's mascot, are: Thomas Mick, Chris Lichti, Josiah Kamler, Nicole Swartzendruber, Courtney Kamler, Kellen Reinsch, and Catherine Mick.

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## Biotechnology and Livestock Judging

On November 11<sup>th</sup> the FFA Chapter attended District VI competition in Hastings at the Adams County Fair grounds. Members competed in different Career Development Events (CDEs). Competing on the 5<sup>th</sup> place Biotechnology team were: Courtney Kamler, Chris Lichti, Jacob Swartzendruber, and Thomas Mick.

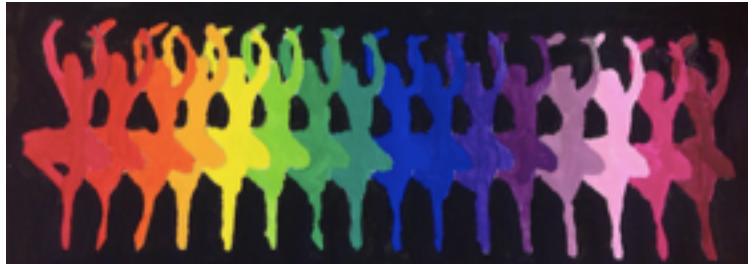
In Livestock Judging, 23 Shickley FFA members competed. John Alfs won the Senior Division. Members of the 7<sup>th</sup> place senior team were: John Alfs (purple), Ben Elznic (blue), Carley Swartzendruber (white), and Kale Kleinschmidt (white). The Junior Division 9<sup>th</sup> place team members were: Holden Stengel (blue), Nicole Swartzendruber (red), Anthony Beavers (red), and Caleb Hendrickson (red). Also competing in the Junior Division was another team. Its members were: Caitlin Mosier, Jackson Grote, Josiah and Isaac Kamler. The 3<sup>rd</sup> place middle school team members were: Raegan Fiala (3<sup>rd</sup>, purple), Zach Mosier (blue), Austin Plock (blue), and Josh Swartzendruber (white). Also competing were: Justin Stengel (white), Regan Alfs (white), Brock Swartzendruber (white), Nathan Nelson, Sam Fiegel, and Brooke Jorgenson.

Pictured are the FFA members who participated in the livestock judging contests.



## Artwork on Display at NASB Convention

Two artworks were displayed at the Nebraska Association of School Boards Conference in LaVista, Nebraska from November 18th until the 20th. Kenzie Bohling, a 7th grade student, painted an abstract design that overlapped into three frames. Each frame used a different set of complimentary colors. Kenzie's painting is shown at the right on the top. Gracie Swartzendruber, a 5th grade student, painted a ballerina in a repeated action pose in rainbow color order. Gracie's project concluded a unit on the human form and was based on a Pony Express mural in downtown Gothenburg, Nebraska. Gracie's painting is shown on the bottom to the right.



Both projects used color theory knowledge, showed exceptional craftsmanship and creativity, and represent their school well at this exhibit.

## FFA Members Attend National Convention

National Convention was held in Louisville, Kentucky October 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. Anthony Beavers and Chris Lichti were members of the National FFA Chorus. They sang at all general sessions, banquets, and their own FFA concert. Anthony and Chris were able to share their musical talents and meet members from across the country who shared their musical interest. Thomas Mick and Caleb Hendrickson competed in the National AgriScience Fair in the Environmental/Natural Resources Division III. Their report was judged in July and they were selected in the top 15 of reports. In Kentucky, they interviewed with judges. At their luncheon banquet they received a bronze medal. Other members who attended National Convention were: Regan Alfs, Caitlin Mosier, Lexi Kadel, Isaac and Josiah Kamler. These members were able to tour the Louisville Slugger Museum and attend the career fair, convention workshops, and sessions. The convention was a great experience for all who attended, and students learned more about what the FFA can offer them.



Pictured left to right: Thomas Mick, Isaac Kamler, Lexi Kadel, Josiah Kamler, Caitlin Mosier, Caleb Hendrickson, and Regan Alfs.

## Volleyball Season Recap

The Lady Eagles Volleyball Team finished their season at 24-7, despite losing in the District Final. The volleyball team was comprised of 22 energetic girls who worked hard in the off-season and put forth more effort once the season started. In their first triangular of the year the team was challenged by Hampton and Exeter-Milligan, where each of the three teams came out winning one game. The Eagles made their mark right away, showing not only their fans what they were capable of, but other teams and media as well. Throughout the year the girls continued to improve and won a lot of big matches. They defeated Hampton (twice), Johnson Brock (State Champion), Meridian (3 times), and Heartland, just to name a few.

They won the BDS Invitational Tournament, had the runner-up CRC season record, got 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the CRC Tournament, and finished as the runner-up in the district final match against Diller Odell (state runner-up). The seven losses that they encountered throughout the year came from teams that were all ranked in the top 10 in classes D-1 and D-2 at the end of the season. Unfortunately, the team fell into a very tough sub-district, as 5 of the 10 teams in the final ratings (according to the Lincoln Journal Star) came out of their sub-district. The coaches are very proud of how the girls played throughout the season and the outstanding effort that they put forth. They are also very excited to have four girls receive All-Conference Honors. Catherine Mick made first team and McKenna Schardt, Madison Yantzie, and Carley Elznic made honorable mention. It is very hard to say good-bye to five outstanding seniors that were a significant part to their team.

## EHA

There is one, and only one, beverage that is perfectly suited for your biological needs: pure, clean, natural water. Two-thirds of our body mass is water. It aids in keeping muscles and skin toned, assists in weight loss, transports oxygen and nutrients to cells, eliminates toxins, and regulates body temperature. It has no calories and is free of unhealthy additives.

In December, we will be participating in a challenge to drink 40 ounces of water a day and reduce the consumption of sugary drinks. Faculty and students can participate by opting for a bottle of water versus a sugary drink. We will experience options for adding flavor to water, set goals and learn about the importance of choosing water instead of sugary beverages. Here are some ideas for meeting the goals for this challenge.

- \*Choose water instead of diet, low-calorie or sugar-sweetened beverages
- \*Carry a water bottle and refill it throughout the day
- \*Keep a jug or bottles of cold water in the fridge
- \*Serve water with meals
- \*Add slices of cucumber, lemon, lime, or other fruit to water
- \*Choose smaller sized sugary drinks
- \*Be a role model for your friends and family

## Rocket the Tarantula Comes to Second Grade

The second grade class was blessed with a visit from a rose haired tarantula named Rocket. Rocket is owned by Joseph DiLeo, a second grader at Shickley School. The class has been studying insects, spiders, and animal parts in science. They were all very interested to learn about Rocket and what it takes to care for her. Everyone in the class was brave enough to touch the tarantula, but some did not want to hold her!

In other news, the second grade has been busy learning about various reading strategies to help them comprehend stories. They finished unit 2 and are excited to move on to unit 3. In math, they are learning how to regroup two digit and one digit numbers and will then move on to subtraction. They finished a chapter on graphing where each one of them conducted a survey and completed a graph of their own. The children wrote Thankful Thanksgiving stories in writing. They put together a turkey and a cornucopia to help them brainstorm some ideas. December will be an exciting month because they will be learning the format of a letter and then writing letters to Santa! The students will also learn about their family traditions and write a book to be published at the end of the month.

Pictured are front row: Brady Noel, Jaxen Heath, Joseph DiLeo holding his tarantula, Luke Elting, and Evan Swartzendruber. Back row: paraprofessional Mrs. Oglesby, Levi Kamler, Olivia Schlegel, Oliver Oglesby, teacher Mrs. Mosier, Lexi Johnson, and Joseph's mom Michelle Jarvis. Not pictured is Zoie Royse.



## Investing in our School's Future

A very important topic being discussed in the Unicameral is property tax reform. This discussion has significant implications for the future of our rural school districts. There are certainly many different perspectives on how schools should be financed and I do not wish to weigh in on this debate. Rather, I want to take this opportunity to share how our Board evaluates financial investments in the school so that you can have confidence in how your tax dollars are being spent.

Let me start with a few clear statements of the Boards approach to finances. 1.) Every significant expenditure the Board looks at is ultimately weighed against the benefits for educating our children. Schools exist for the education and formation of children; everything else is secondary. 2.) We believe investment in staff, technology, programs, and facilities are an important part of maintaining a viable school district. This is especially critical in rural communities faced with declining enrollments. 3.) Every single investment the Board makes is evaluated thoroughly before action is taken. Each dollar the school has access to comes from your pockets and we respect that fact.

It can be said that our Board is fiscally conservative. A very good example of this is how we have acted over the last few years. The strong ag economy of the recent past enticed many school districts to grow their expenditures. Our Board recognized that economic cycles change, so we resisted any major budgetary growth to be fiscally responsible.

Several times each year we evaluate the physical facilities of the district and make provisions for maintenance and improvements. This can be difficult at times when dealing with an aging facility that has been built over so many different decades. We have recently re-evaluated things and tried to prioritize some needed improvements to our facilities. **Keep in mind facilities are but one thing we need to invest in – our programs and our staff must be invested in also.**

Here is a short list of some projects that we are planning to complete and some we have been considering:

Projects we are planning for: Replace flooring in the entryway, hallways, and kitchen. Upgrade lockers so that backpacks can be stored. Replace broken / uneven concrete walkways in front of the school.

Projects we are evaluating: Remodel entryway to allow for security upgrades and bathroom improvements. Replace the old boiler system. Upgrade windows in the high school and gymnasium for improved efficiency and ventilation. Upgrade electrical service to the school and possibly add air conditioning. Add suspended ceiling to hallways in high school.

I hope this information gives you confidence in how our Board strives to be fiscally responsible. We always appreciate thoughtful input, especially on significant decisions that have to be made.

John Mick  
School Board Member



## One Act Performs at Conference

Shickley One Act performed "Cinderella's Fella" at the CRC contest on Wednesday, November 18th, at Cross County High School. The team improved from Fine Arts Night and received valuable feedback for the next performance. Congratulations to Caitlin Mosier and Madison Yantzie for receiving Conference Superior Acting medals! Mrs. Jorgenson would like to say "Thank You" to the students for representing Shickley and themselves with excellence--Proud of our Longhorns! Also, thank you to the parents who helped to make the logistics for the day run smoothly; we couldn't have done it without you!



The following students are members of the cast and stage crew: Wyatt Deepe, Courtney Kamler, Carley Elznic, Tristen Mosier, Chris Lichti, Madison Yantzie, Ben Elznic, John Alfs, Jackson Grote, Isaac Kamler, Caitlin Mosier, Jadyn Kleinschmidt, Josiah Kamler, Megan Grote, Lexi Kadel, Caleb Hendrickson, and Catherine Mick.

## Doane Honor Band

The Doane Honor Band was held November 7th, 2015 at the Crete campus. The band was comprised of students in 10-12 grades in Nebraska and surrounding areas. Carley Elznic, Kellen Reinsch, and Nicole Swartzendruber were selected to the Tiger and Merrill Bands. While Anthony Beavers, Lexi Kadel, and Chris Lichti were selected to the top honor band of the day. The students learned the music for the concert with the other musicians during the day and performed at the evening concert.

Pictured in the front row are: Carley Elznic, Nicole Swartzendruber, and Lexi Kadel. In the back row are: Mr. Harris, Chris Lichti, Anthony Beavers, and Kellen Reinsch.



## FBLA Halloween Dance

On October 31st, the Shickley FBLA chapter hosted a Halloween Costume dance to raise money for the Nebraska FBLA Scholarship fund. Nearly 30 students enjoyed dancing to music provided by Christ Gangstad, as well as pop and snacks provided by the FBLA chapter. The following individuals won a \$10 iTunes card for their costumes: Most original - Faith Stengel; Best Movie Character - Jackson Grote; and Best of Show - Tristen Mosier & Mashaya Dierking. The chapter will donate \$147 to the scholarship fund.

Watch the daily announcements for exciting news about future FBLA projects. During December, they will be hosting a toy drive and "Elfie" of Year.

## Language Resource Tongue Twister Poem

My Tongue is Tasting Terrible by Jack Prelutsky

My tongue is tasting terrible,  
I can't imagine why,  
For all I ate was pickled snake,  
And chicken beaks on rye.  
I had a plate of candied snails,  
Assorted monkey lips,  
A bowl of curdled turtle tails,  
A dish of hippo chips.

I tried a bit of weasel cheese,  
Rhinoceros tofu,  
A cup of plankton pudding,  
Garlic curry kangaroo,  
A quart of onion ice cream,  
And a slice of walrus pie.  
My tongue is tasting terrible,  
I can't imagine why.

Just like the tongue in this poem from Jack Prelutsky, everyone's tongue gets a little "tongue tied" at times so it's important to keep trying and eventually the sounds or words come out the way you want.

## Letter from Mr. Ippensen, Principal

*This is part five of twelve in a continuing conversation about the characteristics, skills, and abilities of a successful student, as defined by Shickley Public School.*

A successful student is independent and self-directed.

Students today have so much going on, especially in a small school like ours. In order to be successful, students must develop the skills and abilities to be independent and self-directed. Setting goals and managing time are essential parts of being self-directed and independent. If people are unable to set goals and diligently work to accomplish their goals, it is hard to be successful. Someone isn't always looking over our shoulders telling us we need to get to work. Because of this, those who have the ability to work independently are more likely to be successful. Managing and meeting timelines, both those we set for ourselves and those set for us, is essential to a successful academic and professional career. A final area in which students need to be independent and self-directed is their life-long learning. As students come across a topic or field of interest, it is up to them to research and read to learn more. A successful student has the ability and motivation to learn independently, to satisfy both needs and interests.

As always, if you have any questions or comments regarding the work we are doing at Shickley Public School, or if you would like to share in the process of preparing our students for success, please don't hesitate to stop in and talk, or give us a call.

Derek Ippensen  
PK-12 Principal  
Shickley Public School

December 2015

