



HOOFPRIINT



Shickley Public School - Preparing Students for Success

 Mark your calendars for
 the following important
 dates:

April 6th
 School Board
 Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

April 7th
 Grandparents' Day
 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

April 13th
 Kindergarten Roundup
 8:30 A.M.

April 14th
 No School
 Easter Vacation

April 17th
 No School
 Easter Vacation

April 21st
 Shickley
 Clean-Up Day

April 21st
 School Dismissed
 at 2:30 P.M.

April 26th
 Plant Pick-Up Day
 8:30 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Please check Joyce's
 calendar for more events.

Notes from Mr. Jorgenson

Spring is here! Soon the planters will be rolling and a new growing season will have begun. As we finish this school year, do not forget that we have some important events that you can attend to celebrate what our students have been doing at the school. They have been working hard all year long in many different areas of the school. Make sure you take the time to celebrate their accomplishments.

Compared to last summer, I am looking forward to a break with much less going on here at school. There will still be some activity inside and outside of the building as we either finish some projects or begin a few smaller ones to maintain the great facility we have. One of the projects we will be doing is in the kitchen. We will be putting down new tile in the cook's area this summer. While we are doing that, we are also going to put in a new serving line. The new serving line will have three hot water serving areas. This will allow the cooks to use fewer crockpots and/or roasters when serving the food. It should also speed up the serving line.

Lastly, I want to recognize the Shickley speech team. After a hard year of work, that work paid off and was shown at the state speech meet in Kearney, Nebraska on March 24th. They brought home Shickley's first state runner-up trophy for speech. None of this would have been possible with out the hard work of the students and the coaches. If you see Mrs. Jennifer Ippensen or Ms. Katie Johnson, make sure you congratulate them on an excellent season. It's great to be a Longhorn!

Bryce Jorgenson
 Superintendent
bjorgenson@longhornpower.org

Shickley Education Association

The Shickley Education Association (SEA) is a local teacher organization, which is affiliated with the Nebraska State Education Association. The mission of the NSEA is “to advocate for all education professionals, empowering them to provide an excellent public education for every student.”

SEA realizes the importance of books for students! The organization chose to donate several books of various reading levels to our school library during Dr. Seuss, Read Across America Week, February 17th - March 3rd. Students love to read his silly books. As part of Read Across America Week students enjoyed dress-up days, and activities that Mrs. Aude planned in the gym. Thank you Mrs. Aude, pictured, for all of your hard work in the library and during Read Across America Week.



Memory Project

This year five 8th grade students drew portraits for the organization “Memory Project.” They are pictured to the right with art teacher, Mrs. Jorgenson: Raleigh Shipley, Nolan O'Brien, Bryn Kadel, Kenzie Bohling, and Mikenzy Andersen. The Memory Project is a nonprofit organization that takes photographs of children in need in other countries, and pairs them with artists who draw the portraits and return them to the child. This project helps the children feel valued and important, and lets them know that many people care about their well being. This year Shickley 8th graders learned about the challenges facing our child, "Lena" from the Ukraine. Her favorite color, blue, was added to most of the artworks. These students are looking forward to seeing her reaction to receiving the portraits in a video that will be sent back to us later this spring. This project was a wonderful way for students to end their unit in portrait drawing, and to show global kindness. According to the website, since 2004, more than 90,000 portraits have been created and shared in 42 countries.



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#shickleylonghorns



Seniors Attend County Government Day

Mr. Shipley's American Government class enjoyed County Government Day. The class won the County Government Jeopardy game and also participated in the Mock Trial. It was a great day to learn about our local government.

Pictured are the seniors in the courthouse: John Alfs, Courtney Kamler, Carley Swartzendruber, Kale Kleinschmidt, and Chris Lichti.



Progressive Agriculture Safety Day

Current 1st through 6th graders are invited to attend Progressive Agriculture Safety Day on Thursday, May 25, 2017 at the Fillmore County Fairgrounds. Youth will participate in a variety of events designed to help them be aware of safety in potentially hazardous situations. They will learn about swimming safety, agricultural settings, electrical safety, and more. NE Extension hosts this event in Fillmore County, along with Shickley and Fillmore Central FFA chapters, 4-H, W.I.F.E., and Fillmore County Emergency Management. Early registration is due April 21st; forms can be downloaded at fillmore.unl.edu. For more information or to register, call 402-759-3712 or email brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu.

P.E. News

Recently in freshman P.E. the students were grouped into teams and created their own original games. The kids presented and played each new game in class. Each group was then assigned to make a video showing their game and explaining the rules and objectives of the game. If you would like to see the creative games the students created follow this link, <https://goo.gl/20Rnwk>.

In junior high P.E. the students are hard at work preparing for their track season. Their first meet is Tuesday, April 4th, at McCool Junction. There are 24 kids out for track from Shickley this year.

In elementary P.E. the K-2nd graders have recently finished a bowling unit where they learned how to roll a bowling ball, what a strike is, and what it means to bowl a spare. Now they are breaking out the parachute to play many different games using locomotor and teamwork skills. The second graders are pictured to the right playing with the parachute.



In upper elementary P.E. the students have been playing a number of invasion games learning more about how to work as a team and how each team member has a job to do. For example, some members have to be "guarders" and some have to be "attackers" to make the whole team successful. The kids have been working really hard in class and are all excited for the nice weather so they can have class outside and enjoy the spring weather.

University of Nebraska - Kearney Campus Visit

Nine students visited UNK's campus on March 1st. They were able to visit with student ambassadors, take a campus visit, look at a couple of different dorm rooms, and eat lunch on campus. The students who went on the the campus visit are pictured: Laurie Vang, Karlea Reed, Brooke Jorgenson, Kaylee Noel, Lexie Kadel, Anthony Beavers, Nicole Swartzendruber, Caleb Hendrickson, and Thomas Mick.



Elementary and Jr. High Classroom Speeches

As a way to prepare upper elementary and junior high students for future speaking opportunities, each 5th through 8th grade student writes a speech: 5th grade informative, 6th grade persuasive, 7th grade entertainment, and 8th grade a choice from those three modes. Students select their own topics, allowing them to choose something of personal interest.

The top three students from each grade had the opportunity to present their speeches at Longhorn Speech Night, which was held on March 14th. Those students were:

- * 5th Grade: Hanna Kadel (The Holocaust), Seth Stengel (Deer), Lynley Swartzendruber (Pogo Sticks);
- * 6th grade: Brianna Jorgenson (Endangered Species), Hannah Miller (Benefits of Drinking Milk), Ashley Schlegel (Animal Vaccinations);
- * 7th Grade: Madeline Kamler (The Life of Dakota), Eli Noel (The Little Brother Syndrome), Mariah Sliva (Adventures at Adam's House); and
- * 8th Grade: Mikenzy Andersen (Informative: Imagination), Blake Schlegel (Entertainment: Classmates), and Raleigh Shipley (Entertainment: Advice for Men).

Pictured giving their speeches in the classroom are 8th grader Reid Richards and 7th grader Jayden Heath.



Envirothon

On February 28th five FFA members traveled to Columbus to compete in the Central Region Envirothon contest hosted by the Lower Loup and Central Natural Resources Districts. The students worked together to complete general knowledge exams in a special topic: range, forestry, policy, soils, aquatics, and wildlife. The team, pictured, of Jacob Swartzendruber, Holden Stengel, Caleb Hendrickson, Thomas Mick, and Wyatt Deepe placed 4th out of 19 teams competing. They also won the policy division. Students were able to apply knowledge of natural resources and conservation practices to each area.



Garden Plants

The Shickley Agriculture Education Program will have a variety of garden plants available for purchase starting April 24th until sold out. The students are planting and hoping to have the following plants available in different varieties: peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, cantaloupe, squash, zucchini, pumpkins, watermelon, egg plant, and herbs.

Pictured are 8th graders, Raleigh Shipley and Nolan O'Brien, planting vegetables.



Pi Day

Pi Day was celebrated at Shickley Public School on March 14th, 2017. Pi is an irrational number that comes from dividing a circle's circumference by its diameter. A common approximation for this number is 3.14. Three groups of students made awesome videos. They can be found on YouTube by searching Sandi Snyder and choosing the fifth one down the list. Three students recited the digits of pi. Kaylee Noel was the winner. She recited 50 digits from memory. Two students brought circular cookies to celebrate. Thanks to all who participated in the festivities!

Student Council Leadership Summit

On March 22nd, the Student Council, attended the Student Council Leadership Summit in Lincoln. The summit was designed to teach the students leadership skills in their schools and communities and how to be advocates for their fellow classmates.

SENCAP Big Event Days

On March 14th and 30th, students who participate in the agriculture and healthcare Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Program (SENCAP) had the opportunity to participate in a Big Event Day. At the Big Event Day, each student was able to engage in activities directly related to their chosen careers such as welding or constructing a product, and in a mock interview where they were expected to have a resume, cover letter, and other required material. The students who participated in these two events were John Alfs, Kale Kleinschmidt, Thomas Mick, Holden Stengel, Jacob Swartzendruber, Courtney Kamler, and Kellen Reinsch.

Read Across America Week

Read Across America Week (February 27th - March 3rd) was celebrated at Shickley Public Schools with a variety of activities. Students participated in daily Dr. Seuss dress up days including wacky socks, top-hats, and favorite Dr. Seuss characters.

The week started with a friendly competition amongst the teaching staff. The challenge for the teachers was to create a Dr. Seuss themed door based on one of his books, a quote, or theme. Fifteen doors were judged, and it was determined that Mrs. Dickson's 4th grade door was the winner. With the help of her students, her door featured the book, "There's a Wocket in my Pocket."

The week also started off with a "Caught Red-Hatted" reading challenge. Students K-12 earned "red tickets" if they were caught reading at a time during which it was not required of them. Elementary students placed their tickets in a basket of 9 books donated by the SEA (Shickley Education Association). High school student names went into a drawing of 2 (\$15.00) book certificates. The winners of both the elementary and high school challenge are pictured below. Elementary winners: Sophie Ippensen, Hailey Miller, Hayley Sliva, Aiden Domeier, Jaxen Heath, Veronika Flint, Lexie Johnson, Max Andersen, Bennet Jorgenson; high school winners: Carley Elznic and Jadyn Klienschmidt.



The final event of the week was celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2nd. We had a special guest visit Shickley Public Schools, The Cat in the Hat! The Cat in the Hat greeted students in the morning and also participated in the afternoon celebrations. Students attended a celebration of activities in the North Gym in 2 groups, K-3 and 4-6. Students in the younger elementary grades listened to a read aloud from our special guest and completed a craft lead by the 6th grade class. Students in the upper grades also listened to a read aloud and completed a science experiment with Oobleck! It was an exciting week, and fun was had by all celebrating the importance and joy of reading! Pictured below are Dr. Seuss (Ashley Hansel) reading and Carter Gnuse, Mrs. Swartzendruber, and Carson Loos doing an experiment.



Shickley Public School Hosts Red Cross Blood Drive

On Friday, March 17th, Shickley Public School held their fifth annual blood drive. The Red Cross's theme to their blood drives this year is "Hope begins with you."

At the blood drive, the National Honor Society gave hope by providing the personnel needed to load and unload the equipment and staff the registration table. Fifty-two people, including 8 students and 13 staff members, chose to stand out on Friday by donating 54 total units of blood. This helped Shickley to meet the Red Cross goal for the drive of 40, and the minimum goal of 35 units, which qualifies the school for a \$250 scholarship for one senior from the Red Cross.

The Shickley Public School blood drive is one of three held each year in Shickley, with the others being held in the fall and in the summer. Shickley Public School is proud to be a part of this rotation, and proud to have chosen to give hope to those who need it.

Boys' High School Basketball

The 2016-2017 varsity boys' basketball season came to a close Thursday, March 9th, at Lincoln East High School at the state basketball tournament. The Eagles competed hard, but couldn't get enough shots to fall as they lost to Randolph 40-50 in the first round of the State Basketball Tournament. While the loss was tough on players, coaches, and fans alike, it doesn't take away from the 20-5 record that the Eagles put up after returning just one player with varsity starting experience in Kale Kleinschmidt.

Seniors on this year's team were Kale Kleinschmidt, Noel Gines, Hunter Krehnke, Brett Holtzen, John Alfs, and Josh Hinrichs. Juniors: Garrett Schardt, Anthony Beavers, Jacob Swartzendruber, Taylor Anderson, Holden Stengel, Caden Norder, Karson Dickson. Sophomores: Isaac Kamler, Josiah Kamler, Jackson Grote, Logan Schroeder, Glenn Meyer, Kameron Dickson, John Christensen. Freshman: Nolan Weber, Josh Swartzendruber, Justin Stengel, Isaac Else, and Zach Mosier. Holdin Wilkins helped as filmer for the Eagles.

Next year, the Eagles will return a strong core next year that has already made plans to achieve more in the 2017-2018 season. Players are excited to build on the foundation already set. They plan to work on new skills, strengths, and abilities throughout the off-season to prepare to make those dreams a reality.

The basketball players and coaches would also like to again thank everyone who showed support to the team throughout the season in various ways. It is all appreciated whole heartedly because the support we receive is second to none! Thank you!

Coach Schroeder and the 2016-2017 Team and Coaches

6th Grade

The 6th grade class has definitely been excited about the coming of the 4th quarter and the warmer weather that typically comes with it. Fighting through the doldrums of March can be tough on a group, but we found a way to make it through. One of the main activities that took place in the third quarter was preparation for the in-class speeches that took place March 7th. Winners of the classroom contest were: Hannah Miller, Ashley Schlegel, and Brianna Jorgenson, going 1st, 2nd, 3rd respectively. The 6th graders wrote persuasive speeches and did a great job of having a variety of topics and points to support their causes. The top three went on to perform their speeches at the Longhorn Speech Night at the school, March 14th.

Outside of speeches, the 6th graders have spent a lot of time on what an author's purpose is for writing and making judgments based on the evidence an author leaves for us to read. This can be difficult to do because it really requires the students to put themselves in the story and become part of the experience they are reading about without getting the chance to actually live it. Needless to say, we've had both struggles and successes with it, but that is part of the process of being successful!

In Math, we just finished covering geometry topics and are moving into operations with both positive and negative integers. Both concepts are two of my personal favorites because it requires much more abstract thinking than what the kids typically have to do! It is also the first time that the students will be doing the four operations of math with both positive and negative numbers. This can be eye-opening at first, but I feel like we have the ability to conquer it like everything else.

The month of April will be a busy one as the final rounds of testing are beginning. In my classroom, we will hold NeSA tests (state standardized) on these dates:

7th Grade Math - Thursday, April 6th
6th Grade Math - Wednesday, April 12th
6th Grade Reading - Thursday, April 27th

In preparation for those dates, please make sure your child(ren) are getting plenty of sleep the day before and waking up with a good breakfast. These tests represent both what the school is doing for your child, and also what your child is maintaining. By testing time, we will be ready to go, and it will be time to put our learning to the paper. It's an exciting time.

Other testing that will take place is the MAP testing which will be the first week of May. We will have a test Monday through Friday of that week. The kids will probably be a little stressed, but we are able to use these tests to see how the kids have changed in their learning and thinking since the beginning of the year. It's a nervous and hectic time of year for both students and teachers as these results roll through, but if we know we tried our best, we don't have anything to hang our heads about. We evaluate and look for ways to improve. It's always on-going!

If anyone has any questions or needs to talk about anything feel free to contact me or come visit! Thanks for all you do!

Greg Schroeder, 6th grade teacher

FFA Competes in Career Development Events

Shickley FFA members traveled to Hastings CCC to compete in District 6 Career Development Events (CDEs). These contests allow students to learn about career fields, and take general knowledge tests and practicums. The chapter had 29 members compete at districts with the Ag Sales and Food Science teams qualifying for the state contest in April.

Ag Sales - Red

Caleb Hendrickson - Purple
Chris Lichti - Purple
Brock Swartzendruber - Blue
Regan Alfs - White

Agronomy - Red

Caleb Hendrickson - Red
Anthony Beavers - Red
Isaac Kamler - Red
Raegan Fiala - White

Ag Mechanics and Technology

Thomas Mick
Kale Kleinschmidt
Wyatt Deepe
Jacob Swartzendruber

Floriculture - Red

Carley Elznic
Lexi Kadel
Jadyn Kleinschmidt
Caitlin Mosier

Food Science - Purple

Courtney Kamler - 1st Purple
Kellen Reinsch - Purple
Nicole Swartzendruber - Purple
Jackson Grote - Purple

Livestock Management - Blue

John Alfs
Carley Swartzendruber
Justin Stengel
Zach Mosier
Nathan Nelson

Meats

Regan Alfs - White
Sam Margheim

Nursery and Landscape - Blue

Chris Lichti - Blue
Josiah Kamler - Red
Jackson Grote - Red
Kellen Reinsch - Red

Welding

Austin Plock
Holden Stengel
Josh Swartzendruber - White

Vet Science

Raegan Fiala
Anthony Beavers
Isaac Kamler
Courtney Kamler

Pictured below are FFA members who attended the CDE competition:



Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser

Our annual plant sale fundraiser began March 1st. All Shickley 7-11 grade students are now taking orders. The catalog is pretty much the same as last year. It can also be viewed online at www.janetsjungle.com. We will accept orders until April 7th. There will be some plants for sale the day of the pick-up, but we suggest you preorder to ensure you get the plants you want. Plant pick-up day is WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26th from 8:30 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Please note the day change from years past!



Parents of Students in Grades 3-8 and 11

On the upcoming calendar, you will see a number of days scheduled for testing. Please, if it is at all within your power, do not schedule appointments on the days of testing. These tests are the Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) assessments, and all students in these grades are required to take these tests. If you are interested in the particular test your child will be taking on a certain day, please email Mr. Ippensen, and he can provide this information.

In addition to this, if you could ensure your child gets a good night's sleep and breakfast prior to the testing, this can lead to better test scores. As always, we want our students to perform to the best of their abilities on these assessments. If you have any questions, please email Mr. Ippensen at dippensen@longhornpower.org, or call him at school.

Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Roundup will be held on Thursday, April 13th from 8:30-10:30 A.M. Parents will participate in a parent meeting while students work with Mrs. Schultz. All students who will turn five by July 31, 2017 are eligible for kindergarten. If you have any questions before then, feel free to contact Mrs. Schultz by email at gschultz@longhornpower.org.

This year's kindergarten class will not have school that day.

Beef Booster Steak Sale

The Beef Boosters will be having a Steak Sale the day of Plant Sale Pick-Up, which is Wednesday, April 26th from 8:30 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. The steaks available are filet mignon, ribeye, and t-bone. We will have them packaged and a priced. They will be available on a first-come, first-buy basis.



Not Faux News!

Faux news continues to make the headlines on a frequent basis. More than ever before, on a national level, it is difficult to know which reports are accurate. As a disclaimer, this article is based upon actual facts.

A few weeks ago, Shickley Public Schools mailed out the 2015-16 annual report to all district patrons. This report included a composite of the enrollment, finances, and scholastics of District 54. The enrollment report immediately caught my attention. The enrollment table illustrated the enrollment totals from 2013 to 2017. Long story short, K-12 school enrollment was 120 in the 2012-13 school year and is currently 133. An increase of thirteen students doesn't sound like very much, but it does represent a 10.8% increase.

This is exciting news for us all. Unfortunately, many rural community schools are experiencing declining enrollments. School district consolidations continue as a result. Why is our enrollment increasing? There are several reasons for this. The number one reason is the continual strong support for Shickley Public Schools by patrons of all ages. Whether it is the parents, school volunteers, individuals, or businesses, District 54 patrons highly value the education, activities, and experiences that are being provided. Last fall, a district patron, who owns a lot of acres and doesn't have children, was speaking to me about the school renovation project. I thought for sure the conversation was going to lead to his disappointment with the new tax it resulted in, but quite the contrary. This gentleman complimented the project and felt it needed to be done years ago!

Another significant reason for the enrollment increase is the quality of our teachers. A grandparent, whose two grandchildren had the choice of a couple of other school districts to enroll in, told me that Shickley Public Schools has a high percentage of teachers that hold Masters Degrees. This was the deciding reason why the parents decided to enroll the children at Shickley. Thank you, teachers, for pursuing further education; your personal investment enhances your professional development and is a factor for determining the value of a K-12 education.

There are many, many more reasons for the enrollment increase and not enough space to list them, so I will close with some more positive news. This year, we graduate a class of five. The incoming kindergarten class is expected to have at least seven. In addition, March 15th was the option deadline and four students have optioned-in and will attend Shickley Public Schools next year.

No faux news here, school enrollment numbers are trending up. How refreshing to read positive news! A big THANK YOU to all District 54 patrons and employees; YOU have made this article possible and continue to make Shickley Public Schools an attractive choice for a K-12 education.

Joe Kamler
Board Member

Shickley Longhorns Speech Team 2017

The Shickley speech team finished runner-up in the state contest at the University of Nebraska-Kearney on Friday, March 24, 2017. Sophomore Caleb Hendrickson placed 5th in extemporaneous and 6th in persuasive, while freshman Alyssa Nolt was the state runner-up in persuasive speaking. Junior Kellen Reinsch came in 5th in oral interpretation of humorous prose and senior Chris Lichti was the runner up in that event. Lichti placed 2nd in entertainment speaking as well. Also competing at the state speech meet were juniors Lexi Kadel and Carley Elznic in duet acting and freshman Kaylee Noel in oral interpretation of serious prose.

Throughout the season, the team competed at invitationals hosted by Columbus Scotus, Osceola, Crete, Grand Island Northwest, Minden, and Doniphan-Trumbull. They traveled to Meridian for the Crossroads Conference meet. The District D2-1 competition was at Lincoln Southwest, where the Longhorns were named district runner-up. The team was coached by Jennifer Ippensen and Katie Johnson.

The picture on the top is this year's speech team. Front row: Alyssa Nolt and Caitlin Mosier. Middle Row: Nicole Swartzendruber, Lexi Kadel, Kaylee Noel, Carley Elznic, and Brooke Jorgenson. Back row: Caleb Hendrickson, Chris Lichti, Kellen Reinsch, and Regan Alf.

The picture on the bottom is this year's state medalists: Alyssa Nolt, Kellen Reinsch, Chris Lichti, and Caleb Hendrickson.



ACTIONS Day

On Wednesday, March 15th, six students from Shickley competed in ACTIONS Day at Central Community College in Hastings. John Alfs, Courtney Kamler, Megan Grote, Jackson Grote, Isaac Kamler, and Josiah Kamler took three tests each, and competed with over 800 students from the surrounding area. Awards were given to students who finished in the top five places in each testing area. Jackson Grote, John Alfs, and Courtney Kamler are pictured with their trophies. The following are results for those who placed in the top ten:

- Jackson Grote: 5th Place in Algebra I
- John Alfs: 3rd Place in Agriculture, and 10th Place in American History
- Courtney Kamler: 3rd Place in Spelling, 3rd Place in Anatomy, and 7th Place in Health
- Megan Grote: 6th Place in Word Problems, and 8th Place in Trigonometry



Letter from Mr. Ippensen, Principal

H. Jackson Brown, the author of *Life's Little Instruction Book*, offers this advice: "Enjoy the satisfaction that comes from doing little things well." Recently, we were encouraged when we were told that all the little things we do, which have grown into some very big things, are making a big difference.

On Wednesday, March 29th, Shickley Public School hosted its continuous improvement external visit. This event occurs once every five years. Essentially, what happens is that an external team of teachers and administrators comes to the school, takes a look at what we are doing, and evaluates our actions and outcomes compared to our plan and goals. At the end of the visit, the team gives commendations for the good work they have seen and recommendations for moving forward. The team commended us for the school and community partnership we have developed, the allocation of multiple types of resources within the district, the shared vision we have for education at Shickley Public School, our commitment to the school improvement process, and our positive school culture. The team had a hard time making recommendations because they were so impressed with the work we are doing in our school; however, they did provide some minor suggestions. Their recommendations will be taken into consideration by the administration and teachers as we plan for the future. The external visit team was impressed with our commitment to preparing students for success, and the results we have seen from this commitment.

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

