



HOOFPRI



Shickley Public Schools - Preparing Students for Success

Mark your
calendars for the
following important
dates:

November 2nd
School Dismissed at
2:30 P.M.

November 5th
Fine Arts Night
And
Evening Book Fair

November 12th
Veteran's Day
Program at 10:00 A.M.
and
School Board
Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

November 16th
School Dismissed
At 2:30 P.M.

November 21st
School Dismissed
At 1:00 P.M.

November 22nd-23rd
No School
Thanksgiving Break

November 30th
School Dismissed
At 2:30 P.M.

Please check Joyce's
calendar for more
events.

The Grind with Mrs. Coffey

QPR and SRP

Thank you to those that attended our community-wide QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer: suicide prevention) and SRP (Standard Response Protocol: safety plan) trainings this past month. Trainings and collaborative discussions such as these are what makes our school safe and secure. Did you know that all students and staff surveyed by Nebraska's Department of Education in October said YES, Shickley is a safe place to be? That's 30 staff and 20 students!

And then, there's mental health: the subject matter that has been sweeping across the United States in droves. But what does this mean in Shickley, Nebraska? Suicide is the leading cause of death in Nebraska for ages 10-14, the second leading cause of death for ages 15-34, and overall the 10th leading cause of death. With QPR and other suicide prevention trainings, staff and now some parents and community members have the knowledge about the signs of suicide and how to assist individuals in getting the help they may need.

School Funding

Are you wanting a publication that helps answer how Nebraska schools are funded? Take a look at the following Open Sky Publication that was updated in September 2018: <http://www.openskypolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/OpenSkyEdPrimer9.26.18.pdf>. The conclusion of this publication can be found on the following page.

When looking specifically at our Cross Roads Conference Schools, valuations decreased on average 2.23% this year. The total levy across these schools are averaged at 0.657682; Shickley being at 0.593953 (down from 0.593953 from 2017-2018): a total tax asking of \$114,000 LESS from taxpayers.

Fun Facts from your Female Superintendent

- In 1979, Nebraska only had TWO female superintendents (.6%)
 - In 2000, that number increased to eight (3%)
 - This year there are 35 across the state of Nebraska from small schools like Shickley to the largest district in the state, Omaha Public Schools (14.5%)
 - Eight of those 35 are currently serving in their 10th year or more of the superintendency.
- Congratulations to Dr. Trudy Clark of our BDS Cooperative; this school year marks her 11th year!

Refocusing your Presence

Did you know we are approximately 60 days away from New Year's Day? That means in the next 60 days we will celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year; a semester will come to an end and the race to graduation will begin at a much quicker pace; we will also be in the midst of basketball and speech season. All of these happenings are probably already on your calendar. What else is on your calendar? Have you written in time to take care of you (lift weights, read, run, etc.) or time with those you love (date night, fun night, game night, going on evening walks)? Writing these types of events in your calendar will help you refocus your presence and spend more time at "life" and not just work.

Thanks for continuing the Shickley Way!

Mrs. Sadie N. Coffey
Superintendent

Conclusion of Open Sky Publication (September 2018)

Nebraskans' passion for strong K-12 education is evident by the ongoing dialogue about how best to develop a fair and equitable funding system. Fueling that conversation are the unique situations facing urban and rural schools and districts of varying sizes, coupled with shared challenges such as educating children in poverty, those with disabilities, English language learners and those with parents who move frequently. Nebraska for decades has relied more heavily on local property taxes to fund schools than most other states – which has framed the debate over what is fair and equitable. Meanwhile, the economy has changed markedly in the last 50 years and continues to do so, shifting the landscape on which the school funding debate takes place. A number of questions are key to the school funding debate: What is most important in Nebraska's school funding: equity in spending or adequacy in school district support? Do the disparities of curriculum offerings to students in schools across the state and disparities in per-pupil spending mean some students are not being provided an "adequate" education? How can Nebraska create an education finance system that fosters quality, fairness and equity when some schools have six times as much property value per student as other schools? Should the state assume a larger role in K-12 finance and, in effect, reduce property tax reliance? Or is more fundamental revision of the school funding system needed? Is property value an appropriate measure of community resources in today's economy, or is it time to look at determining the wealth of a school district based on income of its residents or some other measures? How well positioned are we in Nebraska to meet the technology and infrastructure needs of students and school districts to compete in a global economy heading into the future? A periodic review of the entire school finance system – to address changes in how children are taught, federal policies, and the availability of financial resources – would allow Nebraska to create a common statewide vision for education in Nebraska while maintaining strong local control of schools. We hope this primer helps Nebraskans understand the current school funding system, how it came to be and the challenges the state faces in this arena. We also hope it has shown the perceived inequities from different points of view and can promote a better understanding of the unique challenges facing different types of schools, while helping Nebraskans find more common ground on this vital issue.

Book Fair November 5th - 9th

The 2018 Scholastic Book Fair will be held at Shickley Public Schools November 5th-9th. The Book Fair will be held in the school lobby with a variety of hours open for shopping. During the book fair week, the family event night will be Monday, November 5th from 6:00-8:30 pm. If you are unable to attend the Book Fair in person, you can purchase books through the online store (October 31st-November 13th) at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/shickleyschool>.

Book Fair shopping hours are as follows:

Monday, November 5th: 7:30-8:10 am and Family Event Night 6:00-8:30 pm
 Tuesday, November 6th: 7:30-8:10 am and 3:30-4:30 pm
 Wednesday, November 7th: 7:30-8:10 am and 3:30-5:30 pm
 Thursday, November 8th: Depends on State Volleyball - 7:30-8:10 am and 3:30-5:30 pm
 Friday, November 9th: Depends on State Volleyball - 7:30-8:10 am



Art Department, by Ms. Nuss

Hello! My name is Kim Nuss and I am the new art instructor here at Shickley Public Schools. Originally, I am from Aurora, NE, but I had been living and working in the sandhills town of Hyannis for about 10 years. I am really enjoying my first year here in Shickley. The community has been very helpful and welcoming! After settling into an art room with brand new windows, Shickley's K-12 art students have worked on a variety of projects.

In elementary art, Kindergarten students have been exploring texture on a texture hunt and collecting rubbings throughout the classroom. First grade students have been studying line drawing, and how to create a network of tree branches by using the letter "Y". Second grade students had fun exploring shapes and primary colors in their jack-o-lantern assemblages, while 3rd graders used analogous color schemes to create spooky backgrounds for their Halloween paintings. Lastly, fourth grade students have been studying value to create festive pastel drawings that look three dimensional, and fifth and sixth grade students explored value ranges and horizon lines to create artworks that looked fresh from the pumpkin patch!

High school students are exploring a variety of subject matters including hand built pottery, positive/negative space, printmaking, wire sculpture, and set design. Art I students are enjoying working with their hands and learning clay coil techniques. Their clay pieces will be glazed using low fire glazes. The linoleum cuttings of the printmaking unit currently underway in Art II will be printed using a brayer and barren, and aluminum wire is being used to create forms in the 3D art class. Students are also helping with designing and painting some backdrops that will be used in one act performances. We all are staying busy and enjoying being creative!

The picture on the left is Positive Negative Space Study by Sophomore Raleigh Shipley and the picture on the right is Texture Pumpkin by Kindergartner Joshua Schlegel.



FFA Selling Poinsettias

The FFA will be selling marble colored poinsettias in December. These poinsettias were grown in the school's greenhouse. For a poinsettia in an 8 inch pot it will be \$15.



Looking Back, by Board of Education Member Dan Miller

It will soon be the end of my third term, 12 years, of serving on the Shickley Board of Education (BOE.) I've often compared this timeframe to that of when I was back in school at Shickley minus Kindergarten. Back then preschool wasn't an option. Preschool for me was spending time with grandparents learning "early childhood development" in a much different way!

I've spent most of my board terms on the building and pool committees. I'm proud of the huge improvements made to the school building over the past few years. When I started my first term, the BOE had just completed a total building audit. Long story short, we used an insurance bond to make improvements such as tuck-pointing, roof repairs, playground resurfacing, and small exterior fixes like gutters and flashing. Due to many grandfather clauses and limited funding, we were not able to make the significant recent changes like HVAC, lights, electrical, windows, and structural changes. The recent changes have led to full use of computers/technology and an overall better learning environment. Computers and the HVAC system electrical requirements were not a concern in 1906 when the original building was constructed!

Years on the BOE also included the start of the BDS co-op. I really don't need to remind anyone that this presented itself as one of the most controversial and discussed situations we as a school board, staff, and community(s) had to decide on. We were looking at low student numbers down the road. Opportunities for those students were high priorities for making this decision. Now, a few years into the Bruning-Davenport - Shickley Athletic Co-op, it's safe to say the decisions made were beneficial to our students and our BD co-op partner. I will openly admit that I've had a tough time accepting our new school colors and mascot which for those whom didn't know, were that of the Exeter Eagles prior to their EM co-op!

Qualified administrators and staff, a successful daycare/preschool system, numerous curriculum opportunities onsite and online, these are all areas we excel in. Oh, the swimming pool still leaks a lot of water and continues to deteriorate but kids still like it. Some things may not change. It's interesting to look forward to what the future holds, but it is rewarding to see what the past has presented. Thanks for allowing me to serve on your board of education.

Region 1 Student Leadership Conference

October 16, the 6th grade students took off to Doane University for the Region 1 Leadership Conference. Students from approximately 12 other schools made their way to Doane and formed a gathering of nearly 200 students. This was a new event for the class to participate in and it turned out to be a success. The class spent the better part of the day testing their skills both physically and mentally with a number of difficult challenges that needed to be conquered within their groups. Some of the challenges included: making human bridges, getting teammates through the spider web, a whole circle tug of war, and a tennis ball mat maze. In the end, the students found out "leaders do hard work." Even though they may not see themselves as leaders at this time, the students left seeing themselves in a new light and are eager to spread that learning throughout our school district.

Pictured are students from Shickley and other towns making a bridge for Blaine Kempf to walk across.



A staple of the Shickley Band Program: A brief talk with Stan Johnson

By Josiah Kamler and Caleb Hendrickson

Stan Johnson is a long time member of the Shickley Community, who taught at Shickley Public Schools for many years until retiring in 2009. Now, he has returned to lend a helping hand to the band program once again. When asked what the biggest changes were from his time in school to the present, he responded with the change of pace. "It's a lot more fast paced today in society, and I think technology has been a big factor in that. Even in the last twenty years you can really see how fast it has changed," said Johnson. On a lighter note, another question asked was how much he paid for his first car. "My dad had told us boys that we'd drive the old farm truck through high school, but if we saved our money, he'd help us buy a new car to head off to college in. We ordered it from the Biegert Chevy dealership in town. I remember getting on the bus in the spring of my senior year, and when we stopped by the corner, I saw it. A red and white two door Chevy Impala. It cost \$1700." When asked what was important to Johnson, he was eager to share, "Being successful and raising and providing for my family has always been important to me. My passion is in band and I like to have a good band." He also humbly noted, "I did have a good career." What is one thing you wish you knew when you were 18? Without hesitation, he explained, "Money doesn't grow on trees. Don't spend it all in one place and be frugal with it." Mr. Johnson also pitched in some advice for current students in the school today. Mr. Johnson shared, "Explore new things but keep your head on straight, and don't get too crazy." Mr. Johnson believes kids should dream, but should also keep their dreams realistic, that way they are conquerable. It is important to Mr. Johnson to inspire to always get better.

In the picture to the right Mr. Johnson is helping direct the high school band during the Homecoming Parade.



Ag Department News, by Miss Witte

Harvest time, one of the busiest times of the year where producers get to see just how well their crops did. This is after months of hard work, long hours, and lots of ups and downs. Just like harvest time, students often have to wait and see how they did or what they gained from being involved in our numerous activities. Our students are often busy being involved in sports, activities, and organizations and just like farmers they must wait to see what they can "harvest" from this involvement. These students continue to work hard and believe that what they are doing now will benefit them in the future. They are willing to put in the hard hours and time it takes to do well and learn from their experiences. They recently reaped an amazing harvest of being honored by winning the Class D All State Cup, a feat that seemed impossible when last year started. It was their hard work and dedication that paid off. While this is quite an honor, I am excited to see what our students can achieve this year and continue to push them to do their best.

Students in dual credit agribusiness class have been learning about different business structures. While this concept may not seem important now, they understand that someday they may need it to understand how to best organize a business. They are taking this information and using it as they make a business plan for a potential business in the future. By sowing the seeds of entrepreneurship now it is my hope that they and Shickley will reap the benefits in the future.

Quarter One Honor Roll

All A Honor Roll

Seniors: Jackson Grote and Jady Kleinschmidt

Juniors: Regan Alfs, Raegan Fiala, Zachary Mosier, Kaylee Noel, Alyssa Nolt, Justin Stengel, and Joshua Swartzendruber

Sophomores: Macy Kamler and Raleigh Shipley

Freshmen: Taryn Fiala, Madeline Kamler, Courtney Nolt, Mariah Sliva, Taylor Sliva, and Madison Sokol

8th Graders: Hannah Miller and Ashley Schlegel

7th Graders: Hanna Kadel, Emberlynn Nolt, and Reagan Sokol

A Average Honor Roll

Seniors: Isaac Kamler and Josiah Kamler

Juniors: Sam Margheim and Brock Swartzendruber

Sophomores: Kenzie Bohling, Bryn Kadel, Aaron Mick, Nolan O'Brien, and Reid Richards

Freshmen: Tyler Grote

7th Graders: Seth Stengel and Lynley Swartzendruber

A and B Honor Roll

Sophomore: Dalton Kleinschmidt

Healthy Hooves Report

Attitude of Gratitude

Often times the month of November brings about thoughts, feelings, and discussions of being grateful for the many facets of life. Whether it is for the time spent with special people, something someone said that made you feel good, or the joy that you feel when you can do something for someone else; we all have felt the benefits of gratitude. Thinking about what you appreciate and times when you felt appreciated brings an overall sense of happiness and well being.

Life can be challenging and while it is easy to be happy, grateful, and positive when life is going well, it's difficult to find gratitude in daily life when life gets tough. Practicing gratitude is a free and relatively easy way to move through life, both the good and bad, with stronger relationships, resiliency, and reduced stress which improve our health and happiness.

Keeping a gratitude journal is one way to remind yourself of what you have to be thankful for. Sending a positive note, an inspiring message, or a thank you message to someone are other ways to share happiness.

During the month of November, we encourage you to take part in your own 30 day gratitude challenge. One way you can do this is to write down one thing a day on a calendar.

History News, by Mr. Shipley

In History class we have been checking out the past and finding out information about our government. The Juniors are learning about the Industrialization of the United States and how it related to Nebraskans. The Senior's government class will be finding out what you have to do to be an informed voter and the process that goes with it. The 7th grade class is learning about what it takes to be a citizen of the United States. The Geography class is learning how the earth is revolving and rotating around the sun, finding out all the information about the water cycle, and how humans and the environment interact. The World History class is getting started with Greek history. Democracy, Greek Gods and Greek battles are all catching their interests. The 8th grade is studying Jamestown and the first settlements of the Colonies. A lot of cool and interesting historical and governmental information is going on. History is a blast from the past. Remember history is in our past, but it sets up our future.

Interview with Mr. Schroeder, by Sam Margheim

Greg Schroeder, loves maple leaves, teaches 6th grade, 5th-grade social studies, and 7th-grade math at Shickley and coaches high school basketball. He answered questions about his busy life. His favorite basketball drill, he said, "We started doing full-court lay-ups last year. It gets the guys going fast with quick passing, and full speed go. It's fun to watch, and I think the kids kind of get into it. It's very active and keeps them working hard. It also requires a lot of teamwork." On his personal time, he likes to do many things. For example, he claimed, "I like to play childish computer games that have "zero" bearing on real life, fast-pitch softball, basketball, "bar" games like pool, shuffleboard, and ping-pong. Anything that has to do with competing. I have developed a green thumb, and like growing flowers." Mr. Schroeder has a very exciting and busy life. While he enjoys doing all of these activities he makes a lot of memories, but he said, "It is typically something about the kids that I work with. Usually good, sometimes, not as good I remember most." To wrap up the life of Mr. Schroeder he would like to end with the phrase he always loves saying, "Life's tough, get a helmet."



FFA Members Participate in District and State Land Judging

The Upper Big Blue Natural Resource District hosted the South Central Land Judging Contest on October 3rd. The contest took place in York County with 26 schools and 337 individuals competing. During this contest students determined depth of soil, texture, permeability, slope of a specific area, and the amount of erosion that had taken place. Once that information was determined they found the land capability class and then selected what conservation practices should be utilized on the site. The Shickley FFA chapter had a great day with the team of: Josh Swartzendruber, Nathan Nelson, Sam Margheim and Zach Mosier placing 2nd and qualifying for the state contest, along with Josiah Kamler as an individual. Individual Results: Josh Swartzendruber 3rd purple, Zach Mosier 6th - purple, Josiah Kamler 10th - purple, Brock Swartzendruber purple, Nathan Nelson red, Sam Margheim red, Regan Alfs red, Briana Janing red, Kenzie Bohling white, Nolan O'Brien white, Justin Stengel white, Kaylee Noel white and Caleb Hendrickson white. Also competing were: Isaac Kamler, Catilin Mosier, Austin Plock, Raegan Fiala, Aaron Mick, Reid Richards, Dalton Kleinschmidt, Blake Schlegel, Bryn Kadel, and Cadden Carlson.

State Land Judging was held in the East Central Area near Wahoo, Nebraska on October 17th. Five members of the Shickley FFA chapter competed. Competing were: Josiah Kamler pink ribbon, Josh Swartzendruber, Nathan Nelson, Sam Margheim, and Zach Mosier.

Guidance Notes, by Mrs. Noel

As parents and educators, we want our students to be as fully prepared as they enter the real world no matter what obstacle they may face. Sometimes those basic skills such as knowing how to change a tire, checking the air pressure or knowing whether or not their car has enough oil are skills not always taught to students. The senior College and Career Readiness class invited a guest presenter, Reg Noel, on October 4, to show them how to do basic car assessments and complete basic car care needs. During the hands-on presentation, students jacked up a car so they could change a tire, checked the oil and transmission gauges, located the fuse box, and checked the air pressure in the tires. Many helpful hints and pieces of information were given throughout the presentation. Pictured to the right Jadyn Kleinschmidt and Reg Noel work on changing a tire.



Listening is a vital skill that everyone from young to old must use. The 1st and 2nd-grade guidance students have been learning what a good listener does and what they look like when listening. The students continue to practice their listening skills by playing games such as "The Telephone Game" and "Simon Says." Picture to the right are first graders playing "The Telephone Game."



The junior and senior students will begin filling out applications for their second semester online classes beginning November 1. If you are a parent of one of these students, please have a conversation with them about the course(s) they are planning to take.

Red Ribbon Week Posters

The Fillmore County Human Performance Project sponsored a poster contest for Red Ribbon Week. Art students had the chance to make posters and submit them for the contest. Adults who had no connection with any of the students narrowed down the poster finalists. This year's finalists had portions of their posters combined to make two posters for our school.

In the picture on the left Mr. Sokol is showing the winning elementary poster to the students whose artwork was combined for that poster. The students are Grace Tobias, Lexie Johnson, and Malinda Kamler. In the picture on the right Madison Sokol and Courtney Nolt hold the poster that their winning artwork was put on.



FFA to Begin Fruit Sales

The Shickley FFA Chapter will be holding their annual fruit sale fundraiser from November 1st to November 25th. Contact an FFA member or Miss Witte if you would like to order.



Follow us on
Twitter
and
Instagram!
#shickleylonghorns



Letter from Mr. Sokol, Principal

It is hard to believe that the first quarter of the school year is behind us. Our students and staff are working hard and we are enjoying a great start to the year. I would like to share a few highlights with you.

Academically, 58% of our 7-12 students earned an A-Average or better on their 1st quarter progress reports. As a school, our students have already read 722 books collectively through our Accelerated Reader Program. This breaks down to average 6 books per student. Maintaining this academic achievement while participating in football, volleyball, band, one act, and other school activities is quite an accomplishment. I'm so proud of our students for finding a way to make excellence happen in all that they do. Parent-Teacher Conferences were wonderfully attended. Parents, I cannot thank you enough for your level of involvement and support.

Recently, our 7-12 students traveled to Fillmore Central to hear motivational speaker, Mike Smith. Mike shared with the students his journey from a young man growing up in Imperial, Nebraska to his present day ventures as an entrepreneur, youth speaker, and founder of The Bay in Lincoln, Nebraska. Mike's story is so powerful because he encourages students to follow their passions while being a part of something bigger than themselves. To help Mike's efforts to provide socks for the homeless in Lincoln, we collected 587 pairs from our local community. That is outstanding! That same day, our K-6 students traveled to Geneva as well to attend a performance in conjunction with the Geneva Arts Council at the Rialto Theatre. This year, the students learned about how words and stories originated and how stories have the power to teach us lessons.

I would like to thank our fall season coaches for their dedication and commitment to our student-athletes. We have been so fortunate that I often think we take for granted the success we enjoy in Volleyball and Football. The truth is that success takes a great deal of hard work and sacrifice and I appreciate the investment from our students and coaches. Good luck this post-season. Our FFA chapter has been busy as well competing in land judging and traveling to Indianapolis for the National Convention. One Act students have been practicing before school for the past month and will start competition soon. A token of my gratitude for the sponsors who are meeting the kids at 7:00 AM.

I'm looking forward to the continuation of our success this 2nd quarter of our 1st semester.

Mr. Sokol
PK-12 Principal
Shickley Public Schools









