



HOOFPRIINT



Shickley Public Schools - Preparing Students for Success

The Grind with Mrs. Coffey

Why does one go into education? Why does one decide to work at a school? Why does one decide to be a teacher or coach? Why does one decide to get their substitute certificate?

The number one reason most cited: To make a difference and work with kids!

In Shickley, Nebraska I believe we agree that it is truly “all about the kids!” This year has forced us to put an even heavier focus on the kids. What can we do as community members, parents, patrons, school staff, etc. to do what is best for our kids during this pandemic?

Shickley’s Priorities During the Pandemic

- **HEALTH:** Safety and Wellbeing of ALL students, staff, families, patrons, and the community
- **EDUCATION:** Teaching & Learning of ALL and Routine & Consistency for ALL
- **ECONOMY:** Our farmers, business owners, and workers that strengthen this community, its families, and patrons

Going into the winter season, flu season, winter sports and activities, and the holidays have held the greatest concern of public health officials. Many individuals were not sure we would even make it through the fall without having to go remote. There was a lot of uncertainty regarding how schools could or could not mitigate spread in schools. Experts feared that if schools opened, spread would be rampant. However, experts are now looking at the data and saying COVID is NOT spreading in our schools. The data is showing that spread is happening in less controlled environments where it is easier to relax mitigating practices.

<p>Nebraska's “Avoid the 3 C’s:”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Crowded places -Close contact -Confined spaces 	<p>CDC recommends the following measures to mitigate spread:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -social distancing -wearing a mask when social distancing is not possible -avoiding crowds -avoiding indoor crowded spaces -washing or sanitizing hands frequently
<p>COVID-19 affects different people in different ways. Infected people have had a wide range of symptoms reported – from mild symptoms to severe illness.</p>	

<p>Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fever or chills -Fatigue -Muscle or body aches -New loss of taste or smell -Congestion or runny nose -Nausea or vomiting -Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing 	<p>Look for emergency warning signs for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Cough -Headache -Sore throat -Diarrhea -Trouble breathing -Persistent pain or pressure in the chest -New confusion -Inability to wake or stay awake -Bluish lips or face
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Continue to find ways to do what's best for the kids and have a Blessed Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for!

Sadie N. Coffey, Superintendent

High School English, by Mrs. Bonnie Noel

It's amazing how fast time has flown. Here we are in quarter two! It was so nice to meet so many of you parents at parent teacher conferences. The high school English room is off to a running start. Seniors are reading the classic novel *Pride and Prejudice*. Juniors have started their unit on Society versus the Individual. Sophomores are starting to appreciate *The Scarlet Letter* and it's symbolism. Freshmen are working on grammar and reading *The Hunger Games*. Speech class just finished debating who was better at driving, and cooking, as well as right hand versus left hand and why veganism might be bad for you.

Yearbook students recently experienced the business side and sold advertisements. If you haven't been asked yet, feel free to e-mail me at bnoel@longhornpower.org and I will have a student contact you. Students had the privilege of practicing business attire, (no handshakes due to COVID) and conducting business over the phone. Thanks to everyone who supported the yearbook this year.

The Longhorn Sock Trot Virtual 5K

During the weeks of October 26th through November 6th, the SPS Wellness Committee is sponsoring the first *Longhorn Sock Trot* virtual 5K. The registration fee for the trot is socks which will be donated to The Bay, an organization in Lincoln that provides support to the homeless. Thank you to all who will donate and participate in the event.



Community Service Hours

Even though many ways of interacting have changed over the past nine months, the need to help others is still a necessity. At this time, the 10 hours of community service for every 9th-12th grade student is still required by May 1st. There are many ways students can complete their community service hours which could include church activities, FFA sponsored events, reffing or keeping clock at elementary basketball games, prepping the football field, helping at the Christmas Store, etc. If you have community service ideas or opportunities, please contact Mrs. Monica Noel.

Registration for Online/Dual Credit Classes

Within the next few weeks, juniors and seniors will be registering for their second semester online/dual credit classes. Mrs. Monica Noel will be sharing information with both students and parents about the courses that are available and how to get registered.

Overall Top Reader Award in Junior High English, by Mrs. Monica Noel

There is nothing better than to have a good book in your hands. A book that transports you to another land or time and introduces you to characters that become your friends as you experience the adventures together. It is proven that the more a person reads the easier it is for them to learn and understand new concepts and materials. In junior high English, each student has the opportunity to become a member of different AR Clubs and earn rewards and recognitions for meeting or exceeding their AR reading goal. The clubs are "Met My Goal", "25 Point Club", "35 Point Club", and "50 Point Club". This year a new award was introduced, the *Overall Top Reader Award* which celebrates the student who earns the most AR points in each quarter. The recipient for 1st quarter *Overall Top Reader Award* is Coen Eitzmann who earned 72 AR points. Second and third place readers were Grace Tobias with 67.5 points and Brady Noel with 64.2 points. Pictured left to right are Grace Tobias, Coen Eitzmann, and Brady Noel.



First Quarter Honor Roll

All A Honor Roll

Seniors: Kenzie Bohling, Macy Kamler, Aaron Mick, and Raleigh Shipley

Juniors: Taryn Fiala, Madeline Kamler, Mariah Sliva, and Taylor Sliva

Sophomores: Hannah Miller and Ashley Schlegel

8th Graders: Jacob Beavers, Hayley Sliva, and Grace Tobias

7th Graders: Coen Eitzmann

A Average Honor Roll

Seniors: Joscelyn Evans, Nolan O'Brien, Reid Richards, and Blake Schlegel

Junior: Tyler Grote

Sophomore: Delainey Kaster

Freshmen: Hanna Kadel, Jada Spurling, Seth Stengel, and Lynley Swartzendruber

8th Graders: Malinda Kamler and Carson Loos

7th Graders: Lexie Johnson, Levi Kamler, Brady Noel, and Olivia Schlegel

A and B Honor Roll

Junior: Elijah Noel

Pink Mask Fundraiser

Every year during October sports teams across our country wear pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This October the BDS volleyball team wore pink masks during every volleyball match to show their support of this and also to support BDS staff and students who are currently undergoing cancer treatments for other types of cancer. Pink masks were sold with the proceeds being given to BDS staff or students to help with their ongoing cancer expenses. Shickley staff wore masks on October 16th to show their support and are pictured to the right. We are very proud to say that the combined efforts of our schools allowed us to give a total over \$500, which was divided to two members of our schools. Thank you to every one who supported these families during their battle with cancer.



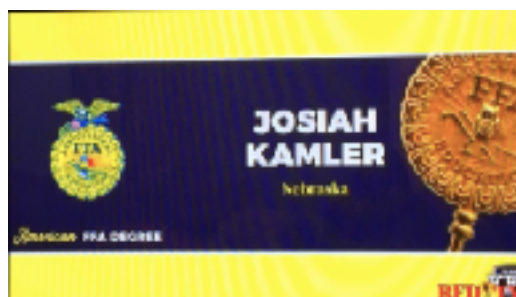
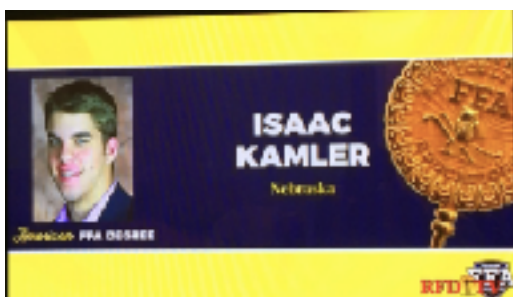
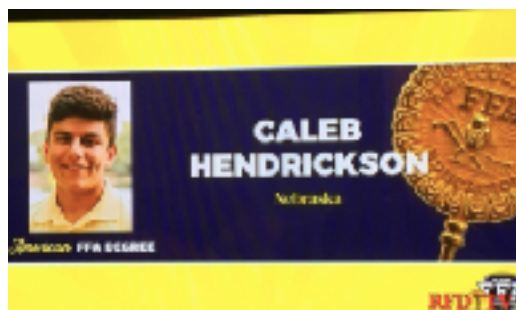
FFA News, by Ms. Schrock

It is hard to believe that it is already November. The months of September and October have flown by. We are quickly headed towards Thanksgiving break and the end of the fall semester. Words can not express how wonderful it has been to be here at Shickley Public Schools this year. I have enjoyed every minute of my time in the classroom and with your students.

Shickley FFA has had a busy couple of months. We had several students compete at the Nebraska State Fair with their livestock projects. All of the members had a great weekend and saw excellent results from their hard work this summer. Members who participated were: Adam Alfs, John Alfs, Regan Alfs, Cadden Carlson, Austin Plock, Reid Richards, Lauren Richards, Brock Swartzendruber, and Lynley Swartzendruber. Congratulations to each of you for your hard work.

In October, Shickley FFA competed in the South Central Land Judging Contest that was held at the US Meat Animal Research Center by Clay Center. The following students participated in the contest: Adam Alfs, Jaden Heath, Briana Janing, Bryn Kadel, Coy Margheim, Hannah Miller, Brooklynn Nelson, Nolan O'Brien, and Ashley Schlegel. Ashley Schlegel was our highest placing member that afternoon. All of the students did an excellent job.

In addition, the National FFA Convention was held during the week of October 27th-29th. It was held virtually this year but that does not mean we do not have a reason to celebrate. Four FFA members received their American FFA Degrees this year. Those four were: John Alfs, Caleb Hendrickson, Isaac Kamler, and Josiah Kamler. While we were not able to celebrate their accomplishments in Indianapolis this year, I wanted to take a moment to congratulate these four young men on this outstanding moment. Less than 1% of all FFA members receive their American FFA Degree, which puts these four in an elite category. If you see them, please take a moment to offer your congratulations. It is well deserved.



As we look towards November, thirty FFA members will be competing in the Fall Career Development Events on November 4th. It will be held virtually this year, which means students will not be traveling to a contest but instead will be participating online. They have all worked hard and are excited to see the results of their work.

We have started our annual FFA Fruit and 4 Season Product sales. FFA members are once again selling oranges, grapefruit, apples, pears, pineapples, clementines, and mixed fruit boxes along with meat and cheese and candy. If you are interested in ordering, please contact a Shickley FFA member. You can also reach Ms. Schrock at the school or by her email: jschrock@longhornpower.org. Orders are due by November 30th and the product will be delivered the week of December 14th.

Thank you for your continued support of Shickley FFA. Your help and support has meant the world to the members and is greatly appreciated.

What Kindergarteners Enjoy Most about School, by Mrs. Schultz

On a very chilly October day, following the hustle of recess, kindergarten students were asked to tell about their favorite part of the school day. Below are their candid responses and fun facts with more information about our classroom.

Alia Gamboa: "I like to do IXL. IXL is when you play math games on the I-pad."

** Fun Fact: The kindergarten students have learned how to log in to both a Wonders Reading and IXL math account at school. This year is a bit different than years passed concerning technology, as each student has their own I-pad. The Shickley Community Foundation, Nebraska Community Foundation, and the Bridge the Learning Gap Grant all helped immensely in getting elementary students one-to-one with devices. Thank you to each of those groups, the school board, and administration for making a difference!

Camden Rippe: "I like to learn about letters and words."

** Fun Fact: As of the time of this article, students have learned the sounds and names for seven letters and are reading lots of phonetic words with these sounds. Students are also learning many different sight words, including color words.

Elijah Chamberlain: "The favorite thing that I do at school is recess. I go on the slide and the tire swing and the merry-go-round."

** Fun Fact: Kindergarten is the first year that students are able to play on the big playground next to the Fifth and Sixth grade classrooms. In preschool, they would have played on the playground next to the daycare.

Hadley Schlegel: "When I go to school, I like to do independent reading time and sit in Mrs. Schultz's chair. I like when Miss Jackie (Swartzendruber) comes and listens to me."

** Fun Fact: Kindergarten students are reading between 20-30 minutes a day on their own during our independent reading time. Students have access to many books appropriate for their reading level through our reading series, *Wonders*.

Koy Elting: "I like to go to art class with Ms. Nuss. We make spiders and put glitter on them!"

** Fun Fact: Students in kindergarten get to go to a variety of special classes each week including art, PE, music, library, and guidance.

Kristine Noel: "I like to write in my journal. I like to draw my mom and me. I write about my mom and me going to Cassie's and getting a cookie and a doughnut."

** Fun Fact: Kindergarten students begin the year learning the very basics about writing--top to bottom, left to write, spaces between words, and using sounds/letters to make words. By the end of the year, students will know how to write a paragraph with a topic, three details, and a conclusion.

Leah Wilson: "My favorite thing at school is go to lunch. My favorite lunch is macaroni and cheese."

** Fun Fact: All of the students agree that Darlene, Colleen, and Lori do a great job preparing lunches, keeping them COVID safe, and making the lunchroom a great place to be.

Madison Mussman: "I see my grandma (Lori Reinsch) at lunch. I like to be the line leader. The line leader gets to be the teacher at corner time."

**Fun Fact: At corner time, students learn about the calendar, weather, counting, patterns, money, time, color words, and number words.

Paizley Schultz: "I like to eat snack and I like to play Play-Doh. I like to read with my third grade reading buddy."

** Fun Fact: Kindergarten students play with Play-Doh frequently, for a variety of reasons, but the most important ones are to inspire creativity and build hand strength.

** Fun Fact: Kindergarten and third grade students pair up every other Friday and spend about half an hour reading to each other. Students make great teachers!

The kindergarten class has made huge academic and social strides already! We are looking forward to continuing our journey together for the remainder of the year.

Third Grade Helps Food Pantry, by Miss Johnson

The Shickley 3rd Grade held their annual Trick or Treat for the food pantry drive. They collected just over 400 pounds of food. Emmett Mussman shared, "Doing this just made my heart feel happy." A huge shout out to the community for helping this wonderful cause!

Pictured to the right are third grade students moving a box of food and also in the hallway with some of the items they collected.



Preschool News, by Mrs. Erickson

Preschool has been studying pumpkins! In our science center, we did pumpkin weighing, measuring, sorting, and looked at them closely with a magnifying glass. We also had a pumpkin washing and drying station. We learned about the different parts of the pumpkin: the ribs, pulp, seeds, stem, skin, and strands. We carved a pumpkin and counted the seeds. There were 502 pumpkin seeds! That was A LOT! Children brought their own pumpkins and got to paint them. We had a lot of fun learning about pumpkins. The pictures below show some of the fun we had with our pumpkins!



Notes from Principal Warren

Today I had a conversation with one of our students here at Shickley Public Schools. I asked this student how their day was going. The student told me that their day was going well other than the fact that they don't like AR time. This surprised me because I think I would have enjoyed having 30 minutes during my school day to read. So we continued on with our conversation and I asked this student what they wanted to be when they grow up. They told me that they wanted to be a veterinarian. I then informed them that this career path would require quite a bit of reading in the future, the student agreed.

Coming to Shickley, as an outsider, this was something that I had never heard of and I love the idea that kids have a specified time during their day that is dedicated to reading. As long as the student is reading within their AR level they can choose any book they want. I think that it is a wonderful opportunity for our students to get lost in a book. There are books for every type of person. Whether you enjoy hunting, politics, religion, science fiction, sports, or sad love stories there is something for you. There are many benefits to reading that will help your child in the future. Reading will improve your comprehension and vocabulary. It can reduce stress, it will help aid in regulating sleeping patterns and it can fight depression. It also exercises your brain and can help fight cognitive decline as you age.

Reading books is something that seems to be overshadowed in today's society by our addiction to social media and cell phones. Unfortunately with the conveniences that these things bring to our lives they also play a negative role. In my opinion, the boredom that allowed kids to be creative and think outside the box to entertain themselves has been replaced by the distractions of technology. I am not saying that all technology is bad because there are jobs that aren't even created yet that some of our students will be doing in the near future as careers. However, sometimes too much screen time is not a good thing. With that being said, if your children are ever bored at home challenge them to read a book, even if it is for fifteen minutes. This could lead to a passion for reading that could benefit them in the future. If your children are too young to read, have them go pick out a book that you can read to them. This will help develop their vocabulary.

In the near future your children will be entering the workforce or going to college or even the military. Without the ability to manipulate the english language and comprehend what message is being relayed, it could make life that much harder for them. Whatever your child wants to be when they grow up, being able to read is something that will benefit them in a positive manner. Reading is a skill that will keep on giving and could play a significant role in your child's future. With that being said, please encourage your children to read whenever you think that boredom is starting to set in.