

PARENT CONNECTION

February 2010

*Upcoming Events:***February**

- **February 3rd
Homeroom AM
Schedule**
- **February 10th –
Financial Aid
Workshop with SVCC
2:10 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**
- **February 12-13th
Spring Musical
Cinderella—7:30 p.m.**
- **February 14th Spring
Musical Cinderella—
2:00 p.m.**
- **February 14th—
MORP Dance 7-10
p.m. Commons**
- **February 15th—
Presidents Day—No
School**
- **February 17th—Early
Out 11:30 a.m.**

Tutoring Available in SHS Library

Not a week went by first semester this year where the SHS counselors or administration did not receive a request for tutoring from a parent for his/her child. In response to this demand, the SHS counseling department came up with the idea of utilizing our National Honor Society students as tutors.

This idea immediately took flight because of its obvious benefit of helping struggling students receive tutoring and also because National Honor Society students are required to volunteer 4 hours a month as part of their membership in National Honor Society.

There are National Honor Society students available to tutor before school, during 1st period, 3rd period, 4th period, 6th period, 7th period and

after school in the SHS library. This drop-in tutoring service is available for all students.

There are two ways for your child to take advantage of this tutoring service; the first is by just dropping in the library during one of the before mentioned times, when your child has a study hall or before or after school and looking for the NHS tutoring sign. The other way is by contacting your child's counselor and having him/her facilitate your child's first tutoring session. The SHS counseling staff will help set up the first tutoring session for your child and then it is the student's responsibility to go when he/she needs assistance in a class. It is our hope that this service can provide the assistance many students need to stay on top of their learning.

ED LINE USERS GROWING AT SHS

To date Sterling High School has 352 of its 854 families enrolled in Ed Line. A parent's involvement in his/her child's education had a direct impact on the child's level of success. Our goal at SHS is to have every family actively using Ed Line to monitor their child's progress and work with the teachers toward the goal of graduating the child from high school.

Email Alerts for SHS Parents

Increasing school to parent communication is one area in which we wanted to improve this year at Sterling High School. Two methods we have already used to increase school to parent communication are sending home this publication monthly instead of every other month and utilizing the on-line parental component of Ed Line, which allow parents to track their student grades and assignments 24 hours a day.

At the start of the fourth quarter, SHS will begin notifying parents of grade changes and absences through email. We will use the email given to us by parents at

registration. SHS will begin notifying parents every time their child's grade moves up or down one letter grade (i.e. An "A" to a "B" or a "D" to a "C"). Email alerts will also be sent home when a student is absent for one or more periods during the day and will include the reason of this absence.

To ensure that you are kept up to date on your child's academic progress, please call the SHS main office (815-625-6800) and update your contact information with any email address changes. Also, if you still do not have a EdLine username or password, please contact the SHS main office to have it mailed to your home address.



Sterling High School's Mission Statement

Sterling Schools, in partnership with parents and community, will create a caring environment in which all students learn. This partnership shall empower all students to become responsible learners and decision-makers as they prepare for the future.

Sterling High School

1608 4th Avenue

Sterling, IL 61081

Phone: 815-625-6800

Attendance Phone:

815-622-4181

Fax: 815-622-4157

Website:

www.sterlingpublicschools.org/shs

Administration

Jason Austin, Principal

Lori Adell, Secretary

Jessica Bicknell, Associate Principal

Joyce Howze, Secretary

Nathan DeLany, Activities Director

Elaine Forward, Secretary

Deans

Janet Barnhart, Dean of Instruction

Vicki Dunphy, Dean of Students

Mary Rhodes, Secretary

Greg King, Dean of Attendance

Andi Sumerfelt, Secretary

Counselors

Darci Francis, Counselor

Kaileen Gaumer, Counselor

Cami Hartman, Counselor

Travis Myers, Counselor

Kris Hippen, Secretary/Registrar

Parent Coordinator

Janet Freed

Child Fair at SVCC

Sauk Valley Community College will host a Child Fair on Saturday, February 27, 2010, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. There will be performances by the cast of Jet Productions' High School Musical 2, plus games and activities for children and parents.

The Child Fair will also be a Locks of Love event. Locks of Love provide hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under 18 who suffer from long-term medical hair loss. Anyone under 18 and everyone who donates his or her hair to Locks of Love will be admitted to the Child Fair at no charge.

Financial Aide Presentation

Deb Stiefel, Coordinator of Financial Assistance at Sauk Valley College, will be giving a presentation about Financial Aid on Wednesday, February 10th at 2:15 and 7:00 in the SHS library. Parents and students are encouraged to come to either meeting to learn more about the financial aid process.

Also, two representatives from Illinois Student Assistance Commission will be available on Thursday, February 25, from 11:00-3:30 in the library, to help with any questions regarding FAFSA and financial assistance. They will also be available on the nights of parent teacher conferences, Thursday March 18 and Wednesday March 24, from 4-7. More details to follow.

CINDERELLA COMING TO SHS

The timeless enchantment of a magical fairy tale is reborn with the Rodgers & Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. Originally presented on television in 1957 starring Julie Andrews, Rodgers & Hammerstein's CINDERELLA was the most widely viewed program in the history of the medium. Its recreation in 1965 starring Lesley Ann Warren was no less successful in transporting a new generation to the miraculous kingdom of dreams-come-true, and so was a second remake in 1997, which starred Brandy as Cinderella and Whitney Houston as her Fairy Godmother. As adapted for the stage, with great warmth and more than a touch of hilarity, the hearts of children and adults alike still soar when the slipper fits. This Enchanted Edition is based on the 1997 teleplay.

Tickets are available by calling the box office 815-622-3248 Monday-Friday 3-6pm or online at www.centennialauditorium.org

DECEMBER AND JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Sterling High School December students of the month are Bari Reynolds and Jentry Fane.

Bari has been a class officer all four years of high school and is a member of orchestra, Key Club, Science Club, and National Honor Society. Bari is not only successful in the classroom but on the tennis court as well. She holds the conference singles champion title for the past three years and was the scholar athlete of the month for October. Bari plans on attending a four-year university and playing tennis for that university.

Jentry is involved in many activities at SHS including B.L.I.N.D., R.E.A.L., and National Honor Society, as well as volunteering outside of school at KSB Hospital and the Coleta Fire Department. He is an Illinois State Scholar who has also been involved in swimming and basketball and has played baseball for 4 years at SHS. Jentry plans to attend a four-year university and major in pre-veterinary science.

Sterling High School January students of the month are Maci Mitchell and James Fliss.

Maci has participated in WYSE and Math Team and has actively been involved in the theatre and music department participating in plays, musicals, choir, madrigals and speech. She belongs to National Honor Society, Science Club, and Key Club. Maci was recognized as a commended student in the National Merit Scholarship program. After high school, Maci will attend a four year university.

Jimmy has held numerous leadership positions. This year, he was a drum major for Sterling High School, a R.E.A.L leader, science club officer, key club officer and swim team captain. He has been involved in sports all 4 years in high school participating in baseball, football, swimming, and golf. Outside of school, he is involved in the St. Paul Lutheran Church youth group. Jim plans on attending a four year university majoring in psychology.

Please join me in congratulating the December and January students of the month!

English 3 and AP Language Students

If you have a student who is in English 3 or Advanced Placement English Language and Composition with Mr. Francis he asks that you please utilize his website to keep up to date on what's happening in your child's class.

On Mr. Francis' webpage you will find grades, posted weekly, as well as assignments and links to worksheets and vocabulary lists. If your student is absent for one of Mr. Francis' classes, his web page is the first place they should visit before coming back to school.

There is also a contact link should you have any questions for him. To access Mr. Francis' web page please go to :

<http://www.sterlingschools.org/shs/stf/dfranc/>

“CABIN FEVER”



Nathan Delany,
Activities Director

About this time each year the phrase “Cabin Fever” resurfaces. It comes in our school, at your job, at home, and even in simple tasks as grocery shopping or going to the mall. It is a restless time of year. It’s too cold to go outside, you have read all the books in your house, watched TV and your movie collection, caught up on the news, and there just isn’t anything else to keep your attention.

There are a couple of things you can do to help yourselves and your students deal with “Cabin Fever” here at SHS:

- * Encourage your students to become involved in an activity, club, fine art, or sport.
- * Bring your family out to a sporting event or the musical in the next month or throughout the spring. There are a few basketball games left yet in February prior to the post-season.
- * Lastly, parents and supporters of Sterling High School Athletics, mark your calendars for **March 13, 2010 for the 10th Annual Sterling Athletic Booster Club Drawdown**. The Drawdown will be held at Westwood Sports Complex Building #3. Tickets will be \$25 and can be purchased through a Booster Club Member or in the Activities Office.

Please support our students in all of their endeavors. It is very rewarding experience to see to students perform to their highest potential in and out of the classroom.

Thank you and Remember, it is a Great Day to be a Golden Warrior.



Need a Cake?

If you are in need of a cake for any special event, please stop by Folsom’s Bakery in Rock Falls to purchase a cake. Let them know you would like to register for Sterling’s Athletic Booster Fundraiser and they will donate a portion of the proceeds back to the Athletic Booster Club. The bigger the cake, the bigger the proceed donated back.

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| February 5, 2010..... | Hall of Fame Night v. Ottawa |
| February 12-13, 2010..... | IHSA 2A Individual Wrestling Sectional |
| February 12, 13, & 14, 2010 | SHS Musical |
| March 13, 2010 | 10th Annual Booster Club Drawdown |

Shop at Kroger and Support Your Golden Warriors

Kroger makes a donation equaling 3% of all money added to the rewards card!!!

Contact any booster club member or email shsboosters@comcast.net with your contact info and they will get a card to you. Remember to reload your card! We



Event Changes and Cancellations

If an event gets cancelled or changed, there are a few places you should be able to find the information without picking up the phone and calling anyone.

1. SHS Call Out (Parents)
2. WSDR
3. www.sterlingpride.com
4. www.highschoolsports.net

We try to make and communicate all changes by 2:30pm.

Please encourage your students to become involved in fine arts, activities, and/or athletics. The rewards and life lessons are great and their academic performance will improve.