



Shelby - Rising City Public Schools

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January 2021

Dear Parents and Students,

Growing up in South Dakota we were quite envious of Nebraska being “closer to the equator.” The hope for spring coming early was always on our mind. Not just because the winters were normally rotten, but because spring always seemed to be a fresh start, a new beginning. The geese came back. The days were longer. Calving season started.

The same can be said for schools. Seniors start planning on graduation day and the first day of the rest of their lives. They finalize plans about their futures and what summer job they might have. All of the other students are starting to see spring activities such as golf, track, FFA activities, club sports and the end of the school year.

This year, the beginning of the year brings us hope that the end of the pandemic will be able to be seen at the end of a long, dark tunnel that has enveloped our lives and forever changed the way we will probably end up living. This year has also reinforced that we need to be ready to “expect the unexpected.” Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined that Covid would have impacted the world as it has. I am proud, though, that the staff, students and parents of Shelby-Rising City Public Schools have responded in such a positive and proactive way. This response has enabled us to remain in school and has allowed us to provide a full array of activities for our students.

This has not been without some bumps along the way. The DHMs in December provided a challenge to both the school and parents. I am sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused and hope that we will never have to do this again. Moving forward all of us need to remember that we are not out of this yet. We are asking people to continue to follow all protocols until we are a bit closer to the end of the tunnel. Hopefully, this will not take too long.

Again, I am proud that we have been in school since August 17. I am proud that our community enabled that to happen. I am looking forward to this opportunity for a fresh start that a new year brings. I have been honored to serve this district and will look forward to a very successful second semester.

Sincerely,

Doug Kluth, Superintendent
Shelby/Rising City Public Schools

January 2021



Start of 2nd Semester

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. The first semester was challenging for many due to Covid-19, however, we are so proud of how our students and staff stayed the course and managed to make it a successful semester. We are certainly excited about the new year and we are ready to make 2021 a huge success!

January is certainly a busy time for our students as they have winter sports competing multiple nights throughout the week, all while balancing their school work. As we begin the second semester, it is important to stress starting off on the right foot. We have a lot of students who push themselves towards excellence every day and it certainly shows. Our goal at Shelby-Rising City is that ALL students are encouraged, challenged, and pushed in order to see their full potential. Our students have been blessed with many talents and we love to see them shine. Every adult in our building is certainly willing to help our students learn to balance schoolwork as well as activities.

Building Our ICU Culture

We just are one semester into ICU and we are excited about the culture we are building. At the end of the semester, students had completed over 2,200 assignments at a 98% completion rate, which is outstanding! Students are being held accountable and teachers are making sure they are learning the standards. Students are being given the opportunity to demonstrate what they know and every adult in the building is helping them along the way. We are giving students more time and more help at school, and it is making a difference. It also has allowed us to focus even more on building relationships. The conversations that are happening when a student is placed on the list is focused on support. Our advisory time has started to create families and provided the opportunity to improve how our students interact with each other. Lastly, thank you to all the parents who have supported this culture. You are a huge part of your child's army and a key to ICU being effective.

December Students of the Month

Congratulations to our December Students of the Month:

6th- Kody Young

7th- Elva Velasco

8th- Wendy Solorzano Aguilar

9th- Kaylei Perry

10th- Jaimee Paddock

11th- Hunter White

12th- Taylor Hayes



Back row (left to right): Kody Young, Hunter White, Taylor Hayes, Elva Velasco
 Front row (left to right): Kaylei Perry, Jaimee Paddock, Wendy Solorzano Aguilar



December Staff of the Month

- Service- Brenda Gates
- Integrity- Michelle Richards
- Accountability- Mark Nebuda
- Innovation- Sara Jensen

Upcoming Dates

- January 18- MLK Day- No School
- February 1- January Husky Recognition Rally- 3:15 pm (South Gym)
- February 8- P-T Conferences- 11:30 am-7:30 pm



It's All Elementary! by Mrs. Glock

I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing Winter Break! Our faculty and students are all ready to start the semester on a strong note! As we ring in the New Year, it is an exciting time to reflect on our accomplishments and review goals for what we have left to do in this school year. Can you believe that we are halfway through this school year? Where did the time go? The work that has been required of the teachers, the staff, the students, and their families has increased significantly this year due to Covid-19 and we are all working hard to meet the challenges that come with change and prepare students for their future.

Don Lancaster, an American author and inventor said, "Most impossible goals can be met simply by breaking them down into bite-size chunks, writing them down, believing them, and then going full speed ahead as if they were routine." We will be helping students look at their mid-year progress, breaking what they have left to do into bite-size chunks and then going full speed ahead as if it is just the routine. We know how to do hard things at Shelby-Rising City and we know we can achieve our goals.

I challenged staff and students to choose a "word" for 2021. Student words are posted on their lockers to remind them each day of their goal. Staff words are displayed in the elementary hallway to encourage everyone to make each day the best you can. My word this year is "TEAM". I work with an amazing group of individuals who are like teammates to me. We lift each other up when we're down, we celebrate each victory, and we work together to ensure the needs of our students are met. This year of 2021 will still be filled with challenges and difficult events, but in spite of those, I will work with my team to rise up to the challenge and make whatever situation that comes our way the best. I hope that you will join us and your children as we work through the challenges and become a part of our team!

We have so many exciting opportunities happening in the coming weeks and months. Please visit the school website, your child's REMIND account, and social media often so that you don't miss a thing. We are definitely moving full steam ahead for the last half of this year. We'll see you soon for Parent-Teacher Conferences in February.

Speaking of Parent-Teacher Conferences...they will be held on Monday, February 8th from 11:30 am-4:00 pm and 4:45 pm-7:30 pm. Elementary parents/guardians will enter through the Activities Hallway Door (Door 7) and masks are required. Kindergarten through Fifth Grade teachers will be located in the South Gym, along with PE, Vocal Music/ELL, Guidance, Title I, Resource, and Speech teachers. The Scholastic Book Fair will be taking place in the library on that night and Mrs. Peterson (Fourth Grade Reading/ELA) will be available for conferences there. Mr. Nissen (Art) will be located in

the West Gym for parents who need to conference with him. Parents of students at both the elementary and secondary levels will be required to use the Activities Door for elementary conferences and Door 9 for secondary conferences - access through the building will not be allowed. Preschool will be conferencing in the classroom and teachers in grades PK-2 will schedule times for conferences.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all those teachers, students, families, friends and community members that came together in the spirit of giving to help members of the Shelby-Rising City community during this holiday season. Many needs were met and we heard from many grateful hearts. A huge shout out to Mrs. Voss for coordinating our efforts to make this happen.

For health and safety reasons, please continue to let us know if your child is not feeling well and keep them home when sick. Our parents/guardians have been AWESOME about alerting us and helping mitigate the impact of COVID19 in our building. This is a trying time for everyone and I appreciate the support of all of our families and the community.



SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR

is coming to the SRC Husky Library!

February 5-9, 2021

Public Hours:

Fair Preview Friday: 3:30pm-4:30pm

Super Saturday: 9:30am-1:30pm

Conference Monday: 8am-4pm

Last Call Tuesday: 3:30pm-4:30pm

Pre-Registration for High School Courses

In preparation for the 21-22 School year we will be completing the pre-registration process for students who will be entering grades 9-12. Students will review information about graduation requirements, credits, dual credit and Career Pathway options with Mrs. Voss the week of Feb. 1. On Feb. 3 we will have a "Class Fair" in which the teachers will have the opportunity to inform students about particular classes they teach. Pre-Registration forms will also be handed out on Feb. 3 and students are encouraged to have conversations with their parents, teachers and counselor about course choices for the 21-22 school year.

Parents, we would like to encourage you to have conversations with teachers also as we have Parent/Teacher conferences on Feb. 8. This is a great time to talk about courses being recommended for your student to take as well as to answer questions you might have about registration or courses coming up for your child.

All pre-registration forms will then be due on Wed., Feb. 10 so we can continue our planning for the 21-22 school year. We are looking forward to beginning this process and working with you to select courses that will help prepare your son/daughter for graduation and their goals after graduation.

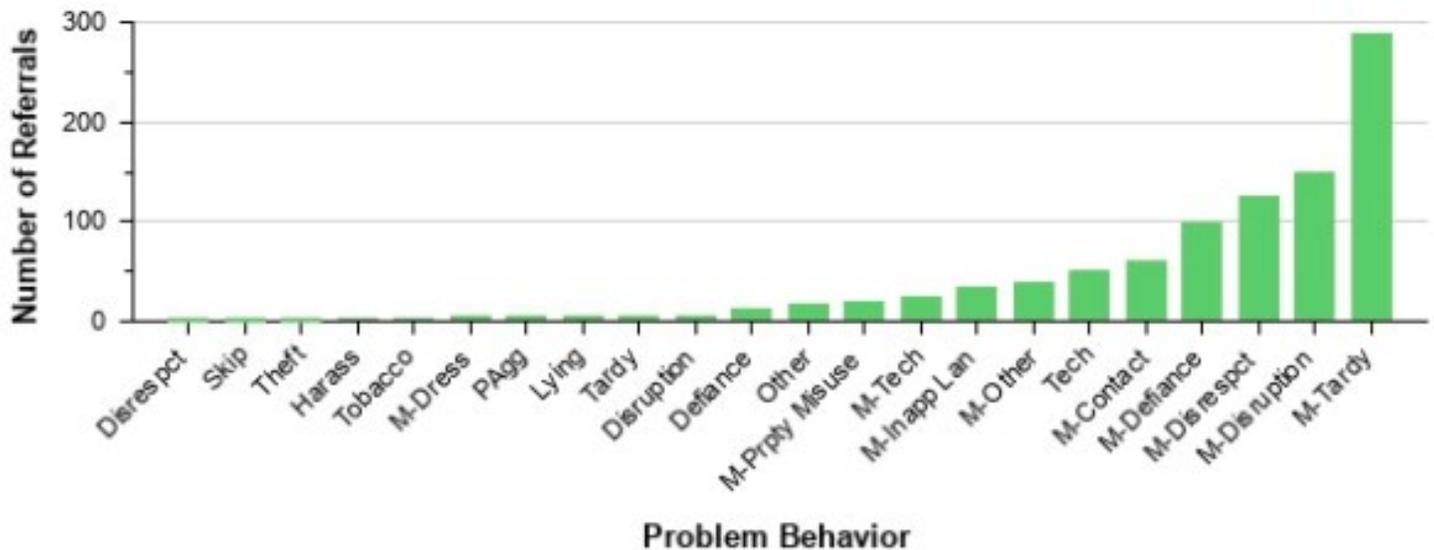
LUNCH ACCOUNT

If a child has a lunch balance, they will not be sold seconds. Please stay current on your lunch account.



Referrals by Problem Behavior

All, Aug 1, 2020 - Dec 31, 2020



The beginning of the school year can be tough to get back into a routine and meet expectations, especially after the pandemic shutting us down early last year. Our students have done an amazing job of coming back to school and going above and beyond. However, we know and see that we still have room to grow.

Here is a breakdown of recorded behaviors for the first semester. Total number of recorded behaviors: August 59 (11 days), September 294 (20 days), October 321 (21 days), November 182 (17 days), and December 94 (16 days). There was a total of 950 recorded behaviors in our first 85 days of school. Students being tardy to class has been the highest offense for the year with a total of 292 recorded instances. We have been trying to share the importance of being on time as a life skill and only recorded 10 tardy offenses in December! Other areas that we will focus on to improve are avoiding disruptive behaviors (156 major/minor recordings), disrespectful behaviors (127 major/minor recordings), and defiance behaviors (112 major/minor behaviors). In the graph above, the M- denotes a minor offense.

On the flip side, there were over 700 PAWSitive paws awarded to our students the first semester. Students earned paws for going above and beyond when it comes to our B.A.R.K. rules – Be Responsible, Active Learning, Respect Others, Self, and School, and Keep Safe. We have had paws given out for helping staff and students, for improving academic scores and meeting goals, for helping keep our school clean and safe, and many other things in between. These are four simple umbrella rules that can expand to home and the community. Students have been recognized by receiving prizes (parking spots, yard signs, bowling passes, and gift cards). We again want to thank our sponsors that have supplied these prizes for our students. We look forward to catching more students going above and beyond and recognizing them for their efforts!

We are looking forward to having a PAWSitive 2021 and 2nd semester at S-RC!

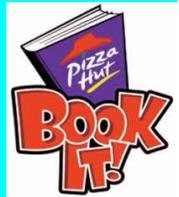


KEEP COZY AND KEEP READING!



K-2nd Gr. - January sheets due Jan. 27th

3rd-5th Gr. - AR Points due Jan. 26th



Notes from Nienhueser

We are picking up right where we left off as we begin this new semester. We are finishing up our calming down unit and moving into the problem-solving steps. You may hear your child(ren) talking about taking belly breaths and calming down. Our calming down steps are: Stop! Name your Feeling! Calm Down! After you get your amygdala (that's a pretty big word for elementary kids to be learning!), the thinking part of your brain, under control, you are able to start solving problems. To remember the problem-solving steps, you just need to remember to STEP! Say the problem (without blame). Think of solutions (that are safe and respectful). Explore consequences (both positive and negative). Pick the best solution. We have some fun songs and actions to help us remember all of these steps to get our emotions in check and to solve problems safely and respectfully. It has been fun to hear stories from students who said they used their calming down steps over break! It was also nice to hear some parents that have appreciated their students helping them and reminding them to calm down when emotions got really big!

I am hoping that your child(ren) is using these strategies at home and at school. We have been doing testing and will continue to have some really important tests coming up later in the semester. On top of staying calm, doing some belly breathing, and using some positive self-talk, it is important to make sure they are getting a good night of sleep, eating healthy meals, and getting exercise. While it is fun to have some breaks and play games or watch movies, it is also important to be active and stay well! During this crazy pandemic, students have been doing a great job of masking up and sanitizing to keep themselves and everyone in our school safe and healthy. We have some amazing little heroes in our building that are doing everything they can to be able to keep coming to school. Thank you for doing your part in helping make amazing citizens that will be taking care of us some day!

Preschool Learns About Temperature

In December the preschool class learned how temperature can change things. We experimented with heat by observing how it changed spaghetti noodles when cooked. We also did an experiment to examine how extreme cold can change water. We filled bowls of water with letters, put them in the freezer, and then had to chisel the letters out.





2nd GRADE

Throughout the month of December, second graders learned about holidays that different cultures celebrate during the month. While reading about a class that made holiday cards for residents at an assisted-living home, our classes decided they would like to partake in this activity as well and spread a little holiday cheer to residents at two local assisted-living homes. Each student made a card with a positive message inside and decorated it in holiday style. Then we sent them off in the mail to hopefully brighten the holiday season for a few individuals at these homes. The kids felt it was a very rewarding experience and allowed us to celebrate what the holiday season is all about!



At the beginning of January, students began the new year with a positive goal in mind. After reading story books about characters making resolutions, students had the opportunity to brainstorm and develop their own New Year's resolutions for at home, school, and something personal they wanted to work on (such as being kind, being positive, and believing in themselves).

Here are some more topics we have been learning about this past month:

Math: We wrapped up our chapter on two-digit addition and are beginning to transition to two-digit subtraction in January. Keep practicing those math facts!

Science: We are in the middle of our unit on Water Erosion and how water is powerful enough to cause erosion on earth's surface. We've done a few experiments with cornmeal and water to help us discover how canyons are formed over a long period of time. The students really enjoyed watching the "land" erode away. Then the challenge was to brainstorm ways they could prevent the water from causing the land to erode.

Social Studies: Mrs. Cromer's class is completing their social studies unit about history. Students have been able to compare and contrast how we live today with how people have lived in the past.

We have read stories to learn about our communities long ago, watched videos showing how transportation, technology, and communication has changed over the years, and have created timelines of important events in our own lives.

Language Arts: We have concluded our unit on personal narrative writing and are transitioning into informational writing. Additional lessons have covered parts of speech such as pronouns, adjectives, and also continuing to practice grammar skills like capitalization and punctuation.

Reading: Retelling literary stories to write a summary, asking and answering questions about text, and identifying/using text features have been our goals in reading recently. Students also continue to study new vocabulary and spelling lists each week.

Second graders pose with the holiday card they made for residents at area assisted-living homes.



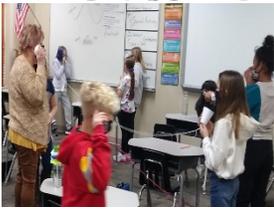


Water erosion experiments in science included one in which students had to brainstorm and test out their ideas on how they could stop "land" from eroding.



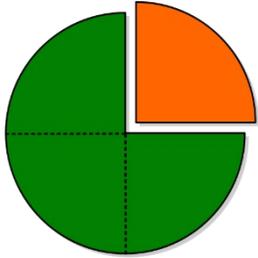
January 2021

3-5 News



3rd-5th Grade Science

In science, **5th grade** has been learning about space and looking at stars. Students wrote reports on constellations. They will be looking at why we see different stars depending on the time of the year. **4th grade** has been learning about how dolphins communicate with each other underwater. As students learn about sound waves, they created telephones to communicate with each other. **3rd grade** is finishing up learning about animal adaptations. Students are exploring animal behaviors with groups and the effects the environment has on an animal.



3rd-5th Grade Math

3rd Grade: The third graders are continuing to learn and practice beginning multiplication facts. We will be learning the multiples of 6, 7, 8, 9 this month. Make sure you're practicing your math facts at home! **4th Grade:** The fourth graders have started their long division unit. We will continue to learn different methods to solve these! **5th Grade:** Fifth graders have started their fraction unit and have been practicing reducing and finding equivalent fractions. Soon we'll be adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions.



4th and 5th Reading & Language Arts

4th Grade Reading: The fourth graders are beginning a new unit in reading. They will be learning about how they can show community spirit. **5th Grade Reading:** The fifth graders are also beginning a new unit in reading. They will be learning about what kind of experiences can lead to new discoveries. **4th & 5th Language Arts:** The fourth and fifth graders are learning about adjectives. The Polk County Spelling Contest will be held in Osceola next month.



3rd-5th Grade Social Studies

The year of 2021 is off to a great start. The 3rd grade has been learning about how communities change and stay the same. They have discovered that some changes take a long time, some a short time and some are unplanned. The 4th grade has been learning about the pioneers on the Oregon Trail. They are completing a covered wagon project that will be displayed in the library. Last but not least the 5th are heading to the Revolutionary War. They are looking at life in colonies and how events caused the colonists to want to be independent from Britain.



3rd Reading & Language Arts

In reading, 3rd graders are beginning a new unit! This unit is focused on celebrating everybody's unique qualities and why individual qualities are important. They are still practicing picking out the main idea and key details in a story. In language arts, 3rd graders are about to finish their verbs unit and start on adjectives.

ELEMENTARY MUSIC



All of the K-12 Music classes were busy during the last weeks of December as they made video recordings to share with you.

Special thanks to:

- The **classroom teachers** for being flexible with their schedules
- **Mr. Kuhn** for letting us use his classroom to make our recordings
- **Mr. Gould** for getting the video camera and computer ready to record our performances
- **Mr. Carley** for recording and editing our performances
- **Mr. Trofholz** for getting everything set up so nicely for us and then communicating the information to everyone when our recordings were available!

In case you haven't had a chance yet to see the students in action, here are the links to the recordings we made in December:

Elementary:

[Elementary Concert](#)

Middle School:

[Middle School Concert](#)

High School:

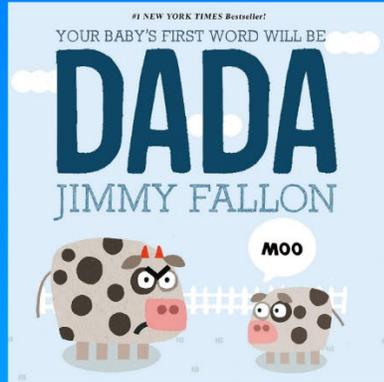
[High School Concert](#)

During the start of our second semester we have been reviewing the concepts we already learned this year. Now we're learning new songs and finding different ways to put our knowledge into action!

We've also been learning songs about Martin Luther King, Jr. and have talked about why we set aside a day each year to honor his memory.



The first 27 families to sign up infants and toddlers new to 1000 Books Before Kindergarten through the SRC school library get 2 free books!



How does the program work?

1. Sign up for the program with @SRCHuskyLibrary. You can sign up via email to mpeterson@shelby.esu7.org or in person in the school library.
2. Read with your child. This is a great time for bonding and to instill a lifelong love of reading.
3. Keep track of the books you read.
4. Every 100 books, bring your record sheet back to Mrs. Peterson in the school library to receive a small prize and your next record sheet.
5. Repeat until you've reached 1000 books or your student begins attending kindergarten.

*We'd love to be by your side during this journey. If you're comfortable sharing books and accomplishments on social media, please tag us @SRCHuskyLibrary on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

LUNCH ACCOUNT

If a child has a lunch balance, they will not be sold seconds. Please stay current on your lunch account.

Healthy Snack Choices <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks>

National Honor Society members bring joy with their holiday fruit baskets



The SR-C National Honor Society students delivered a record number of baskets to the senior citizens and retired members of our communities of Shelby and Rising City December 20, 2020. This service project is a particular favorite for the students because of the connections they get to make with their neighbors and communities. We see this service project as a way to say thank you to all who have supported the school for so many years! Pictured above are some of the NHS students working to assemble the fruit baskets before delivery.



From The Office Gals

Don't forget to empty your voicemail so when the school messenger is activated or your child is sick and we are trying to reach you, we can leave a message for you to access.

S-RC STUDENT COUNCIL BLOOD DRIVE

On Thursday, January 14th, the S-RC Student Council sponsored their annual blood drive at Shelby-Rising City High School. The group is thankful for so many people willing to donate blood; thanks to those who signed up but whose appointments were cancelled due to a low number of American Red Cross workers that day. We are thankful and grateful for all donations!



SRC HUSKY LIBRARY

Second Quarter
Fall/Winter 2020

IN SECOND QUARTER,

184 LIBRARY CLASSES



- Inquiry, asking question, finding answers, and asking more questions!
- Dewey Decimal System
- Picture books with Speech classes (read aloud skills)
- Google Expeditions
- Ornament Makerspace

EVENTS 6



- K-5 BreakoutEDU to assemble Frankenstein
- SPOOK-tacular book giveaway
- Warm up to a good book (reading contest)
- Don't eat this gingerbread house! (design competition)
- Publisher-sponsored book clubs for middle school and high school meetings
 - Dragon Hoops by Gene Luen Yang
 - Watch Over Me by Nina LaCour

3180

Our district's priority is getting books into the hands of our students and empowering them to be creators, critical thinkers, and global citizens.

ITEMS CHECKED OUT FROM THE SCHOOL LIBRARY



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@SRCHuskyLibrary

S-RC School Calendar: [CLICK HERE](#)



The Fitness Center is open from Noon to 10 PM, Mon - Fri.

Just as a reminder: If classes or athletic teams are using equipment, they have priority.



Please make sure you download our app so you can stay in touch with important information and changes. Click on the Google or Apple icons on the lower right-hand corner of our Website. This is a free app.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

In compliance with the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1978;

It is the intent of Shelby-Rising City Public Schools to comply with both the letter and spirit of the law in making certain discrimination does not exist in its policies, regulations and operations.

The Shelby-Rising City Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. Turner Trofholz, Title IX Coordinator, has been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures or the application of these policies of nondiscrimination.

January 2021