



# Redskin Nation News

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## From the Principal's Desk...

Congratulations to everyone who is reading this letter. We have made it through the first weeks of school. I've always felt like Labor Day is the most perfectly timed holiday on the calendar because it almost always falls around the third week of school, which is a wonderful benchmark for educators to partition off the "start of school" from plain old, regular "school." Those first few weeks are spent with teachers getting to know a new group of students, students getting to know a new group of teachers, and everyone getting used to the changes and new routines that come with a new school year. The goal is to get the "start of school" part out of the way as quickly as possible because once things stop feeling "new," we know we can drop the "start of" part and just start doing school.

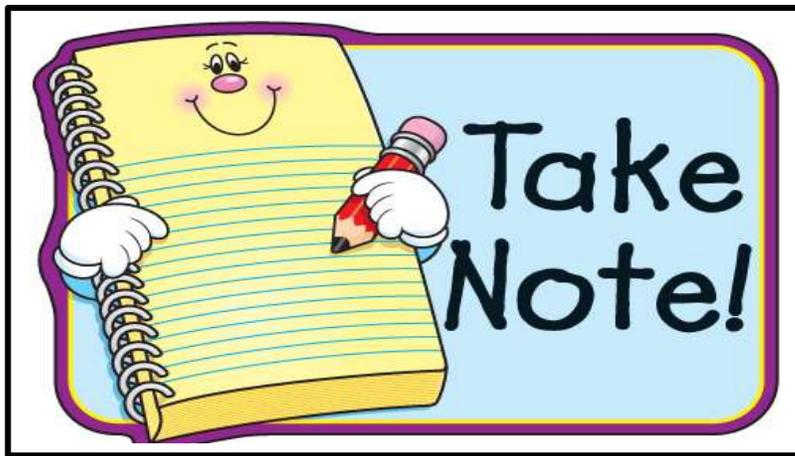
I am happy to report that in spite of some pretty significant changes here at Sullivan Middle School, we have transitioned into business as usual better than I could have hoped. In a year when we have increased our enrollment by almost 43% (up to 350 from 245) and added six new teachers (3 of whom came to us from SES), we had everyone operating like they have been doing this for months by week three. I can't express how grateful I am to work in a building with such an amazing staff. They really do deserve the lion's share of the credit for making this transition as seamless as it has been. I also want to thank our students for showing up every day ready to be respectful and eager to learn, which means I also want to thank our parents and guardians for ensuring they come to us with that mindset. The work you do at home paves the way for what we can accomplish here.

I am also sure that you have heard from your student or seen on our social media accounts that our middle school library got a facelift this summer. It is now called The Hub, and it is the place where innovation meets collaboration. Our teachers and students are already exploring the ways in which this new space can be used, and I know they are going to continue to impress. We look forward to continuing to share the things this space makes possible with all of you as the year progresses. I would be remiss if I did not mention the outstanding generosity of the Sullivan Community Education Foundation who really made the whole thing possible. Their major grant funded the majority of the project, so without their help, it would have taken years to accomplish what they made possible seemingly overnight. We are truly blessed to live in a community that supports education the way this community supports education.

In closing, thank you for your patience. We made some substantial changes to Sullivan Middle School over the summer. I am really enjoying having a building that is literally full of teaching and learning each and every day. Here's to a great school year; we are off to a terrific start!

Best Regards,

Nathan Ogle, Principal  
Sullivan Middle School



## 2018 School Calendar

September 25, School Picture Day

October 5 - School Improvement Day  
(No Student Attendance)

October 8 - Columbus Day

October 18 and 25 - Parent/Teacher  
Conferences

November 21-23 - Thanksgiving Break

December 19 and 20 - Final Exams

December 21, 2018 – January 3, 2019

Classes Resume January 4, 2019

Students in Mrs. Auten's second grade classroom, right, have been studying early Asian civilizations. They read *Dragon of the Red Dawn* and *Grass Sandals*, in which students learned about Japanese culture, a poet named Basho, and haiku poetry.

The students created themselves in a kimono and wrote a haiku poem in their speech bubble. They also read *Ruby's Wish*, in which Ruby wanted to have more opportunities like her brothers. She wanted to carry the fancy red lantern in the lantern parade and be able to go on to college. Her wish was granted as she became one of the first female students at a university.

Students created paper lanterns to adorn Auten's room and remind the class of the lantern parade. Later, they began to learn more about Chinese culture and experienced tangrams and origami. Auten said, "Tangrams were fun for us. Origami was fun, but challenging!"

## SHS Cheerleading Squad Fall, 2018



### Seniors:

Zoe Ray

Ally Elzy

Abby Hussong

Riley Kesterson (OV)

### Juniors:

Jessica Williamson

Adalee Nichols

Kelsie Winings

Ashlyn Bennett

### Sophomores:

Carsyn Seeley

Mallory Nichols

Alexa Hauser

Carley Towle

Haven Caulfield (OV)

### Freshmen:

Morgan Wallace



### Just A Reminder:

**District-wide School Picture Day  
September 25, 2018**

# Career English Students Organize Assembly Commemorating September 11, 2001, Tragedy

Students of Miss Lawson's Career English class put their heads together and organized an assembly for all high school students and members of the community to commemorate the tragedy that took place on September 11, 2001.

Sullivan High School band and vocal music students launched the event by singing/playing The National Anthem.

Speakers such as former high school PE teacher Jill Heick spoke to students about the events of the day and her own emotions and memories of the tragic events that occurred on 9/11. 9/11 has been a national day of remembrance but, it has also been a National Day of Service in honor of the victims. It is also a day to honor those who choose to professionally serve and protect us and those who on a day of great crisis became heroes because they chose to help others.

The assembly included a short video and a "Red Bandana" certificate presentation.

On September 11, 2001, Welles Crowther was just 24-years-old. The son of a firefighter, he had been both a volunteer and fulltime firefighter before going to college and getting a job with a financial firm at the World Trade Center.

As a child, he was given two handkerchiefs by his father when they were getting ready for church. "One for show and one to blow" - a white one for his pocket and a red bandanna for blowing his nose.

According to his parents, he always had a red bandanna in his pocket after getting that first one, and he had one with him on 9/11.

After the plane hit the tower he was working in, Welles pulled out his red bandanna, covered his nose and mouth with it, and started helping evacuate people.

Once he got them to where they could continue on their own, he went back up to help rescue others. He did not have to. He could have continued out of the building with the first group of people he helped. But he didn't.

Welles Crowther died on 9/11 in the company of New York City firefighters who were also trying to save people.

As stories of heroism started being told after 9/11, people heard survivors talking about the man in the red bandanna. They were talking about Welles Crowther, a man who made a choice to help others that day, a man who had been a firefighter, who was planning to join the New York City Fire Department, and who had the heart and courage of hero.

Some people choose to protect others for their career. They make a lifetime commitment to a career that makes them a hero every day because they have such a strong desire to serve and protect others.

Other people also choose to be a hero when someone needs help. They step up when they are needed even though it is not their job and they may not have any training to help. That is what the Red Bandanna Award honors - everyday heroes.

We're not all firefighters or paramedics or law enforcement officers or members of the military, but we can all do something to help people when they need assistance.

We need to help when we can. The Red Bandanna Award was given to high school students and staff who were nominated and then selected by the Career English class for their acts of service and courage.

In order to get this award, nominees had to be courageous and not be afraid to stand up for someone

they might not even know or someone they don't like. They should be able to put their personal problems to the side and help whoever or whatever needs help.

Mr. Paul Hinson played *Flowers of the Forest* on the bagpipes.

Guests were honored by Career English students at a private luncheon in the Media Center.

If you see an ambulance, fire truck, or a law enforcement vehicle with lights flashing and sirens blaring, pull over and let them safely get where they need to go. If you have an encounter with a first responder, be polite, cooperative, and respectful. Let them do their jobs without making things more difficult.

When you see veterans or members of the military, take a moment to thank them for their service. If you are at the airport, respect the people there working hard to keep you safe. Respect the flag.

"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate."  
-Sandy Dahl, wife of the pilot of Flight 93 - the plane that the passengers took over on 9/11 to keep it from crashing into our nation's Capital.



Pictured above, guest speaker Jill Heick spoke to students about her memories of the fateful events that occurred on 9/11 2001. Photo by Lesley Banks

**We Will Never Forget!**



The 2018 red bandana winners include from left to right: Hayden Faulkner, Brayden Mesnard, Dmitri Tull, Jessica Keith, Darrin Sparrow, Conner Golden, Cameron Kesterson, Justin Helmuth, and Aiden Short. Photo by Lesley Banks.



Assembly photos, this page by Lesley Banks, luncheon photos and service activity photos by Paige McLaughlin.

# Get Your Tickets!

## Junior Class Hosts Pulled Pork Dinner

The junior class will be hosting a dinner on Friday, September 21, 2018. Pulled pork, macaroni & cheese, dessert and drink will be on the menu. The cost for the meal will be \$8.00 and carry out is available. Funds will go toward the cost of Sullivan High School's Prom on April 13, 2019. Please contact Mrs. Hinton for tickets at [hintonh@sullivan.k12.il.us](mailto:hintonh@sullivan.k12.il.us)



For those who may not be aware, Nicole Hendry is teaching all of 4th grade social studies this year. Pictured are students working in groups to practice finding the continents and oceans with various map skills.



Students in Mrs. Auten's second grade classroom, right, have been studying early Asian civilizations. The students created themselves in a kimono and wrote a haiku poem in their speech bubble. (Photo provided by Ms. Auten)



Sullivan Elementary students were treated to a great assembly put on by "Jump for Jill." The show revolved around eating healthy and being active. Students were highly engaged throughout the assembly. "Jump for Jill" was sponsored by Sarah Bush Lincoln who also comes to our classrooms to teach students about leading a healthy lifestyle. Photos provided by Dan Allen, SES Principal.



Mrs. Bushue's Informal Geometry classes took a geometry walk that involved students participating in a scavenger hunt for angles. Students used their school-issued I-Pads to take pictures of the items they found. The list included pictures of themselves making acute, obtuse and right angles. Students who participated in the event include: Alli Durdel, Damion Reed, AJ Chance, Willie Gilbert, Hayden Faulkner and Cydney Deaton. Photos provided by Mrs. Bushue.



## Sullivan FFA Kicks Off the Year with Annual Family BBQ

The Sullivan FFA hosted their annual BBQ at Wyman Park Wednesday September 12th.

It was great to see family members join their students at this event.

During the BBQ the Sullivan FFA Officers had their Chapter meeting where we discussed multiple topics:

Amendments made to the Chapter Constitution, Leadership Camp, State Convention, The National Chapter Award, Chapter Officer Leadership Training, 10 Gallon Challenge, Upcoming events and etc.

We also had raffle prizes for those who joined us.

After Dinner the Sullivan FFA Alumni had their meeting while your officers put on games and activities for the FFA members.

Games include: Tug of War, Corn hole, Pac-Man Tag, and others.

Overall the Sullivan FFA continues to have another successful Family BBQ!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

State FFA Officer Visits: September 17-21st

Section Leadership Training: September 19th at Maroa Forsyth

Homecoming Parade: October 5th

Sectional Land Use CDE: October 2nd at Okaw Valley

Sectional Greenhand Bowl: October 17th at Sullivan

Sectional Ag Sales CDE: October 17th at Sullivan

Sectional Grain Fair: October 17th at Sullivan

Section SAE Expo: October 17th at Sullivan



Remember Harvest Season is Upon Us! Drive Safely and make sure you show respect for farmers who are driving slower moving vehicles.

Sullivan FFA Officer Chapter Officers include: President, Irie Dulin, Vice President, Maddie Atchison, Reporter, Zane Gardner, Treasurer, Dasey Swiney, Secretary Hayden Faulkner, Sentinel, Justin Helmuth, Parliamentarian, Chase McClure and Historian, Skylar Nowlin.

Page designed and created by SHS Journalism I student and FFA Section Vice President and Chapter Reporter, Zane Gardner.

# Student Council Hits the Ground Running as New School Year Gets Underway

by Ashlyn Bennett

Sullivan High School's Student Council organization (StuCo) hit the ground running at the start of the school year and has been busy with class president elections, planning a spaghetti supper the night of the first home football game, and doing some preliminary planning for 2018-2019 Homecoming.

StuCo Officers were actually elected at the end of the last school year and include: President – Cullen Dyer, Vice-President – Maddie McPheeters, Secretary – Carley Towle, Treasurer – Dalton Rogers, Sergeant-at-Arms – Spencer Johnson, and Reporter – Natalie Drury.

Class president elections were held via student emails. Winners include: Brody Goss, Senior Class President; Josie Orris, Senior Class Vice President; Meena Corkill, Junior Class President; Kaitlyn White, Junior Class Vice President; Adalee Nichols, Junior Class Treasurer; Zane Finfrock, Sophomore Class President; Noah Bates, Sophomore Class Vice President; Lilly Null, Freshmen Class President, and Maddie Hopper, Freshmen Class Vice President.

StuCo's first official event of the new school year was a Spaghetti Supper held on August 31 in the High School Commons. Tickets were \$8 for adults and \$6 for those 12 and under.

StuCo's biggest event of the Fall is, of course, Homecoming. So far, the organization has decided the theme which is "Hawaiian Nights." Themes for the individual student dress-up days are:

- Monday – 'Merica
- Tuesday – Generations
- Freshman – Babies
- Sophomore – Tweens
- Junior – Middle Age Adults
- Senior – Elderly
- Wednesday – Tacky Tourist
- Thursday – Redskin Rowdy

Homecoming this year will take place on October 5th and 6th with the parade, and game taking place on the 5th and the dance occurring on the 6th.

Window Decorating and Float Building will start on Monday, October 1st.

According to Natalie Drury and Sponsor Marsha Kirby, Window Decorating will now be open to all SHS Clubs who wish to participate.



Pictured top, right, Kaitlyn White and Spencer Johnson manning the ticket table at this year's StuCo Spaghetti Supper while the two ladies to the right served up some delicious meals to hungry fans headed to the game. Photos by Natalie Drury.



## Students Spend Summer Choosing Next One Book, One Sullivan

One Book One Sullivan had a busy summer reading from the 2019 Rebeca Caudill List. Students and teachers met weekly to read and discuss books from the list. They are eager to choose a book both the students and community will enjoy. The students have narrowed the list of 20 books down to five. In addition, the group brought back two books that earned a second place vote from past years. Feel free to read the following selections and offer some feedback to the group by emailing either Mrs. Ray or Mrs. McClellan.

- Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
- Goldfish Boy* by Jason Reynolds
- Paper Things* by Jennifer Jacobson
- See You at Harry's* by Jo Knowles
- The Iron Trial* by Cassandra Clare and Holly Black
- The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen
- Upside Down and in the Middle of Nowhere* by Julie T. Lamana

## Congratulations to the 2018 – 2019 National English Honor Society Officers



The 2018-2019 NEHS Officers from left to right include: President, Natalie Drury, Vice President, Tim Lawyer, Secretary, Karsyn West, Treasurer, Dalton Rogers, Reporter, Paige McLaughlin, Sergeant-At-Arms, Brodie Goss and Director of Activities, Addison Graham. Photo Provided by Cami Badman, Faculty Adviser.

Seventeen new members will be inducted into the organization on October 02, 2018. Those inductees include sophomores Noah Bates, Reagan Crouse, Arabella Dudley, Haylee Faulkner, Keelie Fleenor, Jeralee Goad, Alexa Hauser, Anna Mathias, Avery McGregor, Mallory Nichols, Taylor Orris, Carsyn Seeley, Trenton Tarr, Carly Towle, Zoe Walton, Emily White, and junior Zane Gardner

# SHS Tech Takes On A Whole New Look



If you haven't had the opportunity to see the new Tech Room at Sullivan High School, you are missing out.

Over the summer, IT Director Mark Waelde put in a lot of time painting and working to create a cool place for students interested in technology to go and hangout.

Waelde works with students to help them learn how to work on and repair i-Pads. He also supervises service students who will copy papers for teachers, which, of course opens up more time for teachers who don't want to spend their time standing at the copy machine.

If you notice the Redskin head in the top picture, Waelde designed and made that specifically for the Tech Room.

One student said of the room, "It looks great. It is definitely an upgrade to what used to be in there. I really like to go in there because it is very welcoming and I feel relaxed when I am in there."

Photos by Lesley Banks



## What is the NEW Student Tech Service Center?

1. A place for students to come before and after school to work on projects and print as needed.
2. A place for students and teachers to come with iPad questions and issues to be assisted by Tech Student Services!
3. Teachers can have the Tech Service Students test out functionality of a teacher provided project and receive feedback.
4. Students will work directly with the teacher to ensure the lesson utilizing technology will work efficiency and avoid down time!
5. A place for teachers to submit copy jobs to be returned to them by the Tech Service Students.
6. A place for Students and Teachers to come to receive needed iPad repairs and purchase new cords and blocks.
7. A place where students will learn basic tech troubleshooting to assist teachers and students at Sullivan CUSD.
8. A place for video services, copy services, tech requests, etc.
9. A place to advertise upcoming events to the large TV in the commons.  
(Information to be sent to [shstech@sullivan.k12.il.us](mailto:shstech@sullivan.k12.il.us) .)

**Have A Safe  
and Happy  
Fall Season!**