



Redskin Nation News

home.sullivan.k12.il.us

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 5

Sullivan Elementary School

910 North Graham Street
Sullivan, IL 61951
Phone: 217-728-2321
Fax: 217-728-4399

Dan Allen, Principal

Jessica Reeder, Assistant Principal

Ann Sanner, Administrative
Assistant

Sullivan Middle School

713 North Main Street
Sullivan, IL 6195
Phone: (217) 728-8381
Fax: (217) 728-4296

Nathan Ogle, Principal

Jessica Reeder, Assistant Principal

Ryan Aikman, Dean of Students

Mary Ann Portwood
Administrative Assistant

Sullivan High School

725 North Main Street
Sullivan, IL 61951
Phone: 217-728-8311
Fax: 217-728-4139

Erik Young, Principal

Jessica Reeder, Assistant Principal

Ryan Aikman, Dean of Students

Nikki Cloyd, Administrative
Assistant

From the Principal's Desk...

Members of the Sullivan Schools Community,

As is the case most years, I find myself sitting here in disbelief that we are already charging ahead into February. It seems like the month of January flies by as we work to re-establish our routines after Christmas break. We also stay busy in January by completing our winter benchmark testing with MAP. We made some pretty substantial changes in regard to math instruction and RtI here at the middle school, so it was interesting to see what progress was made in the first few months of these changes. I'm happy to report that the preliminary data is very positive. As is always the case, these improvements are not possible without the tremendous work that is done in our classrooms every day by our amazing teachers and their students. I couldn't be more proud of the dedication to education that I see in our building.

In other exciting news, one of my biggest goals coming into the middle school was to increase community service for our students. I believe that getting students involved during the middle school years will increase the likelihood of them staying involved and becoming active members of our community into adulthood. I'm excited to share with all of you that we have continued to expand our reach during our community service days. Back in December, we not only visited all of the nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Sullivan, but we also branched out to include four facilities in Mattoon for a total of nine total facilities visited. The feedback from the residents, staffs, and our students has been incredibly positive. Right now, we are looking ahead to a spring service day. Last year, we picked up roughly 250 pounds of trash out of Wyman and Tabor Parks, and we will continue that effort this spring. However, we also worked a little with the Army Corps of Engineers last fall, so we will expand that partnership this spring to include more students helping with trash clean-up at our local recreational areas to prepare for the summer season. I have also been in conversations with Chip's Marine in regards to their ongoing fish habitat project, and our hope is to involve students in building some fish habitats during our spring service day as well. I can't say enough about the effort our students put in on these days. Every time I think I have come up with enough to keep them busy for hours, they come blow us away with their hard work and prompt me to keep searching for more and more opportunities to give back to the community.

Lastly, I want to touch a bit on winter weather. This past week, we experienced some extreme cold, which in the past may have prompted closing school for the day. However, we were able to keep our doors open by running a two hour delayed start schedule. To be clear, the issue with extreme cold is not the ability of our school buses or buildings to handle the temperatures; our transportation and maintenance staff are some of the best around at what they do. The issue is those students who rely on walking to school, some walking nearly a mile and half as state guidelines put the marker for bus transportation at 1.5 miles. The late start allows two things to happen. The first is that temperatures will often rise a bit by 10:00am as the sun has had more time to heat things up a bit, but perhaps even better this year is that it allows us to run buses to pick students up within that 1.5 mile radius before we run our normal routes. Our goal is to have students in school as much as possible without putting any of them in a potentially dangerous situation to get here because we believe that is part of "Thinking of Students First!"

Best Regards,

Nathan Ogle, Principal
Sullivan Middle School

Updated School Calendar

February 07 – Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 14 – Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 15 – No Classes

February 18 – No Classes

March 08 – School Improvement Day, No Student Attendance

March 18-22 Spring Break

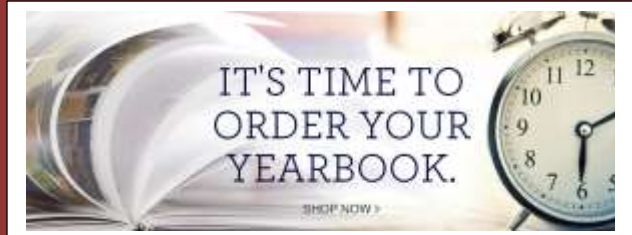
April 05 School Improvement Day – No Student Attendance

April 19 – April 22 – No School

April 26 – School Will Be In Session

May 03 – School Will Be in Session

Get 'Em While They're Hot



SMS Yearbooks are on Sale

Don't miss the opportunity to purchase this important keepsake of the school year. The 2017-2018 Sullivan Middle School yearbook is available for purchase and is packed full of the memories you never want to forget. The yearbook is full of candid photos, clubs, activities and sports and is available in all color. Order forms and \$20 (made out to Sullivan Middle School) can be turned into Mrs. Wright, or ordered online at www.jostensyearbooks.com. Select "Buy your yearbook" and search for SMS in Sullivan, IL.

Scholastic Bowl Continues to Impress in Tournament Play

by Salem Shields

Sullivan High School has had an amazing team for Scholastic Bowl this year; they truly have worked hard, and their work has shown.

Throughout 12 matches taking place Saturday, January 05, scorers included Reagan Crouse, Spencer Johnson, Gary Herschberger, and Paige McLaughlin. Throughout their entire season so far, the team has lost around six matches, which is very impressive since they made it into the CIC Tournament and earned second place knocking out Central A&M, Clinton, and Warrensburg.

In scoring, the team was led by Crouse who had 20 toss-ups, followed up by Gary Herschberger who had ten. Spencer Johnson had 9, Tim lawyer had six, and finally Michael Nolen scored one.

The Sullivan team has had some very close games, but, they've stayed strong throughout and haven't let a loss get to them, proving it game after game by throwing out the competition they have faced against.

The JV tournament scheduled for January 12, 2019, was cancelled due to poor weather conditions. The next match for the Varsity is February. Regionals are in March.



Thanks to KC Summers, SMS now has 2000 extra pencils. Their donation will be put to good use.

Sullivan Singers Kick Off Competition Season at Mt Zion

by Carly Voegel

With the icy winds of winter blowing all around us, it is time to come in from the cold and warm up with a little music from Sullivan Singers Junior and Sullivan Singers.

Sullivan's Singers Junior performed at Mt Zion on Friday January 11, but due to inclement weather conditions January 12, the High School Singers did not get to perform.

Singers Junior performed their entire show as a prep for their competition season Friday at the Mt Zion Auditorium in the High School. Chris Wilson, the vocal music teacher for both middle school and high school groups said, "I think that the experience overall was very positive and really prepared the kids for what's to come for the season. I'm very proud of the kids."

Other middle schools came to support and perform their shows also. Mt Zion's middle school groups, Soundcheck and Soundsystem as well as Johns Hill Middle School performed.

The whole group was pleased with their performances. Sofia Nuzzo, an Eighth grader in the group said, "[Our show] definitely made a statement."

Singers and Singers Junior competed at the Mt Zion Midwest Invitational on Saturday January 19 and placed 6th in the division. Other groups like Troy, Glenwood, Wheaton, Decatur, and Chesterton also competed. Upcoming competition season destinations include Danville, El Paso, Glenwood, Wheaton, Decatur, and a trip to Nationals in Nashville, Tennessee.

The High School Singers performed their entire show. Their opener was 'In a Blaze,' the second number was a mashup of "Money" and "Love so Soft." They also sang an original song Mr. Wilson wrote as the ballad called "Don't Wait." Their fourth number was "St. Elmo's Fire (Man in Motion)," and they closed their show with "Larger than Life."



Congratulations Sullivan Singers Jr. for bringing home the Grand Champion Trophy following their performance in Danville last Friday. The photo to the right shows members of the group holding up the trophy. The group brought home the following:

- Overall Grand Champions (1st place)
- Best Choreography
- Best Tech Crew
- Best Male Performer- Ivan Moxley
- Best Female Solo within a show- Triniti Preyer
- 2nd Place Solo Competition winner: Triniti Preyer

Just a reminder...

Sullivan Schools will dismiss early on Thursday, February 7th and Thursday, February 14th due to Parent/Teacher Conferences. SES will dismiss at 2:20 and SMS and SHS will dismiss at 2:30. There will be no school on Friday, February 15th and Monday, February 18th.

SES Names December Gold Slip Winners

Every month, Sullivan Elementary School recognizes students who go above and beyond expectations by awarding them "Gold Slips." Pictured are the gold slip winners from the month of December:

Karen Szachnitowski has been very helpful to her peers who have needed some extra guidance in math. She has offered to help during class time and even recess. She has been helpful all month!

Christian Ogle was awarded a book to take home for winning a game. He picked one and then said he got it for his sister because those books are hard to find.





Students Recognized At Breakfast of Champions

Sullivan Middle School held its Second Quarter Breakfast of Champions recognition on Wednesday, December 12th. Students were recognized for their leadership skills and positive behaviors in and out of the classroom. Students recognized were Bella Brownlee, Conner Crouch, Madison Flexser, Landry Hall, Kharli Kelly, Trey McRill, Eiley Poe, Jude Strickert, Claire Welch, and Drew Woolen.

Mirror Images Performs “If You Could Choose to be Anything”

by Seth Mayberry

The Mirror Images group performed their show titled, “If You Could Choose to be Anything,” for the students and staff of Sullivan High School on Friday, January 25 at The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan, Illinois. An evening show was held on January 26 for the public at the same place.

This year’s performance—as with most Mirror Images shows—was written by the student members along with assistance from Rebecca Lawson, the head of the group and an English teacher at Sullivan High School. Writing for the show began in October of 2018 and was wrapped up close to the end of 2018.

One main theme for this year’s show addressed the importance of choosing to be kind to everyone. Marissa Albin and Anna Mathias played the role of Jasmine Newberry (Albin played the role for Friday’s performance and Mathias performed the role on Saturday) who tried to make everyone be happier at their school through the Happiness Project—a program which allows the students to do random acts of kindness in order to raise their peers’ spirits.

Another theme of the show was given through Hayden Nodine and Clayton Schmohe’s character, Leo Badman who proved that people can change themselves for the better if they really want to.

Corentin Bernard’s character Raphael Bourdain and Imogene Stidham’s character Emily Olsen brought up the issue of moving to new places and the difficulties people have in making new friends at a new school.

“I was very proud of the incredible amount of teamwork shown by the cast of the show. Lots of people stepped up and subbed in for people when they were gone. It was also really nice that nobody [died]. We’ve never written a play with [the] intention of it being a comedy,” said Lawson about the show.

And a comedy it was, what with the love-hate relationship between Beck and Becca, Caroline’s constant serenading, and the impressive dance moves along with those that might need a little work.

Members of Mirror Images tried out for roles they created and were casted for the following parts (people with two roles played one part for Friday’s performance and played the other for Saturday’s).

Female students in the play included: Alexis Rosine as Julie Hansen; Destiny Jourdan as Rebecca “Becca” “BE-CAW” Harrison; Maddison Hopper as Caroline “Sweet Caroline” Lewis; Fayth Reyna as Donna Jo McClain; Makayla Weybright as Jennifer Miller;

Makayla Weybright as Jennifer Miller; Joann Mathias as Elizabeth Newberry; Marissa Albin and Anna Mathias as Jasmine Newberry; Makayla Mathias as Lisa Newberry; Imogene Stidham as Emily Olsen; Jessica Voyles as Amy Rogers; Miriah Booker and Joann Mathias as Ruth Smith; and Sydney Williamson as Leah Stevens.

Male students of the play included: Hayden Nodine and Clayton Schmohe as Leo Badman; Oliver Adamson and Morgan Beck as Beck Bowser; Corentin Bernard as Raphael Bourdain; Julian Poston as Simon Hall; Jon Mathias and Clayton Schmohe as Mitch Ingalls; Peyton Isaacs as Xander Paine; Brayden Mesnard as Phil Snyder; Brad Smith as Chad Wagner; Jaden Nuzzo as Lucas Wahling; and Justus Forry as Craig Wilcoxon.

For adult roles in the play, there were: Haley Matheson and Jessica Voyles as Ms. Grace Garvey; Scott Bales, JD Graham, Andy Wagner, and Chris Wilson as the janitors; Cami Badman, Marsha Kirby, Haley Matheson, and Kali Taylor as the lunch ladies; Seth Mayberry as Mr. Pierce Newman; Brayden Mesnard as the security guard; and Madison Weimer as Ms. Edna Schwann, the counselor.

Those who worked behind the scenes of this production include the following: Chris Benefiel is the Technical Director; Ben Berner worked the sound; Paige McLaughlin worked the spotlight; stage managers were Zoe Ray and Karsyn West; assistant stage managers were Khushpreet Sian and Madison Weimer; Jessica Voyles was the house manager and designed the programs for the play; Alyssa Bohon and Alexis Rosine were props and costume mistresses; stage crew members include: Riley Adams, Alyssa Bohon, Haeven Green, Krisia Hector, Destiny Roe, Brad Smith, and the rest of the show’s cast; Krisia Hector was Miss Lawson’s assistant; and Wyatt Sentel constructed the sinks used in the play.

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Mirror Images group which got its start in 1989.

(See Photos Next Page)



All photos this page taken by and printed with permission from Amanda Bone-Mayberry.

NEHS Rings In the New Year With Letters to Pen Pals

by Paige McLaughlin

Now that Sullivan High School has started its second semester, NEHS has also started with its second round of yearly activities. The most notable of these comes in the form of letters to pen pals in the elementary school and Mrs. Kirk's class.

Members of the group who choose to write to pen pals during the second semester receive a pen pal (or sometimes two) from the classes of the younger generation whose teachers have agreed to participate. From then on, they send letters back and forth every week until a TBD date, usually in April, when NEHS and their pen pals finally get to meet. A fairly new tradition in NEHS history, this practice has won the group notice in the past, and was part of the reason why they won the Outstanding Chapter Award back in the 2016-2017 school year.

With fifty members of the group offering to act as pen pals, the tradition seems to be going strong, and will likely continue into the future if it continues to be successful.

Sullivan FFA Competes in Parliamentary Procedure Contest

On January 16, 2019, the Sullivan FFA Parliamentary Procedure team competed in the sectional Parliamentary Procedure contest.

Parliamentary Procedure is a contest where members hold a formal business meeting based on parliamentary law. Contestants make motions, debate, vote, and go through a formal meeting.

This contest was held in the Central A&M high school. Six other varsity teams also competed.

The Sullivan FFA Parliamentary Procedure team members include: Natalie Voyles, Justin Helmuth, Dmitiri Tull, Zane Gardner, Drew Kirk, and Dayden Gardner.

Zane Gardner served as Chairperson, Justin Helmuth served as Secretary, and Natalie, Dayden, Drew, and Dmitiri served as floor members.

Kudos to Justin Helmuth for being a top floor member and top Secretary. We would also like to congratulate Zane Gardner for being a top chairperson.

The Parliamentary Procedure team gave it their best, but sadly were not advanced to the district contest. We would, however, like to congratulate them in all their hard work and dedication.

Middle School Dance Hosted by Prom Committee

by Ashlyn Bennett

Sullivan High School's Junior class hosted a middle school dance to raise money for 2019 Prom Friday the January 25th in the High School Commons.

The dance was for Sullivan Middle School's 5th through 8th graders. It was \$3 to get into the dance and pizza, soda, and cookies were also available.

The music was provided by the Junior class who also took requests throughout the night. Nathan Ogle, the Middle School Principal, also joined the students out on the dance floor for a dance battle.

The dance helped Prom Committee raise \$732 for the 2019 prom. The committee's next fundraiser has yet to be decided.



SES Names February Gold Slip Winners

Every month, Sullivan Elementary School celebrates students who have received "Gold Slips" for going above and beyond expectations. Here are the Gold Slip winners from the month of February (from left to right):

Cali Szabo, once again, showed her kindness when she jumped in to help another student. A young boy had dropped a lot of things in the hallway. Without hesitation, Cali knelt down by him and helped him pick up



Continued from Page 7... everything he dropped. The best part was that Cali did this from the kindness of her heart, not because she thought she would get a reward! In fact, she never looked to see if her teacher caught her being kind!

Molly Owens waited on an adult that had trouble walking into the school by holding the door open. She followed the adult into the building to open the second door so they could come into the office.

Liam Coil had the special privilege of being first and leading the line of students because he was the "Student of the Week." As he was leading the line, he spotted a younger student in the hallway who had dropped everything he was carrying. Liam immediately bent down to help. This caused Liam to lose his line leading position. The best part is that Liam didn't look around to see if anyone was watching. He was just extremely kind!

Addison Hullum saw that another student had spilled his milk and walked away. Addison saw the spill and cleaned it up without anyone telling him to. Way to go!

Nathan Bishop, day after day, can be seen taking time to show respect for our classroom. He works neatly, but also helps clean up after others. This is always with a big, bright smile! Nathan is so kind and helpful and is a wonderful classmate!

Ryder Saul noticed that several children threw their lunch trays up into the dishwasher window in the wrong direction. Ryder fixed them all without being asked, even though they were covered in food. He was very respectful and responsible as he did this.

Natalie Stinson shows great leadership at school. She serves as a role model for others in her behavior, actions, academics, and attitude! Natalie is very responsible and easy to rely on. Often, she sees that something needs to be done and takes care of it before, or without, being asked. Natalie is an amazing asset in the classroom!

Kinlee Agney (not pictured) has been a great help to classmates who need extra help understanding their assignments and completing them successfully. She is very calm and patient. She is a great help to others!



Local Scholarships are due on Friday, March 29th to the high school office. You can say they can check the scholarship website for applications.

Don't Forget To Mark Your Calendar...!

The One Book One Sullivan discussion of *The Running Dream* is a little over a month away. The discussion will be Thursday, March 7th at 6:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church. The event typically lasts anywhere from 45 minutes to one hour.