

Scales Mound Newsletter

January 2012

2011-2012 District Academic Goals

Our school district has two academic goals for the 2011-2012 school year. The first is to implement a technology initiative so that all of our high school students have daily access to a computer. These computers will be utilized in a manner that allows our students to strengthen core knowledge and to provide opportunities necessary for success in the 21st Century. We expect our students to be able to collect and analyze data, to use data to solve higher order problems, and to effectively communicate to a wide audience—both locally and throughout the world. This initiative is well underway, as much preliminary organization and training has taken place.

Our other academic goal is to create a clear picture of what we want our students to do and know at each grade level and in all subject areas. We plan to create clear learning targets that will progress from one grade level to the next. This sort of coordination will provide organization and focus that will make our good school system even better.

The second part of this goal is to develop local assessments to measure our students' progress on these clearly defined learning outcomes. We plan to set up a system where all stakeholders: students, parents, teachers, administration and the Board of Education are aware of our specific learning expectations. We will devise reliable ways to measure whether our students can meet these learning targets and use the results to drive instruction.

This process will be defined by a new set of national learning standards called the Common Core. The Common Core

Standards have been adopted by all but two states and learning expectations are currently available in math and language arts. We anticipate social studies and science will quickly follow. These new standards will create a more consistent curriculum throughout our country, so that students in Illinois will have the same expectations as those in Alabama or New York. Subsequently, an assessment of these standards will be developed and student performance will be more comparable across states. More information about the Common Core Standards are available on the Illinois State Board of Education website (www.isbe.net).

This will likely be at least a two year project. We plan to concentrate on outlining our expectations in math and language arts this school year and during the summer. Teachers in subject areas that are currently not part of the Common Core Standards will use research based curriculum guidelines, ACT Readiness Standards and current Illinois Learning Frameworks to create curriculum maps.

This process is dynamic, as effective educators must continually ask themselves what they want students to accomplish, why a particular outcome is important, and how they can best help their students learn. It is imperative that we create clear learning targets so we can know if we are hitting the mark.

ATTENTION SCALES MOUND HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS

As you probably know, the district's 1:1 Laptop Initiative will begin second semester. We have obtained enough MacBooks to provide all high school students with a laptop throughout the school day. With parent and school approval, the computers may also be taken home during the school year.

We will conduct Mandatory Parent-Information Meetings concerning the 1:1 initiative on January 4 and January 5. No computer will be issued until this parent meeting occurs.

We have designated a grade level for each scheduled meeting; however, if you cannot attend the designated meeting, feel free to contact the school to attend an alternate session. If you have more than one high school student, you may attend the meeting that is most convenient.

MANDATORY PARENT-INFORMATION MEETING SCHEDULE

SENIOR PARENTS

Wednesday, January 4 at 5:30 p.m.

JUNIOR PARENTS

Wednesday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m.

SOPHOMORE PARENTS

Thursday, January 5 at 5:30 p.m.

FRESHMAN PARENTS

Thursday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Expectations and rules governing the 1:1 initiative will be presented and discussed. There will also be time scheduled to answer questions and address concerns. We strongly recommend that your high school student also attend this meeting.

Additional information will be sent to all high school parents in advance of the meeting. If you have listed your email address in the office, you will receive the information electronically and all others can expect the information to be sent home with your child.

The Scales Mound School District's administration and faculty are eager to upgrade to the 1:1 initiative so that we may better prepare our students to be 21st century citizens.

Title I Information

What is Title I?

Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides financial assistance to states and school districts to meet the needs of educationally at-risk students. The goal of Title I is to provide extra instructional services and activities which support students identified as failing or most at risk of failing the state's challenging performance standards in mathematics, reading, and writing.

What does this mean for our school?

Scales Mound School receives Title I funds each year. The number of low-income students attending that school determines how much money the school receives. In our school, these funds are used toward the Title I reading teacher's salary. Funds can also be used to provide childcare so that all parents/guardians can attend important Title I meetings if needed. One of the major goals of Title I is to have both the school and parents/guardians involved in helping students succeed.

Which students receive services, and what are the services?

Title I students are those recognized by our tiered RTI program. The AIMSweb testing system is used for selecting students for services. Those students whose reading scores fall below the 50th percentile meet the criteria for RTI services. Students falling into Tier 2 and/or Tier 3 meet the criteria for Title I services. Currently, students receiving Tier 2 RTI services are those students in Title I. The students receive extra instructional services in reading for thirty minutes a day. The intervention the students receive comes from the Harcourt STORYtown reading series. This intervention is an extension of the reading topics the students are studying in their classroom.

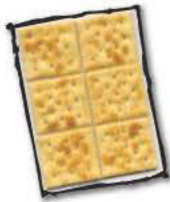


The 3rd & 4th grade Scales Mound Hornets volleyball team recently finished the season undefeated (6 - 0) in the Galena ARC volleyball league. In addition to winning every match, they won every set of the season.

Back Row (left to right): Coach Melinda Vandigo, Coach Courtney Timp, Coach Chris Timp, Coach Ruth Foley

Middle Row: Ari Nottrott, Claire Wienen, Mickenzie Bass, Jenna Korte, Chelsey VanRaalte, Daisy Timp, Taylor Korte

Front Row (left to right): Madelyn Pingel, Georgia Vandigo, Emily Hurlburt, McKenzy Bader, Jamie Frey



FFA Sponsored CHILI SUPPER

January 13th before the HSBB game vs. Galena

4:30-7:00 p.m.

\$6.00 - Ages 10 and older

\$4.00 - Ages 4-10

3 years and under FREE

Serving: Chili, Cornbread, Ham Sandwiches, a variety of desserts, coffee, lemonade, & milk.

Hornets Win Sportsmanship Award

Congratulations Scales Mound! The members of the Northwest Illinois Volleyball Officials Association rated the sportsmanship of our school's team, coaches, administration, and fans during the recently completed volleyball season. The team that most consistently demonstrates good sportsmanship for the entire season, and has a minimum of 10 evaluations from at least four different officials is awarded a gym banner. The NWIVOA also recognizes those schools who had a composite score of 2.0 or less on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being outstanding and 5 being poor. This year we received a sportsmanship rating of 1.720. Keep up the good work!

Scales Mound Holds Spelling Bee



On Wednesday, November 23, students from grades three through eight participated in the Scales Mound School spelling bee. After several rounds of great spelling, Jake Timp, son of Chris and Courtney Timp, won the bee. He was followed by Chelsey Van Raalte, daughter of Chet and Tina Van Raalte, in second place and Cole Anderson, son of Cory Anderson and Paula Anderson, in third. Those three spellers will participate in one of two Dubuque sectional bees in late January.

Scales Mound Youth League... "Striving to be at the TOP of our game"

Registration for summer T-Ball, coach pitch, softball and baseball will be held on Tuesday, January 17th during the JH Girls home game at 3:00 p.m. And also on Saturday, January 28th during the Bitty Ball youth basketball program at Scales Mound School at 9:00 a.m. Sign up will be for players, coaches, and umpires. We look forward to seeing you! If you have any questions you can visit our website at www.scalesmoundyouthleague.com. Or you can contact:

Jolleen Peart (815)871-3819 or Michelle Bass (563)543-2964

Corner of Character

Kindergarten

Sophia Davis is the person of character for kindergarten. Sophia is considerate of others. She willingly accepts that she cannot always be first in a class of 21. Every day she is polite and cheerful toward her classmates. Mrs. Davis can always count on Sophia to be a friend or helper to someone in need.



1st grade

Hanna Reddington is the person of character for first grade. Hanna has a delightful personality and she always tries to do her best. She sets a good example for the other children as she prepares for her day, completes her work, and helps others to keep harmony in the classroom.



2nd grade

Alyssa Anderson is very trustworthy. She is quiet and reserved but always honest in her words and actions. Alyssa can be counted on to do the right thing even when no one is watching. She is of strong character and her behavior in the classroom is a good example for others to follow.



3rd grade

Ari Nottrott is a responsible, respectful third grader. Ari is an excellent listener and worker. She completes her work in a timely and accurate way. Ari can take any task and make it a successful one. In addition, Ari is very respectful to classmates, teachers, and other students. Ari always has a kind smile and is willing to help out whenever called upon. Ari is a great friend and classmate.



4th grade

Mickenzie Bass is the 4th grade student of character! Mickenzie is a very hard worker and is always there to help out her classmates. On many occasions you will see Mickenzie helping others with math or grammar. Mickenzie is also very aware of others' feelings. She knows when someone needs a pick me up and is there to offer kind words to cheer them up. Thank you Mickenzie for being a great role model!



5th grade

Olivia Winter is the 5th grade person of Character. Olivia is always thinking of others. If she sees that someone needs help or has trouble she jumps right up to give assistance in any way she can. Olivia volunteers to do things out of kindness and just because they need to be done! Whether it's picking up after someone else, collecting and delivering homework for someone who is sick, or returning things that others have left behind, Olivia always seems to be ready to lend a hand.



The Challenge students in Mrs. Raab's class have just wrapped up their semester long study of "Pizza". Throughout the unit, they studied ten different topics and had many fun learning projects. A few topics the students studied included cheese production, pizza nutrition, and the history of pizza. Favorite projects were making a Pizza Hut Poster using Pages, reading a Boxcar Children book titled The Pizza Mystery, and creating paper mache pizzas! One of the final activities the students were able to enjoy was a field trip to the Country House Grocery Store! While they were there, they were able to learn about running a business. The students were also able to make some delicious pizzas to take back to school for lunch. This was a great ending to the unit; the Challenge students worked hard all semester long, and did a very wonderful job.



Illinois State Scholars Chosen

We are proud to announce that four of our seniors were selected as 2011-2012 Illinois State Scholars for Scales Mound High School. MELINDA ANDERSON, daughter of Norm and Kim Anderson, GREG COX, son of Boyd and Trisha Cox, KEVIN DIESCHBOURG, son of Joe and Sue Dieschbourg and LAUREN WINTER, daughter of Steve and Angie Winter were chosen based on their high school class rank and ACT scores.

Students from nearly every high school in Illinois competed in the 2010 program. Of the 136,265 graduating seniors, only about 10% are designated as State Scholars and receive a Certificate of Achievement for the accomplishment.

In order to enter the competition, high school students must take the ACT or SAT college entrance examination between September 1, and June 30, of their junior year of high school and have their scores sent to ISAC. Generally, selection of State Scholars is based on a combination of their test scores and class rank at the end of their junior year. Congratulations Melinda, Lauren, Greg and Kevin!



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Scales Mound, IL 61075-9393
Phone - 815.845.2215
Web - www.scalesmound.net

Scales Mound School

January 2012 Breakfast

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL	4 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	5 Egg Sandwich or Bagel, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	6 French Toast or Waffles, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice
9 Scrambled Eggs, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	10 Donut Day, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	11 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	12 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	13 French Toast or Waffles, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice
16 NO SCHOOL	17 Donut Day, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	18 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	19 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	20 French Toast or Waffles, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice
23 Scrambled Eggs, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	24 Donut Day, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	25 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	26 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	27 French Toast or Waffles, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice
30 Scrambled Eggs, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	31 Donut Day, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	Feb. 1 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	Feb. 2 Pancakes and Sausage, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice	Feb. 3 French Toast or Waffles, Fresh- Fruit, Milk, & Juice

January 2012 Lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL	4 Pizza Corn Fruit Salad Bar	5 Chicken or Fish French Fries Green Beans Fruit Salad Bar	6 Spaghetti Peas Fruit Garlic Bread Salad Bar
9 P-5 Chicken Nuggets 6-12 Chicken Strips French Fries Carrots Fruit Salad Bar	10 Tacos Corn Fruit Bread and Butter Apple Crisp Salad Bar	11 Goulash Green Beans Jello Cake Salad Bar	12 Subs Baked Lays Peas - Carrots Fruit Salad Bar	13 Soup Grilled Cheese Fruit Salad Bar
16 NO SCHOOL	17 Hamburger or Cheeseburger French Fries Baked Beans Fruit Salad Bar	18 Tater-Tot Casserole Green Beans Dinner Role Sub Bar	19 Spaghetti Peas Fruit Garlic Bread Salad Bar	20 Chili or Chicken Noodle Cinnamon Roll Fruit Salad Bar
23 French Toast Sausage Hash Browns Apple Sauce Salad Bar	24 P-5 Hot Dog 6-12 Supreme Corn Fruit Buttered Bread Salad Bar	25 Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Dinner Roll Sub Bar	26 Ham & Cheese r BBQ French Fries Corn Fruit Cookie Salad Bar	27 Chicken or Fish French Fries Peas Fruit Salad Bar
30 P-5 Chicken Nuggets 6-12 Chicken Strips French Fries Corn Fruit Salad Bar	31 Tacos Corn Bread and Butter Apple Crisp Salad Bar	Feb. 1 Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Dinner Roll Sub Bar	Feb. 2 P-5 Bosco Sticks 6-12 Dunkers Peas Fruit Jello Cake Salad Bar	Feb. 3 Pizza Corn Fruit Cookie No Bar

