

# SCALES MOUND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The school year is off to a good start. Our building is clean and polished, the staff is ready to work with our students and our students are enthusiastic about the school year.

We undertook three large building projects this summer. We replaced sidewalks, installed drainage tiles in the front of the school and remodeled our cafeteria. These projects improved the appearance and operation of our school. (Before and after pictures of the cafeteria renovation are available on the school website.) There is still an existing building maintenance "to do" list, but our custodial staff did a nice job preparing our building for the school year.

Our enrollment is up from last year, as we gained 18 new students this school year. This is the largest gain in the last few years. So far, it appears our new students are fitting in well and will be positive additions to our school.

We also have one new staff member. Mr. Ron Babcock will serve as a part-time high school math teacher this year. Mr. Babcock worked in the Carpentersville, Illinois school system for 36 years where he served as a coach, math teacher and department chair. He was also named the "Teacher of the Year" in the Dundee/Crown School District. We are very fortunate to have a high-quality teacher like Ron Babcock working with our high school students, and we are confident he will be a good addition to our staff.

The Board of Education approved a new technology program for the school district late last school year. This initiative includes a technology curriculum with desired student-learning outcomes, hardware and software upgrades, provisions for staff training and a system to evaluate progress and success of the initiative. This summer we installed digital projectors in all classrooms and interactive whiteboards in a number of others. The projectors will allow teachers and students to link directly to the internet, and the interactive whiteboards will allow staff to present material in creative ways and allow our students to touch and manipulate information. A number of staff members received training on the operation and application of the interactive whiteboards. Staff training is essential if we are going to utilize new technology to support teaching and learning. We also purchased iPads for elementary classrooms. These iPads will be used to reinforce the core curriculum, allow students to practice and develop skills in new ways and produce multimedia presentations. Lastly, we are



*Students in Mrs. Reese's class using the new iPads in a learning center.*

preparing for a second semester laptop roll out for our high school. During the second semester, all of our high students will have daily access to a laptop computer. This personal use of technology will allow our students and teachers to research, communicate, create, collaborate and problem solve like never before. Currently, we are working with the staff to provide the professional development they need to utilize this laptop technology in their classrooms.

It is our goal to continue to offer an effective core curriculum where students gain needed knowledge. However, we also want to have a school system where students are able to utilize technology, gather and evaluate data, collaborate with others, communicate effectively and solve problems in creative ways. This is a major undertaking, but necessary for our students to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

*Matt Wiederholt  
Steve Bianchette*



A big thank you goes out to **Timp Landscaping** for donating the materials and labor to renovate the ball diamond east of the school. We are very fortunate to have this sort of support for our schools.

## Mr. Virtue Receives 3M Outstanding Economic Educator Award 2011



Mr. Leslie Virtue, Scales Mound High School, has been recognized with the 3M Outstanding Economic Educator Award, sponsored by 3M and Econ Illinois. The award honors educators who have a sustained history of commitment and service to economic education; by providing leadership for economics in their school, showing evidence of professional growth in economic education, and having affected student achievement or growth in economic understanding.

Mr. Virtue teaches full year Economics and Introduction to Business courses, utilizes resources, engaging programs and economic education curriculum to provide his students with perspective on current events taking place. He involves his students in discussion and well as educational opportunities outside of the classroom by taking them on field trips and to participate in Highland Community College's Tech Trek entrepreneurial contest. Mr. Virtue attends professional development events and is continuously involved with building his knowledge of the subjects and topics that he shares with his students.

The award will be presented at the Econ Illinois Annual Economic Educator Day Awards Luncheon held at the Union League Club of Chicago on October 25, 2011. Mr. Virtue will receive a plaque, cash award and specialized professional development with Scales Mound High School also receiving a cash award to continue support of economic education.

Dr. Wiederholt stated, "Mr. Virtue is a very dedicated educator and is truly deserving of the 3M Outstanding Economic Educator Award. I am pleased that he is being recognized for his commitment and service to the Scales Mound School District."

Thank you!

The Scales Mound SADD Chapter would like to thank everyone involved in the success of the 2011-2012 Community Birthday Calendar. Once again, it was a huge success and we appreciate your support! Please feel free to contact the school at 815-845-2215 if you have not yet received your calendar(s) that you ordered or if you would like to be added to next years' mailing list.

## Scales Mound School Library Receives Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award

The Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award was developed to encourage children and young adults to read for personal satisfaction. It is an Illinois award for outstanding literature for young people and is sponsored by the Illinois Reading Council, the Illinois School Library Media Association, and the Illinois Association of Teachers of English.

- Books are nominated by children in grades 4-8.
- A master list of 20 titles is sent to participating elementary and middle schools.
- Students read the books on the list and vote for their favorites each February.
- Votes are sent to the award committee, which compiles the final tally.
- The winning title is announced in March.
- Postcards announcing the winner are mailed to each participating school or library.

This year, SMS is proud to be a recipient of the IRC, ISLMA, and IATE's Rebecca Caudill Award. The library has received the twenty titles selected as Caudill nominees, and Mrs. Wiegel is excited to get the students in grades 4-8 excited about reading and participating in the award selection process.

Stop by the library today and check out the nominated titles!

## ANNUAL CAREER/COLLEGE FAIR

This year the SMHS College Fair will not be held due to the fact that 14 out of the 21 colleges notified us that they can't attend due to budget constraints. However, they do have another activity planned. Our entire senior class has been invited to the Midwest College Fair, hosted by UW- Platteville, on October 6 (9:00-11:00 A.M.). Over 170 colleges (2 & 4 year), along with many 2 year technical schools and the branches of the military will be in attendance. Our bus will leave school at 8:05 A.M. and return by 12:45. Parents are invited to join us on the bus or meet at UW-Platteville (Ullsvik Hall, old student center) at 8:45 A.M. Please call Mr. Banfi to let him know if you want to ride the bus that day.

Our students/parents are also invited to the N.W. IL. College Fair at Highland Community College (Freeport) on the evening of October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00. Many colleges will be represented that night.

Another important opportunity for our seniors and juniors will be the NW IL. Career/Tech Expo in April at the HCC West Campus building. More information will be available in the March school newsletter.

# CORNER OF CHARACTER

Anna Wentz is the person of character for Kindergarten. Anna shows fairness each day at school by being kind and generous to others. She is patient during turn taking activities. She sets a good example for others.



I would like to nominate Charlie Wiegel for the month of September. Charlie is a responsible 1st grader. He follows directions nicely and works hard in first grade. Charlie is also a good friend to others. I can also count on him to make good decisions.

Zayden Ellsworth is a 2nd grader who exemplifies trustworthiness. He is a very good friend to all of his classmates. There have been many times Zayden has helped his friend who was having a difficult time. He is thoughtful and thinks of others before he thinks of himself.



3rd Grade student, Mason Bilderback is this month's person of character. Mason is a respectful, responsible 3rd Grader who follows classroom procedures and completes his work on time. In addition, Mason is willing to help others with work, computers, and iPad use. Mason is an exceptional friend to everyone in the 3rd Grade class.

This past month, Jenna Korte has shown her caring qualities. Although quiet, Jenna is always there to lend a helping hand when needed. She is also always careful not to hurt others' feelings and tries to offer kind words of encouragement. Thank you, Jenna, for being such a positive role model.



Madison Frey is the 5th grade person of character. She demonstrates the pillar of citizenship by doing her share, and often times more, in the classroom. She volunteers to help out with things that make the day go more smoothly. Madison sets a good example by following rules and being respectful of others.

### Asbestos

This is the annual notice and reminder that certain areas of the school building contain hazardous asbestos containing materials. A management plan indicating the location, control, and containment procedures for these materials is available for inspection in the office. This management plan was prepared by AHERA certified asbestos control personnel in 1989 and is updated at six-month intervals. Please feel free to review the management plan at your convenience. This notice and reminder will be in the newsletter at least once each year.

### Pest Management

This is the annual notice and reminder that Orkin will be in the building on the second Monday of every month at 3:15 p.m. for pest control.

## Scales Mound and River Ridge Volleyball Teams Work Together to Fight A Bigger Rival

At the October 18<sup>th</sup> volleyball game in Scales Mound, the Scales Mound and River Ridge volleyball teams will face each other in a conference match, but more importantly, will work together toward a bigger rival, fighting breast cancer.

The volleyball game will begin at 6:00 in the Scales Mound gym. During the game, there will be several fund raising events including a raffle of items donated by area businesses. "Volley for a Cure" t-shirts are available for order until October 3 at the Scales Mound school, River Ridge School, or [www.scalesmound.net](http://www.scalesmound.net). All proceeds from the event will be donated to local families fighting cancer and the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with the event or in donating an item for the raffle, please contact Mrs. Werner at the Scales Mound School. We are encouraging all fans to consider buying a shirt or wearing pink to the game. Let's all fight together in hopes that our daughters can live in a world that is breast cancer free. See you at the game!



## Box Top Education:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Box Tops is all about the difference one can make. This year, our goal is to raise \$500 for our school and community library. Here are five easy, everyday ways you can help:

**Clip** — Clip the Box Top from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Each one is worth 10¢ when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

**Shop online** — Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace® ([boxtops4education.com/marketplace](http://boxtops4education.com/marketplace)). Up to 15% of your purchase total is automatically donated to our school, at no additional cost to you. Plus, you'll get exclusive Box Tops deals and discounts!

**Read** — Buy books online through the Reading Room<sup>SM</sup>, a partnership between Box Tops and Barnes and Noble. Our school receives up to 6% of qualifying purchases.

**My Class Essentials<sup>TM</sup>** — This is a free online registry to help classrooms get the learning tools they need. Our school earns a 2% cash donation with every purchase.

**Sign up** — It's easy and free. Sign up to support our school at [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com), where you can:

- See how much our school is earning with Box Tops
- Enter online promotions for chances to win Bonus Box Tops and other prizes
- Print money-saving coupons for your favorite Box Tops brands
- Make mealtime easier with family-pleasing recipes

You can also sign up for Box Tops email newsletters that will keep you updated on the program, and for Marketplace newsletters with Box Tops members-only deals and discounts.

To learn more, visit [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com)—and thanks for choosing to make a difference for our school with Box Tops!

Sincerely,

**Hannah Wiegel**

## Guidance Counselor's Column

Please note the following important school year testing dates on your home calendar:

- Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) for interested juniors and sophomores, periods 1-4.
  - Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS), for grades 1-8.
  - ACT- Explore (career planning) for all Eighth Graders, periods 1-4.
  - ACT-Plan (career planning) for all sophomores, periods 1-4.
  - ASVAB-Vocational Aptitude Battery for interested juniors and seniors, periods 1-4.
  - Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) for grades 3-8.
  - Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE), State Required for ALL Juniors.
  - Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE), retakes for juniors absent April 22 & 23.
- ✦Please make sure your child receives enough rest and eats a nutritious breakfast for each day of testing. Also avoid scheduling doctor/dentist appointments on testing dates. You as a parent/guardian play an important role by encouraging your children to do their best (like giving a 100% in sports). If you have any questions and/or concerns just give me a call (845-2215, ext. 114).\*

## Weight Room Thursday

Every Thursday at Scales Mound Schools you can find the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders working out in the weight room and fitness center during Physical Education class. On Thursdays, students learn proper workout techniques and the appropriate amount of weight to lift while working out. The weight room and fitness center are a very important part of our weekly curriculum as we build cardio endurance, muscular strength, flexibility and lifelong wellness.



## "Original Works" Art Program

The elementary art students are participating in the Original Works Art Program again this year. For those who are unfamiliar, this program allows students to have their own artwork reproduced onto a variety of products. Students have or will be creating their artwork during the month of September using the regular art curriculum.

Next, their artwork will be sent to the company, which marks the beginning of the "See before You Buy" program, whereby a large magnet is made and sent home for quality review. Students and families then choose to: 1. purchase the magnet, 2. return the magnet without obligation, 3. return the magnet, but then purchase alternative product(s) featuring the artwork, 4. purchase the magnet in addition to other product(s) featuring the artwork. There are approximately 30 different products to choose from including mugs, coasters, key chains, calendars, potholders, mouse pads, tote bags, t-shirts, wall clocks, nightlights and more.

This program has been a big success at Scales Mound School in the past. The students really look forward to this project each year. It is a terrific way to permanently showcase student artwork for years to come. In addition, the products will be in your possession long before the holidays, making them great gift ideas.

Thank you to all who make the success of this program possible.

*Ms. Wentz*

## Scales Mound FFA to Sponsor Blood Drive October 26

Ever wish you were rich enough to build a hospital? Or fund the research that would cure a disease? Well, you don't have to be rich to help save lives. In fact, you have the power to save three lives with just one blood donation. Your blood is something money can't buy, and only something you can give.

Together, we can save a life at the American Red Cross Scales Mound School Blood Drive on October 26 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.

This year the American Red Cross is sponsoring a scholarship to the Scales Mound FFA senior students. You have an opportunity to help determine the amount, which is directly dependent on the units of blood gathered at this blood drive. Our goal is 45 units – please help our students earn money for college through your generous donation. If you are unable to donate, you can still help make a difference by encouraging friends and family to give blood.

## Save the Date!



The Students of Scales Mound School Present:

The Wizard of Oz

Friday and Saturday, November 4th and 5th

7:00 pm

Students: \$3.00 and Adults \$4.00



## Schwan's Fundraiser

Turn in orders by Monday, Oct. 3rd

(please return both the white and yellow copies of the order form)

Payment is due when order is placed

(make checks payable to Schwans's)



Order Pick-Up

Scales Mound School Parking Lot

Thursday, Oct. 6th from 4:00-8:30 pm

THANK YOU!

ECRWS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER  
PO BOX or RURAL ROUTE  
SCALES MOUND, IL 61075

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Scales Mound, IL 61075  
Permit No. 6

Scales Mound Community Unit School District # 211  
210 Main Street  
Scales Mound, IL 61075-9393  
Phone 815.845.2215  
Website <http://www.scalesmound.net>

# Scales Mound School

## October 2011 Breakfast

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Scrambled Eggs	4 Donut Day	5 Pancakes and Sausage	6 Egg Sandwich or Bagel	7 French Toast or Waffles
10 <b>No School</b>	11 Donut Day	12 Pancakes and Sausage	13 Egg Sandwich or Bagel	14 French Toast or Waffles
17 Scrambled Eggs	18 Donut Day	19 Pancakes and Sausage	20 Egg Sandwich or Bagel	21 French Toast or Waffles
24 Scrambled Eggs	25 Donut Day	26 Pancakes and Sausage	27 Egg Sandwich or Bagel	28 French Toast or Waffles
31 Scrambled Eggs				

## October 2011 Lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Vegetable Beef Soup or Chicken Noodle Soup Peanut butter Sandwich Cheese Sandwich Apple Salad Bar	4 Chicken or Fish Corn French Fries Fruit <b>No Sub or Salad Bar</b>	5 Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes Peas Fruit Dinner Roll Sub Bar	6 P-5 Bosco Sticks 6-12 Dunkers Green Beans Apple Crisp  Salad Bar	7 Pizza Corn Fruit Cookie  <b>No Sub or Salad Bar</b>
10 <b>No School</b>	11 P-5 Chicken Nuggets 6-12 Chicken Strips Baked Potato Corn Fruit Salad Bar	12 Chili or Chicken Noodle Soup Grilled Cheese Fruit  Salad Bar	13 K-5 Hot Dogs 6-12 Nacho Supreme Nachos Corn Fruit Salad Bar	14 Subs Chips Peas or Carrots Fruit  Salad Bar
17 Hamburger or Cheeseburger French Fries Baked Beans Fruit Salad Bar	18 Spaghetti Garlic Bread Green Beans Fruit  Salad Bar	19 Baked Chicken Mashed potatoes Corn Fruit Dinner roll Sub Bar	20 K-5 Bosco Sticks 6-12 Dunkers Peas or Carrots Apple Crisp  Salad Bar	21 Chicken or Fish French Fries Corn Fruit  Salad Bar
24 French Toast Sausage Hash Browns Fruit  Salad Bar	25 BBQ or Ham & Cheese French Fries Corn Fruit  Salad Bar	26 Beef & Noodles Green Beans Fruit Pudding  Sub Bar	27 Creamed Chicken Mashed Potatoes Biscuits Corn Fruit Salad Bar	28 Pizza Corn Fruit Cookie  Salad Bar
31 P-5 Chicken Nuggets 6-12 Chicken Strips French Fries Corn Fruit Salad Bar				

