

Scales Mound CUSD #211

From the top of Illinois, we are preparing today's learners for tomorrow's world by empowering all to reach their full potential.

May 2018, The Year in Review

As we approach the end of the 2018 school year, it is always fun to look back on some of the activities that have made Scales Mound CUSD #211 a great school. We also look forward to the end of the school year and the excitement of graduation, promotion, and summer. While I cannot list all of the activities of this year, here are some of the highlights.

We kicked off the school year with the first ever Back to School Night Celebration. It was a wonderful night filled with the excitement of starting the new year, meeting teachers, sharing dinner, a pep rally and ended with s'mores over the fire. Fall sports, FFA activity nights, and band competitions soon followed in September. In October, the fifth graders started band, we had a presenter from the NFL talk to our junior high and high school about decision-making, pre-school held one of their activity nights, and the third grade attended the symphony. Parents and teachers met to talk about first quarter grades and teamed up to help our students, FFA students participated in job shadowing, and the FFA Trapshoot team hosted their first tournament.

November brought about a cowboy story with a twist during the fall play, the annual Halloween parade, music festivals, and a celebration of our Veterans. We celebrated Women in Engineering, basketball season kicked off, Honors Choir performed, and we began the process of upgrading our facilities. We celebrated Thanksgiving and had Geography Class field trips to the Dubuque Rescue Mission. The year rounded off with the book fair, winter concerts, and Christmas caroling.

The new year started with sports and FFA activities, skiing and survival training at Chestnut Mountain, Academic Bowl, and Homecoming where the high school students danced the night away at the Apple Canyon Clubhouse. Staff took a critical look at student data and we raised money for activities at taco dinners. February saw basketball regionals and state competitions, students helping with the Special Olympics, FFA State Degree interviews, and the WYSE regionals. Solo and ensemble competitions and the annual FFA Auction rounded off the month.

March and April included roller skating fieldtrips for grades 2-4, FFA CDE events, the FFA Annual Banquet

and celebration, Academic Bowl Regionals, and annual State Testing. Environment field trips and Music festivals along with art class field trips and Grandparents Day highlighted March. Spring sports tried to get started but have been interrupted by a persistent Mother Nature. During April we have been continuing PARCC testing and the Illinois Science Assessment, and celebrated Prom on a very wintery night for spring.

We have much to do and look ahead for the rest of the school year. We look forward to celebrating our class of 2018 at the Senior Awards Night on May 17 and Graduation Ceremony on May 18, 2018 at 6:30 PM. I am very proud to say that every member of the class of 2018 will be attending a college, university, trade school, or military program as they continue their education. We will also be welcoming our eight graders to high school as they are promoted on May 23, 2018, at 6:30 PM. We celebrate the induction of five new members into the Scales Mound H.S. National Honors Society. Finally, we are excited for members of the FFA leadership team as they travel to Alaska for a Leadership Conference.

It is very exciting at Scales Mound CUSD #211. We have had guest speakers including veterans, union workers, sheriff deputies, and community members. Our students are very involved in academic activities, athletic events, and social activities that help mold them as individuals and community members. Our students have connected with students in Japan and Algeria through video conferencing and worked with Labor Councils to do collective bargaining. They have sent paper cranes to the Peace Memorial in Hiroshima. We are very proud of everything our students do, and have done to support the community and to prepare for their future. From fundraising for cancer to wells for fresh water to sporting events and state testing, our students make us proud every day.

Thank you for sharing your most precious gift with us this year. Enjoy the rest of the school year and summer break.

Go Hornets!
Dr. Bill Caron
Superintendent

*We believe our District is the heart of our community where pride, family, and tradition beat strong.
We believe in working together in a safe healthy environment demonstrating respect, integrity and teamwork.
We believe in challenging innovative learners by promoting creative and critical thinkers.*