
THE SCOOP

REBECCA STALLMAN SOUTHGATE SCHOOL

Issue 3

April 2014

Principal's Corner



With our Third Quarter completed, students are getting spring fever and we have a very busy few months left of school. Prom, awards and graduation are just around the corner. We will also be holding a memorial service for one of our students who has passed. Further information and dates will be coming. Our ArtsInStark music program will be in full swing starting April 11th with students learning through lessons and programs. Alternate and OGT testing is coming to a close and students grades 3 - 8 and 10th grade have all participated. This testing is in place of the Proficiency Testing requirements. Packets for next school year will be going out at the end of May. Just a reminder, STUDENTS LAST DAY for this school year has been extended to JUNE 6, 2014 do to the use of calamity days this year. Also, the parent group is sponsoring a fund raiser which includes artwork by each student to be placed on cups, magnets, shirts and much more.

Myrna

PBIS Family Involvement

Approximately two years ago, a team of staff members from Southgate began the process of integrating PBIS in our school, as a result of several intensive and ongoing training sessions. PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, and involves a positive and pro-active school-wide approach to teaching and supporting positive behaviors and meeting the needs of all students. Three main components of PBIS include teaching and modeling appropriate behaviors in various settings, Interventions including re-teaching when behavioral expectations are not met, and reinforcing students for exhibiting positive behaviors.

The process began with a pep rally to introduce the concept of PBIS and to model positive

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Mark Your Calendar:

April 17- Spring Activity Day

April 18 - No school

May 9 – Sr. High Prom

May 20 – RSSS Blood drive

May 26 - No School



Valentine's Day Dance 2014



RSSS students showed off their moves at the Hearts Dance, exchanged cards with their friends and enjoyed treats provided by room parents.



Congratulations to King of Hearts, **Marc D.** and Queen of Hearts, **Nikki A.** and to their attendants: **Sierra C.** and **Isaiah W.**



Welcome Miss Webb

Amber Webb is one of our new Intervention Specialists at Rebecca Stallman Southgate School. I recently provided questions for Amber to answer in order for all of us to get to know her better.

Amber was born and raised in North Canton, Ohio. She graduated from North Canton Hoover High School in 2003. She attended Kent State University and graduated from there in 2008.

Amber worked in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for 3 years. While there, she taught a Moderate/Intensive Special Education Class (9th – 12th grade). She then moved to Raleigh, North Carolina where she taught a Multiple Exceptionalities Middle School class as well as a 3rd – 5th grade Autism Class.

Please help me welcome Amber Webb to Southgate School!

April 17th Spring Activity Day



Students Vs. Staff

Electric Neon Rock and Roll!

It's that time of year again! Prom time! Fun Fact: Historians date the concept of prom all the way back to the late 1800's when universities held the banquet-style event for graduating classes, an idea that in the mid - 1900's became the adolescent event we know today!

Our High School students submitted three ideas for the 2014 Prom: JUNGLE, SUPER-HERO and ELECTRIC NEON. Students then voted and chose ELECTRIC NEON! Nikki and Kimmy of Mrs. Mokodean's classroom suggested adding "ROCK & ROLL" to "ELECTRIC NEON" which will double the fun!

The Prom is scheduled for Friday, May 9th at Southgate School from 6:00 – 9:30 pm. Tickets are \$20.00 per student and include a buffet dinner, dessert and fun table favors for each student. Dancing will start after dinner and the tunes will keep rocking until the end of the evening! Students registered by April 18th will be eligible for the Prom Court. Guests must be 15 years of age or older. Parents are welcome to stay for the first hour to take photos. *Please RSVP no later than April 23rd!*

Don't miss the 2014

Southgate Idol!



Thursday April 17th. 9:45 AM



The 2014 Winter Blast Out Games

Adaptive Physical Education Instructor, Carol Infield and our Speech and Language Staff, Janice Griffin, Tina Gilbert, Kimm Luckring, and Effrat Schuldiner decided it was time to send Winter packing. So they put their heads together and came up with the idea for our first ever Winter Blast Out Games! Mrs. Infield developed the game plan...literally, and the SLP's worked with students to craft the materials they would need to compete. During Language classes in February and March, they painted mittens, cut snowflakes, and turned 2 liter pop bottles into adorable penguins. On Thursday, March 20th, classes gathered in the gym to run snowflake relays and build a snowman relays, play mitten match up and penguin knockdown, build an igloo, ice skate, sled ride, and toss giant marshmallows into hot cocoa mugs.

This creative collaboration between the two departments helped our students hone their communication, fine motor and Gross motor skills and have a blast doing it! It was a fun way to BLAST winter out of North East Ohio!



Welcome Miss Myers

Another new Intervention Specialist who I recently provided interview questions for is Dulce Myers. Dulce teaches elementary students in room 104.

Dulce was born and raised in Carrollton. She graduated from Carrollton High School in 2007 and from Malone University, with her Bachelor of Arts degree, in August of 2012. At Malone, she had dual majors in Early Childhood Education and Special Ed. She received her reading endorsement as well. She never changed her major, even once, she just added to it so it took five years to complete her degree. She stated that she always knew she wanted to be a teacher from a very young age.

After college, Dulce worked for one year as a Head Start preschool teacher at Little Learners Child Development Center. Before that she waitressed, worked in a gas station, and tutored elementary students in Canton City Schools.

Her dad, Dan, is the owner and operator of Crash and Dent Auto Body in Carrollton, and has been in business for 30 years. Her mom, Kathy, worked her way up to district manager for Circle K in Stark County. Her sister, Sadie is a sophomore at Stark State College, working towards a degree in health-care administration.

Dulce has a boyfriend named Steve. They have been dating for one year. She says he has a great sense of humor and is probably one of the most upstanding people she knows. Dulce's Patterdale Terrier, Minnie, who is 6 months old, was a gift from her boyfriend. The dog loves to take walks around the neighborhood, ride in the car and cuddle with her "mom".

Dulce enjoys working out and running. In fact, she hopes to run a half marathon by the end of the summer. She is involved in the Ohio Challenge Series recreational running

division. She can be found running the Mck. Monument steps all summer long. Dulce also enjoys going to concerts in the summer. She went to see Judas Priest in 2011. Her favorite concert so far, has been Radiohead in 2012 at Blossom Music Center. She already has tickets for this summer to see Motley Crue and Alice in Chains.

When asked how she likes working at RSSS, she said that she has always had a heart for people from all walks of life. She loves working at SG and gets so excited to see her students making progress. She admits that she felt overwhelmed at the beginning of the school year; but overall, she has thoroughly enjoyed her time here and is looking forward to next school year.. ♦

The World of Dance

ARTSinSTARK recently awarded a SMART-Arts grant to Southgate School for the purpose of education and enrichment of our students. Southgate will use this grant to bring the music and dance of different world cultures to our students. Within the next two months, through a series of varied programs, students will experience these unique sounds and sights. This programming will continue through the Fall of 2014. Classroom materials will be provided to accompany each assembly. The following dates and performances have been scheduled:

- ♦ Friday April 11: Native American Dance
- ♦ Friday April 25: Dances of Mexico
- ♦ Friday May 2: "The Calypso Gypsies" steel drum band

The performances will be presented to all grade levels and will take place in the mornings in our main gymnasium. Rebecca Stallman Southgate School is pleased to present these showcases that make learning fun! ♦

Elementary Update

If you're looking for some holiday fun, just hop on down to room 105 next week. That's where you'll find Miss Melito's students busy decorating their own Easter eggs. Once dry, they'll use their creations to have an egg hunt in the room. We think that's an egg-ceptional idea! ♦



Jr. High Highlights

It might be chilly outside but Spring has sprung in room 118. The class is busy learning about the change of season and how it affects the world around us. Lesson topics range from plant growth and what's going on under their feet to how to dress in



the ever changing spring weather and what to put on their feet (keep those rain boots handy)!

The students are also looking forward to our upcoming Spring events like the staff vs. student

basketball game and Southgate Idol. ♦

High School Happenings

Room 114 has some exciting spring visitors! Miss Roska purchased a live butterfly growing kit to allow her students to watch as they hatch from the chrysalis and then observe them for a little while before releasing them outside. The butterflies were born on April 8th. They have orange wings and are called painted ladies. Their first taste of food was orange slices and sugar water.

In addition to learning all they can about the butterfly lifecycle, the students have enjoyed making butterfly crafts and cooking butterfly (bowtie) pasta. ♦



Ashley G. watches the newly hatched butterflies

Some fun butterfly facts:



- *Butterflies taste with their feet
- *Butterflies cannot fly if they are cold
- *They get their nutrients and minerals from drinking out of mud puddles
- *A butterfly can lay up to 500 eggs
- *Butterflies make a chrysalis, moths make a Coccon.

PBIS Family Involvement *Continued from Page 1*

behavioral expectations through role playing and a powerpoint demonstration. PBIS trainers recommend that schools begin by implementing this approach in one setting at a time, so it was decided to address behaviors in the cafeteria first. After brainstorming and seeking input from all school staff, including collecting baseline data regarding cafeteria behavior, the team devised a matrix listing basic behavior expectations. The rules were differentiated for elementary and Jr. high/high school.

Jr. High/ High School

Wait in line patiently
Use kind words when speaking
Stay in assigned area
Return trays gently

Elementary

Stay in your seat
Keep hands to self
Use a quiet voice

Each class was taught the positive behaviors expected in the cafeteria through visuals, lessons, and role-playing, and posters visualizing the rules were displayed in various places in and around the cafeteria. Students received tickets for meeting all four expectations each day. At the end of each week, students who had earned a ticket everyday had an opportunity to either go to the student lounge where they could play games and wii, watch a movie, or enjoy open gym time at the end of the day. Staff reviewed the expectations with students who did not earn all their tickets, and encouraged them to work towards a reward the following week.

Teaching behaviors that schools expect to see works best when there is consistency across home and school settings. Family involvement is a key feature when developing positive behavioral interventions and support plans for students with special needs. When parents are involved, outcomes for students are better. How can families be involved? Here are some suggestions:

Learn about PBIS: read materials from your child's school or check online. One good site is pbis.org

Participate in PBIS planning: Help the school/teachers to understand family priorities and issues. Participate in discussions to help build family and school agreement on school-wide expectations for behavior. Teach behavior expectations to your children

Use and reinforce PBIS strategies at home and in the community

Help build parent participation in school-wide PBIS: Ask how you can be involved as a volunteer at your child's school Link with and support other school families

Help get the community involved: Link with community resources and actively engage community supports for the school's efforts. (i.e. Search for donations and free resources in the community for PBIS reinforcement programs.)

School-wide PBIS is a model that approaches behaviors as skills that need to be developed, as opposed to a punishment approach which is a reaction after a negative behavior occurs, but does little to teach a positive replacement behavior. It helps schools create effective environments that improve teaching and learning. By becoming involved, parents can have a vital role in improving school climate, safety, and instructional time. Most important, parents can have a role in helping their child develop the positive behavior skills that are a foundation for a successful future.

(Some information taken from Missouri Dept. of Education <http://pbiscompendium.ssd.k12.mo.us/images/family/SWPBISFamilyOverview.pdf>)

Student Showcase



Olympic rings by Foster S.



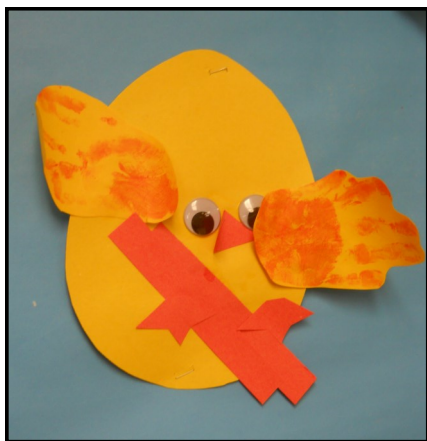
Luck of the Irish by Micah A.



Polar Bear by Isaac K.



Abe Lincoln by Tamber L



Chicken Little by Ace H.



St. Patrick's Day by Summer S.



Peep by Xavier B.