



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 2015



We are ... MUSTANG STRONG!



**NO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH
DUE TO VETERAN'S DAY!**

**Remember to honor the many veterans
who have given us the freedoms we enjoy today!**

***Students are encouraged to wear red, white, or blue polo shirts
on Tuesday, November 10th.***



PRINTED STUDENT PROGRESS REPORTS ARE BACK

No longer do parents need to look online for academic grades. Instead, Stepping Stones Academy is returning to Student Progress Reports (formerly known as WSRs), which are printed copies of grades and missing assignments sent home approximately every two weeks. The papers require a parent signature and need to be returned to school within two days. The return to Student Progress Reports is to help improve communication of grades and missing assignments and keep parents better updated.

Tuesday, November 10th, the first Student Progress Reports will be sent home. These papers will include all academic grades along with any missing assignments. Parents are asked to review the Student Progress Reports, and then sign and return the paper to the teacher by this Thursday, November 12th. Missing assignments and grades are current as of last Friday. Parents are reminded missing assignments count as zero points in the gradebook until the assignment is turned in and graded.

Between now and Winter Break, Student Progress Reports will be sent home on November 10th, December 7th, and December 14th. Parents are invited to contact the classroom teacher with questions.



**K-8TH GRADES AWARDS ASSEMBLY
THIS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH**

Assemblies in classrooms this month

- 2:00-2:10 p.m. – 7th and 8th grades
- 2:10-2:25 p.m. – 4th, 5th, and 6th grades
- 2:25-2:40 p.m. – 2nd and 3rd grades
- 2:40-2:55 p.m. – Kindergarten and 1st grades

*Students will receive October awards for Literacy Achievement,
Fast Facts, and Perfect Attendance.*





SNOWSTORM COMING IN DECEMBER TO SSA!

More information coming home in a separate letter.





TURKEY TROT



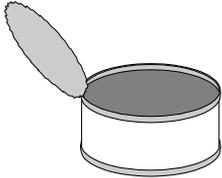
Friday, November 20th

8:30-9:30 a.m.

Bring your walking shoes and come join the fun!

Students will spend 45 minutes walking together around a designated path. Stamps or stickers are handed out after each lap.

FOOD AND TURKEYS NEEDED FOR FOOD DRIVE



On Monday, November 9th Stepping Stones Academy kicks off its 17th Annual Food Drive. For the next two weeks students are encouraged to donate frozen turkeys and/or non-perishable food items. The Food Drive ends on Friday, November 20th. Frozen turkeys collected this year will be given to Teen Challenge in New River, along with the

Black Canyon City Food Bank. (Stepping Stones Academy was contacted to ask for help with the Food Bank, as the Food Bank is running extremely low on food.) Remaining food will be given to families in the local area.

Due to the many activities occurring since the beginning of the school year, the Food Drive emphasis is less on competition this year and more on helping others. There will not be a class competition; however, as a campus Stepping Stones Academy is working to collect enough food to earn 2,500 points. Frozen turkeys count as 25 points and each food item counts as 1 point. If/When the 2,500 points are achieved, Mrs. Gray and Ms. Stewart-Alliger will provide the students with extra recess time.



Items are to be delivered to the classroom or School Office. All donated items should be non-perishable and in non-breakable containers, except for the frozen turkeys.

Teen Challenge – Stepping Stones Academy annually supplies turkeys to this group for its big Thanksgiving dinner. Frozen turkeys of all sizes are needed.

Area Families – Stepping Stones Academy fixes boxes of food for local families to help replenish their cupboards. Typical Thanksgiving foods are included, along with other everyday food items.

Black Canyon City Food Bank – Stepping Stones Academy donates food to this Food Bank, especially due to the Food Bank's low supply of food this year.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING STEPPING STONES ACADEMY HELP OTHERS!



SSA EVERY DAY!



RED RIBBON WEEK SUCCESSFUL

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) members hosted a successful Red Ribbon Week by reminding students about the importance of leading a healthy life and staying away from illegal drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. NJHS members planned special activities each day to further promote Red Ribbon Week. One activity was the coloring contest. Winners of the coloring contest were:

Kdgn. - Gunner Mullins

1st Grade – Kyler Lethem

2nd Grade – Danielle Casto

3rd Grade – Tessa Petrucci

4th Grade – Jonathan Wagner

5th Grade – Yekaterina Trapp

6th Grade – Brie Binder



WANTED --- PAPER GROCERY BAGS

Stepping Stones Academy is in need of brown grocery bags to use for re-covering textbooks. The covers help protect the books and keep them in better condition throughout the year. Grocery bags are used instead of purchased book covers because the grocery bags are able to be sized and cut to fit the books without bending the corners. Parents are asked to send brown paper bags to school as books are continually needing re-covered.



THANKS

to

Cassie Roush

for reorganizing
Mustang Clothing Exchange!



Thank You!



Thank You!

FOOTPRINTS OF FAME COMING NEXT WEEK TO SSA

Congratulations to all 7th and 8th graders on soon completing their biography unit, which has caused them to delve deep into the lives of a selected person, complete a project, and present the information to their classmates. The eighth graders also host a Wax Museum, which all K-8th graders visit to learn more about these famous people. The Wax Museum will be open on Friday, November 20th from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to stop by and visit the Wax Museum and see the talents of these 8th graders.

8th Grade Student

Roman Aratico
Sarah Barnett
Brooke Binder
Devyn Blicharski
Ian Burczyk
Skylin Flores
Hyrum Gove
Jett Hayes
Kaila Helms
Sydney Johnson
Holden Kohrs
Mason Kosirog
Lauryn Kusnell
Maurice Loubassa
Kyle Mills
Will Morgan
Aubrey Pelzer
Gavin Warwaruk

Biographical Character

Donald Trump - businessman
Pocahontas – historical figure
Betsy Ross – historical figure
Katy Perry - singer
Adam Sandler - actor
Dorothea Lange - photographer
Will Farrell - actor
Shia Labeouf – actor
Dale Evans - singer
Blake Lively - actress
Julius Caesar – Roman dictator
Chris Pratt - actor
Sue Hendrickson - paleontologist
Larry Fitzgerald – AZ Cardinals football player
Daniel “Rudy” Ruettiger – football player
Travis Pastrana – free-style racer
Kate Middleton – British royalty
Bill Murray - actor



THANK YOU PARENTS!



AFTERNOON OF CELEBRATION THIS FRIDAY

Though final numbers are still being calculated, enough money has been counted to know Stepping Stones Academy reached its \$5,000 goal with its Catalog and Candle Sales Fundraiser; thereby, earning a hot dog lunch, extra recess, and movie afternoon. The afternoon of celebration is scheduled for this Friday, November 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Students will then return to their classrooms for awards assemblies from 2:00-3:00 p.m. (Awards assemblies will be held in the classrooms.) The final number will be included in a future edition of Campus Highlights once the total is calculated. Stepping Stones Academy thanks the many families who made participated in the Catalog and Candle Sales Fundraiser and helped SSA earn money!

THANKS



**STEPPING STONES ACADEMY SAYS,
"THANK YOU" TO
SCOTT and JENNIFER
MACFARLAND
FOR THE MUSTANG TEETER-TOTTER!**



STEPPING STONES ACADEMY WELCOMES TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Stepping Stones Academy is officially welcoming two new staff members this week to the SSA Mustang Team.

Mrs. Lisa Geiser – Mrs. Geiser is joining the Resource team and will teaching a variety classes and subjects.

Mrs. Geiser previously spent time teaching special education at ACES and Desert Sky Middle School in the Deer Valley Unified School District. She also worked in the preschool at Adams Traditional Academy, as well as operating preschool out of her own home for several years. Mrs. Geiser lives in the local area with her family and enjoys reading, baking, and doing arts-n-crafts.



Mrs. Valerie Schenkel – Mrs. Schenkel is not new to the SSA community, as her son, Logan, is currently a third grader at SSA. Mrs. Schenkel will be working mostly in the School Office, as well as assisting in the Pre-K classroom as needed. Mrs. Schenkel lives in Black Canyon City with her family. Mrs. Schenkel is a scuba-diver; although, she hasn't been scuba diving in the past several years. She also likes to cook and watches cooking shows in her free time.

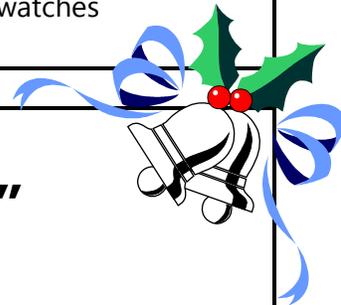
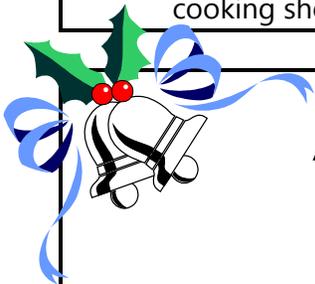
STEPPING STONES ACADEMY PRESENTS ...

"MUSTANG WINTER FESTIVAL!"

Thursday, December 17th 6:00 p.m.

Starring all Pre-K through 8th grade students!

Mark the calendars and bring the family to this fun, family performance!



MUSTANG VILLAGE MICROSOCIETY EMPLOYMENT

Government

Pres. Sydney Johnson
VP Ava Carr
Rep. Hyrum Gove
Rep. Elijah Hoffman
Rep. Chloe Staudt
Rep. Samantha Barnett
Rep. Cassidy Byrket
Rep. Trinity Emmons
Rep. Rebecca Curry
Rep. Frances Staudt
Rep. Gunner Mullins

Pet Shop

Lauryn Kusnell
Christopher De Lira
Skyler Bennett
Allison Briese
Charlotte Carr
Tristan Judd
Guy King
William Klafter
Tessa Petrucci
Kaitlyn Womack
Sofia Doe
Kendra Gonzales
Sophia Panagopoulos
Grace Driscoll
Purslane Flores
Johnathan Miner



Newspaper

Skylin Flores
Jacob Lalinsky
Sierra Giebner
Sophia Gray
Gabby Wolf
Cierra Witham
Kenzie Stewart
Ryle Lunsford
Jonathon Wagner
Madyson Warner
Aaliyah Bessinger
Mikayla Holt

Peace Officers

Gavin Warwaruk
Mason Kosirog
Ian Matheson
Ethan Boisvert
Joey Lethem
Sydney Doe
Sophia Hoffman
Mason Lunsford
Judah Flores
Silas Pangelinan
Ryker Schorer
Hannah Hathorne



Sports

Maurice Loubassa
Jose De Lira
James Wood
Alec Brewington
Brie Binder
Kayden Pettit
Colten Jordan
Dillon Connelley
Noah Fletcher
Kaden Cannon
Madison Doyle
David Gjonaj
Kyler Lethem
Aaiden Rogers



Bank

Alicia Evans
Ashley McCulloch
Jenny Ricker
Kolten Armstrong
Lillie Schorer
Kristopher Bennett
Blake McCarthy
Rory Bauer



IRS

Holden Kohrs
Jessie Owens

Bike Shop

Jett Hayes
Will Morgan
Troy Johnson
Aidynn Pollack
Yelena Trapp
William Wilkinson
Jordan Kirk
Mason Koechig
Tanner Thompson
Joshua Lunsford
Porter Schorer



Warehouse

Roman Aratico
Aryann Roloff
Isabella Sanchez
Kai Marusteri
Dakota Harvey
Mason Joslin
Noah Sorensen
Devon Thiel
Jorai Pangelinan
Jaxon Carnley
Gavin Hall
August Kumpula
Jacob Lunsford
Dylana Lee
Adam Wagner

Spirit Shop

Ellie Foondle
Julia Curry
Elexis Lunsford
Talya Roloff
Jennifer Wood
Giovana Saturnino
Lylianna Moerschbaeher
Connor Thompson
Zoe MacFarland
Melania Cruz
Jennifer Owens
Preston Thurman-Foote

MUSTANG VILLAGE MICROSOCIETY EMPLOYMENT

Arts-n-Crafts

Brooke Binder
Maggie Guerzon
Alexei Satornino
Bethany Camping
Allie Turgeon
Brayden Carpenter
Raegan Kusnell
Kaiah Janeway
Chase McCulley
Gavin Boisvert
Trinity Gonzales
Charlotte Kusnell
Madisyn Willson
Kaden Lethem

Art Museum

Devyn Blicharski
Jamilyn Lethem
Erica Pritchett
Alannah Schmitt
Julia Ricker
Jackson Niemerg
Danielle Casto
William Sanchez
Kansas Janeway
Augustine Murray
Leeland Clark
Logan Ranck
Sierra Hewitt
Kasey Wood

Book Club

Christa Williams
Lydia Vaughn
Ryan Nies
Iden Prescott
Mya Odello
Blaine Plathe
Natalee Johnson
Kelcie Blazer
Madison Lalinsky
Logan Schenkel
Jonathan Wood
Wyatt Shepherd
Talon Milton



Post Office

Kaila Helms
Aubrey Pelzer
Robbie Donaldson
Connor Doyle
Peyton Griffin
TJ Hartshaw
Hunter Henshaw
Keirnan Hiner
Haylen Holder
Kahlan Holt
Taylor Howell
Jace Kirby
Liam Kumpula
Thor Lee
Andrew MacFarland
Bradley Miner
Joshua Perry
Khristopher Sanchez
Dylan Schalk
Cayden Walker
Noah Warner
Hunter Watzek



Office Assistants

Ellie Schorer
Colt Stephens
George Panagopolous

Entrepreneurs

Ashley Bragg
Jenna Pritchett
Madison Joslin
Emma Gove
Ian Burczyk
Kyle Mills
Gabrielle Rubie
Brady Turgeon
Dale Tallent
Emily Bragg
Hannah Petrucci
Kaden Byrket
Eliza Trapp
Morgan Niemerg
Madeleine Staudt
Katarina Trapp
Corbin Ripple
Aidan Brewington
Isabella Marusteri
Jenna Bessinger

Welcome Wagon

Sarah Barnett
Aquinnah Goveia
Makayla Johnson

WELCOME



FOOD DRIVE TO HELP ...
BLACK CANYON CITY FOOD BANK
LOCAL FAMILIES
TEEN CHALLENGE OF NEW RIVER



ALL TAXPAYERS PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION!

With less than two months remaining in 2015, Stepping Stones Academy is reminding families and community members about the Arizona Tax Credit program. This program provides Arizona taxpayers with a way to directly donate money to Stepping Stones Academy and receive a refund/credit when they pay their taxes! **Married couples may donate a maximum amount of \$400, and single individuals may contribute a maximum amount of \$200. The deadline for all donations is December 31, 2015.** Donations are currently being accepted in the School Office.



WHAT IS A TAX CREDIT?

A tax credit is a full refund of your dollars! The donation amount is subtracted directly from the amount you owe in taxes or added directly to your refund amount. For example, if you owe \$500 in state taxes and you donate \$400 to the school, you now send the state only \$100 (\$500 - \$400 donation = \$100). If you are to receive a \$500 refund and you donate \$400 to the school, you receive a refund of \$900 (\$500 + \$400 donation = \$900).

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Under Arizona tax law (ARS 43-1089.01), you are allowed to donate money to non-profit schools, such as Stepping Stones Academy. Married couples may donate a maximum amount of \$400 and single people may donate a maximum amount of \$200; however, Stepping Stones Academy welcomes any donation amount (ie: \$25, \$50, \$100, or whatever fits your budget). Upon receiving your donation, you receive a receipt to keep for your records.



HOW IS THIS MONEY USED BY STEPPING STONES ACADEMY?

As per law, the money must be used to support extra-curricular, educational programs that directly benefit the students. In past years, the money has provided funds for school field trips, decreased yearbook costs, and helped purchase computer programs.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM?

All people who file Arizona state taxes are eligible to participate in this program! They do not need to have children in school. Please encourage friends, relatives, and neighbors to participate in this program!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THE CHILDREN OF STEPPING STONES ACADEMY!



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 9 th	Food Drive Begins*	
November 10 th	Wear red, white, or blue polo shirt in honor of Veteran's Day* Student Progress Reports sent home*	
November 11 th	No School – Veteran's Day	
November 12 th	Remember Food Drive* Student Progress Reports due back to school*	
November 13 th	Catalog and Candle Sales Fundraiser Celebration* October Awards Assembly – Held in classrooms	11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 2:00-3:00 p.m.
November 16 th	Last Week of Food Drive*	
November 18 th	October Fast Facts Breakfast* October Literacy Achievement Lunch*	7:30-7:55 a.m. Lunchtime
November 20 th	Last Day of Food Drive* Blue Jean Friday* Turkey Trot	8:30-9:30 a.m.
November 23 rd -30 th	No School – Thanksgiving Break	
December 1 st	Return to School*	
December 17 th	Winter Festival	6:00 p.m.
December 18 th	Last Day of 2 nd Quarter Jingle Bell Jog ½ Day of School	8:30-9:30 p.m. Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.

