



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2017



We are ... MUSTANG STRONG!

MUSTANG THEATER PRESENTING ***SWEET DREAMS***

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

1:30 P.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

Bethany Camping

Elexis Lunsford

Aquinnah Goveia

Landon Nelson

William Wilkinson

Kaitlyn Womack

Jada St. Jean-Stevens

Allison Brieze

Samuel Shaw

Sophia Panagopoulos

Sofia Doe

David Gjonaj

Christopher DeLira

WELCOME BACK!

PUT A LITTLE MORE LOVE IN YOUR HEART

The Christmas Season is already going strong at Stepping Stones Academy with students practicing for Winter Festival, a beautifully decorated **PURPLE** Christmas tree in the Office, and a bright star adorning the Office building ... and the festive decorations and fun have just started.

During this holiday season, we ask our SSA families to remember this time of year causes different emotions and memories for everyone.

Not everyone is surrounded by big, wonderful families. Some have health or financial problems and some are overcome with much sadness as they remember happier times or think about loved ones who are no longer with us. Other people have no one with whom to share this holiday time and are filled with loneliness. This time of year, more than any other time, everyone needs extra caring and loving thoughts.

So how does Stepping Stones Academy help with this?

PUT A LITTLE MORE LOVE IN YOUR HEART!

And if a day comes during this Holiday time when you need a little cheering up or some extra loving, we invite you to come spend the day with us at SSA!

★
**JOY
LOVE
PEACE
BELIEVE
CHRISTMAS**

COMING THIS SATURDAY ...

CHRISTMAS ART PROJECT and FAMILY FUN!

Saturday, December 2nd

1:00-3:30 p.m.

Choices of

Winter Landscape ... Christmas Tree ... Christmas Collage

Families need to bring family photo or other photo to use

Limited to 10 families

Cost = \$30.00 per family

Sign-up available in the School Office



THANK YOU TO

THE DAWSON FAMILY



FOR PACKING FOOD BOXES TO DELIVER TO FAMILIES!

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

My favorite part of Christmas is spending time with my family.

Sofia Doe, 4th grade

All I want for Christmas is roller skates.

Kalise Larson, 2nd grade

My favorite Christmas song is *Where Are You Christmas?*

Ms. Branham

My favorite part of Christmas is celebrating Jesus' birth.

Kelcie Klinger, 4th grade

All I want for Christmas is a doll.

Tenishia Barge, 1st grade

My favorite part of Christmas is giving to others.

Peyton Sourant, 8th grade

All I want for Christmas is a trampoline for gymnastics.

Jennifer Owens, 3rd grade

My favorite Christmas song is *The Little Drummer Boy*.

Mrs. Johnson





SEVENTH GRADE PRESENTS ...

In partnership with Desert Foothills Theater the seventh grade class has been working with Ms. Heather and Mrs. Geiser for on an anti-bullying program which focuses on compassion and empathy. The students will present information about what they have learned to the fifth through eighth graders on Thursday, December 7th. Parents are welcome to attend.

Samantha Barnett

Gracelyn Bliss

Ethan Boisvert

Cierra Witham

Joseph Boldt

Emily Bragg

Hailey Cole

Jennifer Wood

Christopher DeLira

Aquinnah Goveia

Dakota Harvey

Noah Sorensen

Haylie Hoelzer

Mason Joslin

Logan Koechig

Yekaterina Trapp

Joseph Lethem

Ryan Nies

Gavin Skaggs

Salma Trevizo

SNOWSTORM INFORMATION SENT HOME THIS WEEK



***Look for letter printed on blue snowflake paper
to learn more about the upcoming SSA Blizzard!***



SSA - LET'S MAKE THIS HAPPEN!



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

All I want for Christmas is a panda bear because I love bears.
Rayen Major, Kindergarten

My favorite Christmas song is *Silent Night*.
Nathan Loucy, 4th grade

My favorite part of Christmas is spending time with my family
because they are all wonderful and it is fun to be with everyone.
Kassidy Byrket, 6th grade

All I want for Christmas is soccer cleats.
Riley Hanson, 3rd grade

My favorite part of Christmas is being jolly.
Keirnan Hiner, 2nd grade



BLUE JEAN FRIDAY

Friday, December 1st

Cost = \$1.00



FOOD DRIVE 2017 A HUGE SUCCESS!

Congratulations to the Stepping Stones Academy community on donating so much food that Stepping Stones Academy will be donating food to families and the Black Canyon City Food Bank in December! Not only was a record-setting amount of food collected, but more families were helped this year than in any other year.

Turkeys Collected = 89

Other Food Collected = 5,148 items

Places Helped = Teen Challenge in New River

14 Community Families

Black Canyon City Food Bank

Feeling for Helping Others = Priceless



Congratulations to all students for surpassing the campus goal of 4,000 points and earning a No Homework Night on Monday, November 27th. Congratulations also to classes earning the most points

1st place (three way tie) – 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 8th grade

2nd place – 7th grade

3rd place – 5th grade

First place classes are spending time this week selecting their type of class party or award, which will then be approved by the Mustang Government and Mrs. Panagopoulos and Ms. Stewart-Alliger. The second place class earns extra recess time with otter pops and the third place class earns extra recess.

THANK YOU!

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

All I want for Christmas is for Mom to give me a big hug.

Cayden Walker, 2nd grade

My favorite part of Christmas is singing songs.

Melania Cruz, 3rd grade

My favorite Christmas song is *Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer*.

Jackson Niemerg, 5th grade

My favorite part of Christmas is everyone coming together, being happy, and making good memories.

Julia Ricker, 6th grade

All I want for Christmas is a blue guitar.

Joey Scovill, Kindergarten

My favorite part of Christmas is egg nog because I chug it by the gallon.

Sophie Gray, 8th grade



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!

Friday, December 8th 3:00-8:00 p.m.

Cost = \$25.00 for first child

\$20.00 per sibling

Includes movie (Santa Buddies) pizza,
popcorn, hot chocolate, cookie decorating,
and all kinds of games

Students may bring sleeping bag and pillow

Sign up in the School Office



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

My favorite part of Christmas is opening presents because I get to spend time with my family.

Aleah Armstrong, 1st grade



All I want for Christmas is a dog.

Madison Hoelzer, 5th grade

My favorite part of Christmas is the food.

Wyatt Shepherd, 4th grade

All I want for Christmas is cookies.

Miss Rust

My favorite part of Christmas is an Iphone so I can text my mom.

Kyler Lethem, 3rd grade

My favorite Christmas song is *I'll be Home for Christmas* because I sing it from my heart.

Brie Binder, 8th grade

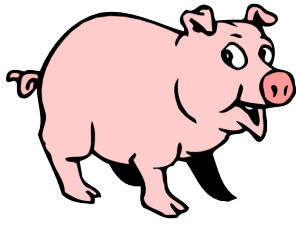
My favorite part of Christmas is being with family because everyone reunites and we have a lot of fun.

Carter Erickson, 6th grade



MS. STEWART-ALLIGER READS BOOK FOR NOVEMBER

This week is not only the end of November, but the week Ms. Stewart-Alliger is visiting all of the Pre-K through 8th grade classrooms to share a story with them. The book this month is, *After Fall – How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again* written by Dan Santat. This book tells the story of Humpty Dumpty after he fell off of the wall and how he faced his fears and learned to get back up on that wall.



EIGHTH GRADE PRESENTING ...

The eighth grade class has been working with Ms. Heather from the Desert Foothills Theater and classroom teacher Mrs. Geiser in Stepping Stones Academy's Theater Immersion Program. As a final activity the students will present part of the *Animal Farm* story on Tuesday, December 12th. Parents are welcome to attend.

Kolten Armstrong
Alec Brewington
Bethany Camping
Elexis Lunsford
Corbin Ripple

Brie Binder
Malachi Guerrero
Gabrielle Rubie
Ian Matheson
Peyton Sourant

Aidan Brewington
Sam Manganelli
Marissa Vazquez
Elijah McClellan
Gabrielle Wolf

Sophie Gray
Brady Turgeon
Troy Johnson
Yelena Trapp
Danielle Walker

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

My favorite part of Christmas is Santa because I love him.
Avin Martens, Kindergarten

All I want for Christmas is a new backpack.
Madison Bigwood, 5th grade

My favorite part of Christmas is it's all about Jesus.
Charlotte Kusnell, 3rd grade

All I want for Christmas is clothes because my grandma makes them.
Lilly Bliss, 1st grade

My favorite part of Christmas is being with my family and opening gifts because we get to see their reactions.
Aidan Brewington, 8th grade

All I want for Christmas is a small Keurig coffee maker.
Mrs. Schenkel

My favorite part of Christmas is waking up on Christmas morning and seeing the presents under the tree.
Mason Lunsford, 6th grade



ONLY 15 DAYS UNTIL THE END OF 2ND QUARTER

Families are reminded about the end of second quarter, which is on Friday, December 15th. Even though there are many extra-curricular events occurring during these next three weeks, students are reminded about the importance of continuing to complete assignments and studying for tests. Report cards will be issued after Winter Break.

SSA CAMP OVER WINTER BREAK



December 18th-22nd

7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

\$25.00 per child

\$20.00 for siblings



Please sign up in the School Office by Tuesday, December 12th

MUSTANG VILLAGE MARKETPLACE GRAND OPENING THIS WEEK

Stepping Stones Academy announces its Grand Opening of the Mustang Village Marketplace occurring this week on Tuesday, November 28th and Wednesday, November 29th from 2:10-2:45 p.m. Half of the students will shop on Tuesday and the other half will shop on Wednesday. Parents wishing to shop at Mustang Village are asked to stop in the School Office to sign in and receive micro dollars.

A business owner or manager is required to submit a business plan to the Mustang Government before opening. The government officials then issue the business owner/manager a business license once all guidelines are met. The business license must be displayed during Marketplaces. Many business owners/managers also made appointments at the Mustang Bank to apply for a business loan so they were able to pay employees and purchase supplies before selling products.

Before Thanksgiving Break the Mustang Government announced its tax rate for this year. Citizens pay \$10 micros per month and business taxes are \$20 micros per month. Minimum wage remains at \$10 micros per day.

Mustang Village will be closed during December due to preparations for Winter Festival. Businesses will resume again in January.



NO AFTER SCHOOL MUSTANG ZONE

Monday, December 11th

Please pick up all children at 3:00 p.m.



K-8TH GRADES AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

7th and 8th grades – 2:10 p.m.

2nd and 3rd grades – 2:20 p.m.

4th, 5th and 6th grades – 2:10 p.m.

Kdgn. and 1st grade – 2:30 p.m.

Assemblies held in classrooms.





**SPECIAL THANKS TO
DONNA HARVEY**

And

GINA ANDERSON

for the Christmas decorations ...

including the PURPLE Christmas tree in the Office!



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

All I want for Christmas is a roller coaster.

Isabella Anderson, Kindergarten

My favorite part of Christmas is spending time with my family because they are awesome.

Sam Manganelli, 8th grade

All I want for Christmas is a horse.

Sophia Coffman, 1st grade

My favorite part of Christmas is eating Christmas cookies because they are delicious.

Brody Morgan, Kindergarten

My favorite Christmas song is *Do You Hear What I Hear?*

Grace Driscoll, 3rd grade

All I want for Christmas is a Nintendo Switch.

Jordan Kirk, 5th grade

My favorite part of Christmas is making Christmas cookies.

Danielle Casto, 4th grade

All I want for Christmas is a kitten.

Reese Yoder, 2nd grade

My favorite part of Christmas is Winter Festival ... and this year will be the best ever!

Mrs. Panagopoulos



THANK YOU

FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE TAX CREDIT PROGRAM!

For families wishing to donate money, there is still time!

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

STEPPING STONES ACADEMY PRESENTS ...

WINTER FESTIVAL, 2017

Thursday, December 14th 6:00 p.m.

Starring all Pre-K through 8th grade students!



WINTER FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Holiday favorite songs will be performed at this year's Winter Festival on Thursday, December 14th beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose building. Parent reminders include:

1. All students perform in the program with Reading Buddies with each group singing two songs. ***If students are not attending Winter Festival, parents are to notify the classroom teacher.***
2. Information regarding student attire and props will be sent home with students.
3. Students are to meet in their classrooms by 5:30 p.m. on the night of the program.
4. During the performance students sit with their classmates and teachers.
5. After the performance all K-8th grade students return to their classrooms and wait for their parents to pick them up. Pre-K students will meet their parents in the 4th grade room.



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS ...

My favorite part of Christmas is giving to others.

Lyllianna Moerschbaecher, 5th grade

My favorite Christmas song is *The Mr. Grinch Song* because it's funny.

Sawyer Bauer, 1st grade

My favorite part of Christmas is decorating for Christmas.

Dylana Lee, 3rd grade

All I want for Christmas is coffee.

Mrs. Clements

My favorite Christmas song is *Jingle Bells*.

Jonathon Wood, 4th grade

My favorite part of Christmas is spending time with family because we all live in different states and we come together and have fun.

Kenzie Stewart, 6th grade





JINGLE BELL JOG COMING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH



Friday, December 15th from 8:30-9:45 a.m. students will be participating in the Jingle Bell Jog as a way to celebrate a successful second quarter and spend a little extra time with family and friends before Winter Break.

Students will meet in the Multi-Purpose building at 8:30 a.m. for instructions and will then begin their walk around campus. With each completed lap students will receive a sticker to place on their holiday lanyard. The Jingle Bell Jog will end at approximately 9:45 a.m., at which time students will return to their classrooms until dismissal at 11:30 a.m. Parents and other family members are invited to join in this fun walk around campus.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM STEPPING STONES ACADEMY!

NOVEMBER LITERACY ACHIEVEMENT AND FAST FACTS CALENDARS DUE NEXT WEEK ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH.



SSA TALENT SHOW COMING IN JANUARY

The Stepping Stones Academy Talent Show is coming in January! Students are encouraged to plan their performances during Winter Break, so they are ready to go upon returning to school.

Sign-Up Forms – All students wanting to perform in this year's Talent Show need to complete a sign-up form. Forms will be handed out on Monday, December 11th and are due to the School Office by Friday, January 5th. *The first 25 acts will be entered in the Talent Show. Students turning in forms after the first 25 will be placed on a waiting list and notified if a spot opens.*

Talent Show Check-In – Participants will share their performances with Mrs. Panagopoulos and Ms. Stewart-Alliger on Friday, January 12th. Music is needed at this time. Costumes and props are not needed on this date.

Dress Rehearsals – Two dress rehearsals are scheduled – Thursday, January 18th and Tuesday, January 23rd. Participants will perform on both days. Music, costumes, and props are needed on both days.

SHOW TIME – The Talent Show is on January 24th at 1:00 p.m.



2ND QUARTER ENDS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

Winter Break December 18th – January 1st

School resumes Tuesday, January 2nd

Report Cards handed out after Winter Break

PEACEFUL HOLIDAY WISHES FROM SSA!





SNOWSTORM COMING TO SSA!

Information sent home this week!



UPCOMING EVENTS

(Items with asterisk * are new items listed this week.)

November 27 th	No Homework Night – Food Drive Donations *	
November 28 th	Extra Recess for Food Drive – 5 th and 7 th grades *	1:30-2:00 p.m.
	Micro Marketplace	2:00-2:45 p.m.
November 29 th	HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MISS MACKEY	
	Micro Marketplace	2:00-2:45 p.m.
November 30 th	Worm Assembly – K-3 rd Grades	1:30 p.m.
December 1 st	Mustang Theater Performance	1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
	Blue Jean Friday – Cost = \$1.00	
December 2 nd	Christmas Art Project	
December 3 rd	HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MRS. CLEMENTS	
December 4 th	HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MR. SHANKER	
December 5 th	November Literacy Achievement and Fast Facts Calendars Due	
December 7 th	7 th Grade Theater Performance	9:00 a.m. – 5 th grade 9:20 a.m. – 6 th & 8 th grades
December 8 th	No Uniform Day for November Perfect Attendance	
	Awards Assemblies – Held in Classrooms	
	Parents' Night Out	3:00-8:00 p.m.
December 11 th	Talent Show Forms Available	
December 12 th	8 th Grade Theater Performance for 4 th -7 th grades	1:45 p.m.
December 13 th	November Literacy Achievement Lunch *	Lunchtime
December 14 th	November Fast Facts Breakfast *	7:30-7:55 a.m.
	Winter Festival	6:00 p.m.
December 15 th	Jingle Bell Jog	8:30-9:45 a.m.
	½ Day	11:30 a.m. Dismissal