

Pioneer Times

Newsletter of Sevastopol School District

Volume 38 Issue 2



Robot Club members pose with their robots.



Booster Club and District Have Sights Set on Phase II

BY KYLE LUEDTKE, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Last summer we made some improvements to our outdoor athletic field areas. The main reason for the improvements was safety. Our outdoor bleachers had failed inspections on three separate occasions. Our press box was directly connected to the bleachers and therefore needed to be removed. Our track had multiple cracks and trip hazards for our runners. Additionally, we relocated the shot put and discus event areas to behind the bleachers. This is a much safer location for both the student athletes and spectators.

We reconred the athletic field and improved the field drainage system. This will provide a better playing surface for our football and soccer players.

Now that this work is complete, the district is working with our Pioneer Athletic Booster Club on Phase II. Phase II will include a pavilion. The pavilion will house the concession stand and bathrooms. For years, our booster club has prepared food without running water. While they have done a great

job, running water provides a more sanitary environment. The building will also have bathrooms.

Additionally, there will be place for the athletic trainer to work with our student athletes, either to prepare them for competition or to treat an injury. Our game officials will also utilize space within the pavilion to avoid the elements before, at halftime, and after games.

Currently the Pioneer Athletic Booster Club and the school

district are seeking donations to offset the cost of the project. Therna-Tron-X Inc. has graciously donated \$500,000 towards the project. Naming rights to various portions of the athletic complex are available at various donation levels. All donors will be recognized on a donor wall which will be located near the pavilion. Anyone interested in making a donation can contact either Steve Estes, Rob Rankin, Brooke Tanck, Kyle Luedtke or any member of the booster club.

Notes from the District Administrator

I am always amazed and pleased with how many extra opportunities our students have. Our robotics club recently participated in a competition in Peshtigo. Our band and choir students participated in solo & ensemble. Our forensics students are in the middle of their seasons and continue to work on their pieces. Our FFA chapter recently hosted a regional leadership event on February 3. Our drama students continue to refine their roles for the upcoming production of *Shrek the Musical*, which will be the weekend of March 11. At the same time, winter sports seasons are winding down, and our spring sports season will be starting shortly. Truly, there are quite a few opportunities for our students.

The goal of our school, and every public school, is to provide high-quality education and a well-rounded school experience. Our extracurricular offerings allow us to give our students these opportunities. Our advisers, directors, and coaches commit many hours to these activities.

We hope that there is something extra for every student with our wide array of activities. Our staff encourages our students to become involved in an activity, and we hope our parents do the same with their children.

The students involved in these activities do a great job balancing their academic workload and their hours of commitment to their extracurricular activities. Research shows that students engaged in extracurricular activities have better academic success, live healthier lifestyles, and enjoy their school experience more. I applaud the efforts of these students.

As a community member, if you have the opportunity to support these young people, please do so. The best manner is to be present. Attend a ballgame, play, or concert. I am sure you will find it enjoyable, and the kids will appreciate your presence.

Yours in education,
Kyle Luedtke, Superintendent

Renovation of the Family & Consumer Sciences Classroom a Success

BY TARA LECLAIR, FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES TEACHER

To celebrate Career and Technical Education (CTE) month in February, we highlight the many elective course offerings here at Sevastopol. With a new school and renovations came numerous upgrades to CTE program areas such as technology education and agriculture. Another area to receive significant renovations is the Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) room.

The announcement came in early December 2020 that the FCS room was going to get more than just a fresh coat of Valspar white paint as part of the school renovation. With construction savings from the addition of the new school, the FCS room, located in the 1960s wing of the school, was able to receive an upgrade with those funds.

Our team researched various FCS classroom models and toured other regional school district designs. Our FCS room now blends dependable elements of a commercial kitchen with a comfortable, yet modern residential home kitchen in a calming, cohesive, and functional space. The overall design addresses the needs of multiple courses that are taught from child development, cooking, sewing, and life skills for middle and high school students alike.

Highlights of the room include a significant increase in linear work surfaces equipped with under cabinet LED lighting, new countertops, deep sink basins, ADA compliant appliances, an ice machine, commercial refrigerator, freezer, and two commercial dishwashers that

have the ability to wash dishes in six minutes! A camera system was installed in the kitchen that will make it possible for students and the teacher to perform recipe demonstrations by recording, and then broadcasting them online for students who are absent from class to view.

The old classroom had minimal storage, so adding more spaces to store items was a priority. A large teacher storage closet and a student accessible walk-in closet was included. An exterior door was also installed as an entrance to a future outdoor kitchen and patio area. The vision for this space is to teach students how to be "grill masters" and to safely operate outdoor cooking equipment like charcoal and gas grills, smokers, and pizza ovens while teaching various cooking methods within this dedicated outdoor classroom.

This new space will continue to ensure that a variety of life skills are taught in order for students to become successful teenagers and adults. All courses provide students with the skills that will make them college, career and life ready.



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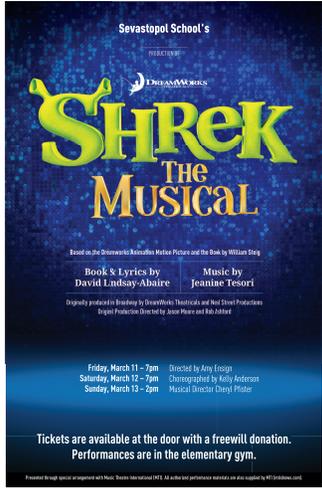
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Shrek the Musical Takes Center Stage

BY MINDI VANDERHOOF, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



Sevastopol School's PRODUCTION
A DREAMWORKS MUSICAL
SHREK
The Musical
Based on the Dreamworks Animation Movie Pictures and the Book by William Steig
Book & Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire Music by Jeanette Tesoro
Directed by Amy Ensign
Photographed by Kelly Anderson
Musical Director Cheryl Pfister
Friday, March 11 - 7pm
Saturday, March 12 - 7pm
Sunday, March 13 - 2pm
Tickets are available at the door with a freewill donation. Performances are in the elementary gym.

Shrek the Musical will take center stage in Sevastopol's gymnasium on March 11 at 7 pm, March 12 at 7 pm, and March 13 at 2 pm. Tickets are available at the door for a freewill donation.

A larger-than-life ogre, a donkey, a princess, a dragon, Lord Farquaad, and a village of fairy tale creatures bring to life the big, bright, beautiful message of being proud of who you are.

"*Shrek the Musical* is about being yourself and supporting those around you so that they can be themselves," director Amy Ensign said. "It's a message that is so important, and I am very happy to be a part of this story."

The show is an adaptation that combines the original story with the Dreamworks movie, but more.

"The adaptation takes it a bit further, adding a whole lot of heart," Ensign said.

Audiences will be amazed that they haven't seen a great deal of on the Sevastopol stage before, along with some familiar faces. Twenty-six students make up the cast. Students from third to twelfth grades are represented.

Actors include Owen Ensign-Foulds, Ellie Krohn, Ophelia Linman, Merrick Mann, Brooklyn Brunner, Ethan Frank, Logan Simon, Zay Gopinsky, Sierra Cain, Addison Wotachek, Ben Martin, Abbi Hayes, Sydney Peterson, Noelle Patza, Cathleen Davis, Bea Dramm, Lucas Apsay, Alexa Olson, Paxton Linman, Jason Rankin, Caroline Lundfelle, Henry Mathews, Joie Serahan, Brennan Staats, Ana Thyssen, and Jackson Toivonen.

Actors will be accompanied by a talented pit band comprised of Ethan Frank, Scott Derker, Kyle Duesler, Sophia Abel, Natalie Zawojki, and Ezra Linman.

"You'll see Sevastopol senior Ethan Frank play both a character in the musical as well as many instruments in the band," Ensign said.

The show is directed by Amy Ensign. Cheryl Pfister is the musical director, and Kelly Anderson is the choreographer.

Students are working hard to bring together the challenging technical elements of this musical.

"I hope audiences enjoy the show and walk away looking at their family, friends, and neighbors with love and acceptance in their hearts," Ensign said.



Kathy Marshall and Mike Madden served as Sevastopol's fourth-grade teachers for nearly two decades.

Pioneer Spotlight: Kathy Marshall

BY SUSAN ANSCHUTZ, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER

Children have been at the center of Kathy Marshall's day her entire adult life.

Whether it was raising her three daughters with her husband, Dale, or working a lifetime in a profession she cherished, her greatest love is family, but her passion is teaching. Now in retirement, she spends many joy-filled days each week with her four grandchildren who live in Green Bay.

"Teaching is a dream for anyone who loves to be with kids. I love to see children learning and know in some way I contributed to their success," Marshall said. "Some of the greatest rewards are seeing children's smiles as they understand what they are capable of doing."

Marshall started her career in pre-school education when she was hired to open Door County YMCAs' first after-school childcare program. After helping to get the program up and running, she stayed as a lead teacher for two years. In 1984, she filled a half-time kindergarten position at St. Joseph School in Sturgeon Bay and later was hired as a full-time elementary teacher at St. Peter and Paul School where she taught for ten years. She was then hired by Sevastopol School as a part-time instructional aide and later worked

as a fourth-grade teacher where she thrived for more than 17 years.

Many people have influenced her time at Sevastopol, but two mentors that stand out in particular, were Mike Madden and Jerry Borkowetz. Both modeled respect for the child and their adult caregiver, and helped make Kathy a better, more caring teacher.

For a time, she worked with Madden, Sevastopol's other fourth-grade teacher. He planned numerous field trips to historical sites and ecological points of interest. The outings were always memorable with kids becoming more involved in hands-on learning. Marshall's annual tradition with the fourth-grade classes was to create and build gingerbread houses before the holidays. The gingerbread houses were then used as decorations for the annual holiday concert. Children could be creative while learning the art of successful building techniques. Together, students learned to appreciate various family traditions as they shared stories and memories unique to each family.

"Mike and I worked really well together. We brought culture, history, and traditions to life to make learning fun. By personalizing



Kathy Marshall and her grandchildren on a sleigh ride.

lessons, we made them more meaningful," Marshall said. "We also had respect for one another and great communication."

Their respect is mutual.

"Kathy is one of the best teachers I ever worked with," Madden said. While at St. Peter and Paul, she became a coach for Destination Imagination and began working with Jerry Borkowetz. They later became Sevastopol DI Co-ordinators and together with team members, team managers, and families, gained recognition and success during the 14 years of her tenure.

"Kids who participate in DI learn to think outside the box. It offers an avenue outside of core curriculum for students to succeed," Marshall said. "We always had the support of administration, the school board and most importantly, our Sevastopol parents and families. It's easier to lead a program or to be a successful teacher when you have this support, and there is a lot you can accomplish together."

After her retirement from teaching in 2015, Marshall maintained her involvement as a volunteer member on the Community

Facility Advisory Committee. She joined others with diverse interests and backgrounds to discuss the long-term vision of redesigning and making necessary improvements to the school.

Having taught 17 years on the third floor of the original Sevastopol building, Marshall witnessed first-hand issues of non-accessibility, a need for restrooms, and the deteriorating aspects to the building. She wanted to be part of the group to help make decisions about Sevastopol's facility.

Happy to be part of the improvements that benefited the elementary, Marshall loves what was completed at the school.

"Sometimes we need to let go of the past to move forward," she said.

Marshall's contributions as a teacher, colleague, friend, and leader at Sevastopol have been integral to Sevastopol's past and future.

"I've always felt part of a broader picture at Sevastopol; that every piece of the puzzle for the 'impossible to find egg' Marshall shared.

Community Programs in Session

BY SUSAN ANSCHUTZ, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER



Participant, Karin Overbeck, enjoys being creative with ceramics at Sevastopol Community Programs.



The 2022 Community Programs are utilizing new spaces at Sevastopol made possible by our district residents. Pictured here is the new art room.

Community Programs are well underway at Sevastopol School and have been a welcome outlet to create and socialize with friends and neighbors after school. Classes began in early January and have included long-time favorite arts and craft courses, as well as informative presentations and project experiences utilizing some of the school's state-of-the-art equipment in the FAB lab.

"Our school has always been a community center for activities and learning," said Melissa McGarr, Director of Pupil Services.

"We thank all of our instructors for sharing their passion and expertise while facilitating the classes, and our many participants for their continued interest in our school."

Sevastopol has been offering Community Programs January through March each year for more than a decade.

"It's been a wonderful way for district residents who may not have children attending here to experience our school and staff," Margraf added.

Sue Todey Presides Over State Education Convention

BY KYLE LUEDTKE, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Sue Todey, Sevastopol School Board member, had the honor of presiding over the 101st Wisconsin State Education Convention as the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) President. The convention was held January 19-21 in Milwaukee and is a combined effort between the WASB, Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators, and Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials.

As the president, Todey gave an address during a general session to school board members, school personnel, and leaders from across the state. She spoke about the importance of districts continuing to provide services to students even during difficult times. Todey promotes the importance of educating the whole child and balancing the mental health and well-being of the student along with academic opportunities.

The WASB is comprised of fifteen members representing the fifteen regions of Wisconsin. Todey represents region three. The president is elected from within the board of directors. Her responsibilities this past year included presiding over the monthly WASB meetings, contacting legislatures on educational issues, and setting policies at the state level.

Todey will continue serving on the WASB board of directors for the 2022-23 year as the immediate past president. Additionally, Sue serves as chair of the CEESA 7 Board of Controls, representing 37 school districts.

Thank you, Sue, for your leadership and representing the School District of Sevastopol both within our region and at the state level.




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The Pioneer Times is brought to you by the Sevastopol Communication Committee:
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Caring About Our Veterans and Active Service Members

BY AARON HILTS, ELEMENTARY AND ASSISTANT MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Sevastopol Elementary has a program called the "Community of Caring." Each grade level is responsible for a different segment of our local community. As a school, we put forth efforts quarterly to do something for our Veterans. Sevastopol Elementary students participated in a "Penny War" to raise funds for the local VFW Post 3088. A Penny War, simply put, is the collecting of coins. Pennies put in a class's container count as points for that homeroom. Silver coins from others put in a homeroom's container count against that room's score. The school was divided into two

teams for friendly competition. The students knew in advance that the money raised would be going to VFW Post 3088. Through their efforts, Sevastopol Elementary was able to present Bill Graf, quartermaster from the post, a check in the amount of \$1111.11 (yes, it was intentional to match Veterans' Day held on 11/11).

We thank all our Veterans for their service. We were excited to learn that the funds will go to help various projects in our area that support Veterans - like those suffering from

PTSD, for example. Our students (and staff) are pleased to make an impact for our local Veterans.

In January, the elementary students are writing notes to active service personnel on the USS Gonzalez (DDG 66). Along with the notes thanking them for their service, we hope to send a care package.

A big thank you to all of Sevastopol Elementary to our active and former area service members.

Update from Band Land

BY TANYA HASENJAGER, MHS BAND DIRECTOR



On Saturday, January 8, six of our very best high school band students participated in the Bay Area Music Association's Honors Band at Southern Door High School. They joined approximately 80 other students from music programs in our conference to work with Dr. John Lynch from UW-Stevens Point. Students rehearsal from 6:30 in the morning until 3:30 in the afternoon and gave a free concert in the Southern Door Auditorium at 4 pm.

We were thrilled to have Natalie Zawojki (12th grade/Flute), Ledy Ruiz (12th grade/trumpet), Ethan Frank (12th grade/French horn), Kapri Gill (11th grade/Bass Clarinet),

Kylee Duesler (10th grade/trumpet) and Ezra Linman (10th grade/percussion) represent the Pioneers for the day.

Middle and High School band and choir members have prepared for this year's Solo Ensemble Festival held on Saturday, February 12 at Southern Door High School. We are so proud of our musical pioneers as their hard work prior to the event always shows by earning top scores at the festival. Great work!

Congratulations to Merrick Mann, Ellie Krohn, and Ben Dramm for qualifying for state.

Jean Coogle, Administrative Assistant, Retires

BY SARAH BRANDT, MHS SPANISH TEACHER



Administrative assistant Jean Coogle has decided to retire after 17 years with the district. For Sevastopol staff, Jean had an integral role in making sure we had everything we needed for the school to run smoothly. She kept track of the budgets and ordering, made sure the copy machines were functioning - earning her the nickname "The Copy Queen", assisted with school board elections and published all meeting notices. She is an avid history buff and enjoyed researching and sharing her state of Sevastopol's past.

Jean will be missed not only for her organizational and administrative skills, but also for her kindness and humor. She's responsible for the impossible to find egg hidden around the school each Easter and helped organize many staff parties and picnics. One of her greatest joys at school was interacting with the students and she loved it when they would stop into the district office to say hi. Jean looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren, traveling and volunteering now that she'll have more free time.

Fall Athletic Update

BY BROOKE TANCK, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



The high school girl's cross country wins the conference meet at Gibraltar.

This fall, the Pioneers returned to a more traditional season. No team had a shortened season due to COVID-19 and we welcomed full attendance at athletic events without restrictions. There was excitement in the air as we watched our track, football and soccer fields and press box go through multiple renovations as Phase I of the athletic field improvements took shape over the summer.

Our high school volleyball, swimming, and cross-country teams had another successful fall. The volleyball team finished second in the conference, earned the number one seed for postseason, and won regionals. The girls cross country team repeated as Packerland Conference champs while the girls Door County United swim team continued its dominance in the conference by finishing in first place. Bea Dramm was Sevastopol's top cross country runner this season and earned herself a trip to the state competition.

The following athletes earned all-conference honors during our fall seasons:

First-Team Honors: Bea Dramm and Naomi Rikkola (cross country), Bailey Rikkola, Madi Volkmann, and Johanna Andreae (volleyball), Alex Valdivia and

Emmett Tomaszewski (football), and Cassie Rankin (swimming).

Second-Team Honors: Rachel Wilke and Libby Ash (cross country), Emma Stueber (volleyball), and Mason Bosman (football).

Honorable Mention: Dasha Yelysheva (cross country), Sammy Differt (volleyball), Jack de Young and Frankie Ash (football).

Additional fall honors were given to junior Bailey Rikkola and senior Madi Volkmann as they received the Wisconsin Volleyball Coaches Association's all-state honorable mention. Senior Alex Valdivia was named to the all-region defensive team for football.

As we grind through the dog days of winter, Sevastopol is eagerly awaiting the spring seasons. Our track and soccer teams will get the first chance to use their new facilities and we are excited to welcome the community to watch events in our new bleachers. In addition, the goal is to be breaking ground for our Phase II athletic field improvements later this spring. Phase II field improvements include a new concession stand with full indoor bathrooms, an athletic training room, an officials' room, and additional field enhancements.



The Lady Pioneers defeat Almond-Bancroft for the regional championship.



The DC United swim team wins the EWC Conference.

Students Showcase Tech Ed Projects



In her Intro to Woods class, Kapri Gill built a nightstand.



Using the CNC plasma cutter, Michael Waufflet designed and created a monogram name sign.



Weston Mann utilized his skills to create a conical head mount to display his monster truck antlers.



Carter Bieri designed and created a custom CNC plasma sign for his county baseball team.

Middle School Students Win VFW Writing Contest

Sevastopol Middle School is proud to announce the winners of the local VFW Post 3088 writing contest. This year's winners include Aiden Baier (1st place), Sadie Rikkola (2nd place), and Savanna Kiehnau

(3rd place). We are so grateful to Master Chief Mike McCarty, US Navy, the Patriot Pen Coordinator for VFW Post 3088, for making this opportunity possible for our young writers.



Aiden Baier, Sadie Rikkola, and Savanna Kiehnau.

How Can I be a Good American?

By Sadie Rikkola, 6th Grade Student

Have you ever heard the quote, "Ask not what your country can do for you... what can you do for your country," by John F. Kennedy? That sentence was created by Ted Sorensen, his speech writer. Ted Sorensen married somebody from the small town of Mellen, (where my parents grew up) and his children grew up there. My great-grandpa once met John F. Kennedy. Even coming from a small town, we can all be great Americans. I plan to be a great American by focusing on what I can do for my country.

How you treat people around you is very important; it is an important part of being a good American. Why, you might ask? Well, because being a good friend, classmate, and a good family member is very important. It is what makes me happy in life. It is important to treat people well. I always accept everyone no matter which gender, or if they have autism, have no other friends, or have any kind of disability. If I do these things, I will be on my way to being a better American. Being a good American, to me, means that I treat everyone around me with kindness.

Being responsible in my everyday life is also important. I focus on getting to school on time and doing my best in school and sports. I do my homework before I play, because sometimes I get home late and don't have much time. If I continue doing these simple things, it will lead to a strong future of being a good American citizen.

When I do things that honor my country, I am a good American. I can celebrate important days, and also remember why some days are important to celebrate: The Fourth of July, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day. By honoring the past, I can be a good American today, and I can be a better American in the future.

In conclusion, being an American means having the opportunity to be a better person and make a difference. Standing for the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the National Anthem with my hand over my heart shows that I am thankful for people who fought for America's independence. Yes, even me, a small-town American girl, can make a difference in America with my actions.

How to Be a Good American

By Aiden Baier, 7th Grade Student

A good America is quite hard to come by in this day and age, but if we all contribute to our community, we can make America a better place. I believe the best way to do that is to contribute via community service, treating everyone with respect, and having a positive attitude. A model America can do all of these things simultaneously whilst also being a contributing member of society.

I believe that the one of best ways to be a good American is to positively contribute to your community in any way shape or form. Whether it's donating to a food drive, or volunteering at a homeless shelter, or simply helping someone across the street, helping your community is a key part to being a good American. If every American contributes to making their community a better place, America will become a stronger country. It will also improve the lives of every fellow American citizen.

Another way to be a good American is to be kind and treat everyone with respect and kindness, no matter their appearance, gender, religion, or ethnicity. I think that an exquisite golden rule to live behind would be to treat others how you would want to be treated. This is important because everyone in America is an American, official or not. We should treat them just like we would treat our friends and family.

The final way to be a good American citizen is to have a positive outlook on life. I believe that this is important because having a positive attitude can influence others' moods as well as your own. Having a positive life and attitude can also have health benefits. Open communication is also important. If you are struggling with something, the best thing to do would be to tell someone. So, a positive mood will not only help yourself, but others around you, too.

A good American citizen is extremely important to society, because it doesn't just benefit you, but everyone around you. It is of utmost importance that we all begin to become good a America by not just respecting ourselves, but others, too.

How Can I Be A Good American?

By Savanna Kiehnau, 7th Grade Student

I can be a good American by respecting the people in my family, community, military and country. To be a good American it doesn't just consist of respecting others. You have to uphold laws and believe in the constitution. Upholding the law can lead to significant success. Instead of making bad choices in your community, you can be a good role model. You can be a great role model for other citizens by communicating and socializing with others, be intelligent and well rounded, and demonstrate leadership.

Another important responsibility of being a good citizen is working together with people of different nationalities, religions, and political beliefs to help understand how each of us can help make a better country without being divided. Freedom and the rights of being able to live our own lives in this country is an amazing opportunity. Opportunities include being able to be a part of our military, work for the government or being our own business owner, teacher or a hard working citizen.

When I stand and sing the National Anthem or say the Pledge of Allegiance and look at the flag, I sometimes think about all Americans, what the flag stands for in my life and in our country. I pledge to myself that I will always work hard, uphold the laws and be a leader with great morals and ethics to help keep my country flourishing. I will never quit for my country and my own rights for freedom.

Being part of America is a privilege. America is a unique environment where we can all pursue our dreams. America isn't a place where we work everyday, it can be a place where we succeed or where we fail. Though failure is temporary. Everyday we work to become a better person. I believe that America is a safe place and a place I will call home forever.