

Sandhill E-News

Week of November 29, 2021

A Message from Mr. Johnson:

Hi Sandhill Families!

I hope you are having a wonderful week of Thanksgiving. Because of how the dates fall this year, we only have three full weeks between our Fall Break and Winter Break. Time is going to fly and it's going to be the new year before we know it!



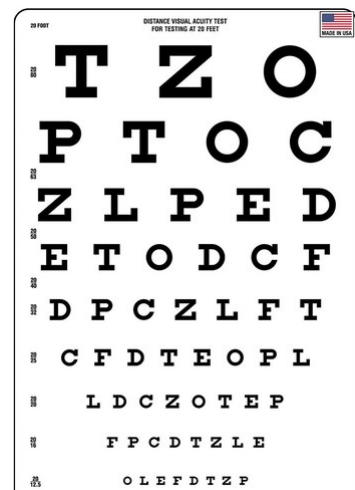
As we come up on December, the likelihood of snow and associated cold also increase. During winter we still try to have outdoor recess as much as possible. Please make sure you're sending your child to school with a jacket, snow pants, boots, and hats/gloves. If your family needs some support in getting this items, please reach out to me or our School Social Worker, Kayla McDermot. All of our information is always at the very bottom of this newsletter.

Thank you so much for all you do to support our students, teachers, and community.

Have a great weekend - I'll see you on Monday.
Bob/Mr. Johnson

Hearing and Vision Screening

Our School Nurse, with the help of some of our awesome community and parent volunteers, will be conducting hearing and vision screening on December 9, 2021 at Sandhill. If you have a Kindergarten, 2nd or 4th grade student and you do not want them screened, please contact Mrs. Gretebeck at laurel.gretebeck@stoughton.k12.wi.us or tell you child's teacher.



Need A Fun Activity/Contest Over Break?

Conservation Awareness Poster Contest

The Dane County Land & Water Resources Department invites all kindergarten through 12th grade students in Dane County to participate in the 2022 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest. The annual competition encourages students to showcase their creativity and express their thoughts on conservation practices.



The theme for the 2021-2022 school year is "Healthy Soil: Healthy Life".

The contest is open to all Dane County public, private and home-schooled students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Submissions will be evaluated in five different age divisions: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. The top three posters in each category will receive prizes. First place winners: \$20; Second place winners: \$15; and third place winners: \$10. Each of the 1st place division winners will advance to the area competition, with a chance for their poster to win further prizes at the state and national level.

Posters and entry forms (see below) are due by 5:00 p.m. on January 7, 2022 to: Conservation Awareness Poster Contest; Dane County Land & Water Resources Department; 5201 Fen Oak Drive, Madison, WI 53718. Blank posters and entry forms will be made available for interested participants upon request.

More information: <https://lwr.dane.wisconsin.gov/get-involved/conservation-awareness>

Stuff the Stockings Holiday Fundraiser

This year for our holiday fundraiser, we are collecting coins to give to the food pantry so that others will not go hungry this winter. Please send spare change with your child to give to their teacher beginning Monday, December 6th. The coins will be collected until Friday, December 10th. The grand total collected will be announced on Monday, December 13th. The food pantry will appreciate your donation.



Working For Kids Updates:

Lunch Volunteers Needed!!! WFK is always looking to be more involved with our students while also helping to provide support to our teachers and EAs. So after talking to staff about ways we can do this, we are excited to kick off another on-going volunteer opportunity! Starting next week, we are providing volunteers to help out with lunch recess and lunchroom duty. Extra hands are always helpful when helping students (especially our younger learners) open milk cartons and other lunch items, wipe down tables in between grades, and supervise a much-needed recess break! We would love to see parents, grandparents, and other members of the community to help out! Thank you in advance! Your time is very much appreciated!



Starting October 29, WFK is hosting a **Mitten Drive** for our Sandhill Students! It will run through November!

If you'd like to show your Sandhill Elementary School spirit, our online store will be open for the next few weeks! There are youth and adult T-shirts and sweatshirts available in both gray and purple. The deadline to order is midnight on December 5th.

Here is the link: <https://sandhillelementary2021.itemorder.com/shop/sale/?saleCode=K5M77>

Lunch/Recess Volunteer Sign Up

Sandhill Spirit Store

**FOX PRAIRIE,
KEGONSA &
SANDHILL
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY**



*Pick up a tag
from one of our
three giving
trees or sign up
online to help
make the
holidays a little
brighter for
children in our
community.*

Giving Tree

Giving Tree Locations:

- The Next Generation Children's Store
161 E Main Street, Stoughton
- Wildwood Cafe
218 S Forrest Street, Stoughton
- Chorus Public House during the
Victorian Holiday Artisan Market:
December 4th (10am - 6pm)
154 W. Main Street, Stoughton

**Unwrapped gifts
(with tags attached)
should be returned to:**

- The Next Generations
by 6 pm on Friday,
December 10th
- or
- Any of the three
elementary schools
by 3 pm on Friday,
December 10th

**THANK YOU
TO OUR AMAZING
SUPPORTERS**



CHORUS
PUBLIC HOUSE



Giving Tree - How it works

Sandhill WFK has teamed up with Kegonsa WFK and Fox Prairie WFK to sponsor a district-wide Giving Tree campaign. Each elementary school has 10 families that we are sponsoring for holiday gifts for all

of the kids in said family, for a total of 30 Stoughton area families that will be helped.

How it works:

1. Head on into The Next Generation or Wildwood Cafe at your leisure to pick up a tag starting this weekend. You can also stop by the sponsored tree at the Chorus Public House during Victorian Holiday Weekend (Dec 4) to pick up a tag. If you can't get there, you can sign up for a gift on [Sign Up Genius](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084ca5ab23a1f94-giving3) (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084ca5ab23a1f94-giving3>).
2. Purchase the gift on your tag. We request that people plan to spend \$25-30 on a gift.
3. Return your unwrapped gift WITH THE ORIGINAL TAG ATTACHED to one of the elementary schools or The Next Generation by December 10.

This Week's NHA Message:

One of the key components, and often most challenging part of NHA is being able to relentlessly see greatness. It takes practice. Lots and lots of practice. To that end, I thought I'd share an easy, but incredibly impactful opportunity that one of my NHA mentors is offering and hope that you join us!



From December 1 - 21 we will be participating in the [Holiday Happiness Habits Challenge](#). We'll each select one of [Shawn Achor's Happiness Habits](#) and commit to doing the 2-minute activity every day for 21 days. Each of the habits has been proven to increase happiness, elevate optimism and improve connectivity, which is the single biggest factor for predicting happiness.

Shawn Achor was a researcher at Harvard who studied happiness. He realized that the traditional American definition of happiness, that once we're successful we'll be happy, is all wrong, learning that highly successful people who are happy prioritize their happiness. Because they're happy they have more energy, are more motivated, and are more connected to people, and that feeds their success. In addition, evolutionarily, the brain has been wired to scan for the negative, and although this served us well for generations, it's overkill in today's world. So, Mr. Achor and his team researched ways that busy people could improve their happiness by changing what their brain scans for, and that's how his short, but effective Happiness Advantage Habits were formed.

Sign up [HERE](#). Throughout the three weeks, I will send encouraging and celebratory emails and Group Me texts to everyone who participates. Mr. Achor explains that doing happiness activities in a group is where they achieve the biggest potential. That's what we're aiming for here - the big potential of Community! As such, I invite you to share this opportunity with anyone that you think would be interested.

Please let me know what questions you have.

Sincerely,

Tammy Holtan Arnol

Tammy.THAConsulting@gmail.com

OR

Amy Ruck

amy.ruck@stoughton.k12.wi.us

School District Updates

Introducing "Stopfinder," a new parent app for transportation information

SASD families,

Just in time for winter weather, our Transportation Team is excited to announce a new parent communication-based application called Stopfinder.



What is Stopfinder?

Stopfinder allows the district to quickly and easily communicate all things transportation with families. We can send notifications regarding adjustments to route pickup and drop off times, route delays, and annual eligibility and route information. For example, you may receive a notification that says "Route 1 is running 10 minutes late today." You will also be able to view your child's transportation eligibility and route information on the app around registration time.

When can I join?

In the next couple of months, we will be rolling out the Stopfinder app via email invitations. We will send them out by school, starting with bus riders. In early 2022, we will begin to invite non-bus riders to download and use Stopfinder too.

Our rollout order is: bus riders at Sandhill (in progress), Kegonsa, Fox Prairie, St. Ann's, River Bluff and SHS, then all non-riders.

What else should I know?

During the Stopfinder rollout, all families (with or without bus riders) should know that:

- Only the primary household/email address (listed in Infinite Campus) to receive the email invitation. (This is a limitation by the Stopfinder app.) The primary account manager may then invite others to share the schedules. We encourage households to consider adding other parents/guardians, children getting themselves on the bus, and/or other caregivers.
- All families, with or without bus riders, should download and use the app before the 2022-23 school year.
- The Stopfinder app is secure and protected. Access to parents or guardians is only granted to those that have permission from our transportation department.

Please visit our new [Stopfinder webpage](#) for more information, including a short tutorial (also linked below) and FAQs.

If you have any questions about the rollout of Stopfinder, please complete the [Transportation Support Form](#) and we will get back to you. We look forward to improving our transportation communication efficiency.

Sincerely,

Dr. Onsager, District Administration

Karen Johnson, Transportation Coordinator

[Short & Sweet: The Stopfinder App Tutorial](#)

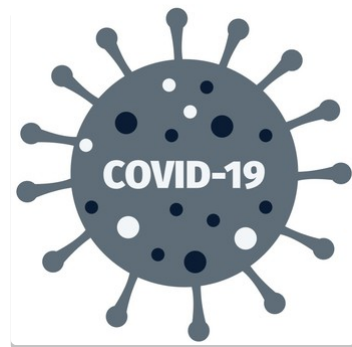
Antiracism Project: November Resources

November is National Native American Heritage Month and International Day for Tolerance. [View this month's resources here](#). The purpose of the [Antiracism Project](#) is to advance our district's Educating for Equity efforts by providing resources, information, and opportunities to support recognized events, locally, nationally and internationally.



Free COVID Testing Moves Indoors

We've moved our free COVID testing outdoors to indoors until the springtime. Learn more at <https://www.stoughton.k12.wi.us/covid-19/testing>. Remember that students under 18 years old must have guardian consent (View our webpage for consent requirements) AND register for their test at register.covidconnect.wi.gov. Students and staff over 18 years old must register for their testing register.covidconnect.wi.gov.



Why Apply for P-EBT Benefits?

Even though we are offering free meals to all students during the 2021-2022 school year, a child must be officially enrolled in the free or reduced price meal program to meet certain eligibility criteria for P-EBT benefits.



Families who may be eligible for free or reduced price school meals through their children's schools are encouraged to apply now for the 2021-2022 school year! Please apply directly through your [Infinite Campus parent portal app](#) or complete an application found on our [food service web page](#).

School Reminders

Art to Remember


If you missed the deadline to order your child's artwork for the Art to Remember fundraiser- you are in luck! You can still order art up until 12/31/2021. The only difference is that the art will be automatically shipped to your home instead of shipped to school. Please contact Ms. Ergas with any questions- natalie.ergas@stoughton.k12.wi.us

COVID-19 Information

- Where can I get tested for COVID? See our new COVID-19 Testing Resource Sheet on our [COVID-19 Health & Safety page](#).
- Our SASD COVID-19 Dashboard is available to the public on our [SASD COVID-19 Dashboard](#) page. We've updated the dashboard each week of the school year since November 2020.






SELF-SCREEN QUICK SHEET



Before sending your student to school, you must screen them.

Answer the question: **Does my student meet one or more of the self-screen criteria listed?** If NO, you may send your student to school. If YES, follow the **Next Steps**.

SELF-SCREEN CRITERIA

-  Student has tested positive for COVID-19
-  Student is experiencing symptoms* of COVID-19
-  Student has been instructed to stay home due to being a close contact

NEXT STEPS

1. Keep your student at home.
2. Call your school's attendance line to report your student's absence.
3. Fill out the [Student COVID-19 Form](#) at [stoughton.k12.wi.us](#) under the "COVID-19" tab.
4. Contact your health care provider for next steps.

*Symptoms of COVID-19

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever equal to or greater than 100.4°F
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting

District Food Service Page (Including Menus)

Family Resources

2021-22 School District Calendar

Past Newsletters

[August 16, 2021](#) [August 23, 2021](#) [August 30, 2021](#)
[September 6, 2021](#) [September 13, 2021](#) [September 20, 2021](#)
[September 27, 2021](#) [October 4, 2021](#) [October 11, 2021](#)
[October 18, 2021](#) [October 25, 2021](#) [November 1, 2021](#)
[November 8, 2021](#) [November 15, 2021](#) [November 22, 2021](#)
[November 29, 2021](#)



We Are Stoughton.
And we stand strong and
committed to **all** of our students,
families & staff members.



Contact Information

 Facebook  @WeAreStoughton

Mr. Johnson - Principal - 877-5401
Ms. Eisenschink- Dean of Students - 877-5422
Ms. Plank - Administrative Assistant - 877-5402
Mrs. Holverson - Health Assistant - 877-5404
Mrs. Dybevik - School Psychologist - 877-5410
Ms. McGuire - School Counselor - 877-5406
Ms. McDermot - School Social Worker - 877-5423

 1920 Lincoln Avenue, Stoughton...

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 (608) 877-5400

 stoughton.k12.wi.us/sandhill-el...

