



Stratton Sentinel

November 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Letter from the Principal

Happy November Stratton! We're gearing up for all our holiday season activities and keeping students busy in the classroom here as well. By the time you see this, our Halloween festivities will be done and we'll be focused on Veteran's Day and honoring our school and community veterans. I want to take a minute and thank all our veterans for your service and hope you will be able to join us on November 11th for our annual Veteran's Day breakfast and student performance. Right on its heels will be our Turkey Day feast here at school, which I'm really looking forward to experiencing for the first time!

Two new things will also start up in November. First, each Monday at our Stratton Stampede we will introduce a "sign of the week" to encourage our students to learn some basic sign language skills. We do have several students that communicate with sign language as well as speech and we want to give our students the opportunity to communicate with all their peers regardless of the level of speech and hearing. Second, we will be starting a monthly opportunity for parents and other family members to come by informally and meet with me and share a cup of coffee (or tea if you like!) and talk about what is going on at Stratton. We'll be sharing an RSVP for this soon, and we're looking at Monday, November 17th at 9:00am as our first meeting opportunity. More information on that soon!

As we look ahead toward the end of 2025 (already!) I want to ask students and families not to let up on our work here at school. It is very easy to be focused more on the fun events than on our academic progress, and with our mid-year assessments coming up this is a time where we really need students to stay on course and keep working in class and at home as well. Reading even just a little bit every day is a huge boost for any student, and anytime our parents can be involved reading with or to your kids makes this a positive experience and encourages them to read for fun as well as to learn!

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, it is a time where we have an opportunity to help our students understand all the things we have to be thankful for. I am very proud and thankful to have the opportunity to be here at Stratton and work with such a great staff. I also want to offer my thanks to all our parents who have been involved so far volunteering this year, whether with PTA or just as part of a class event or field trip. Being involved is such a great way to stay connected, and something I was very grateful for when my kids were in elementary school. I hope to see many more of you at one of our events this year, whether you are here to help or here to experience it with your child!

Thank you, everyone!

Mr. P

What's In This Month's Issue:

- Letter from the Principal
- School News & Events
- PTA News & Event
- Clubs
- Health & Wellness
- Attendance & Safety
- Monthly Calendar

Stratton's SAC Meeting (School Accountability Committee)

Join Principal Phalen for a conversation. Discuss such topics as school budget, improvement plans, academic achievement, etc.

Wed, Dec. 10th
5:00-6:00 pm In Person
and via WebEx
(by request)

Blue Flag =



- Enter the building.
- Hang backpack.
- Sit quietly in hallway until the first bell.

School News & Events

Veterans Day Assembly

Tuesday, November 11th

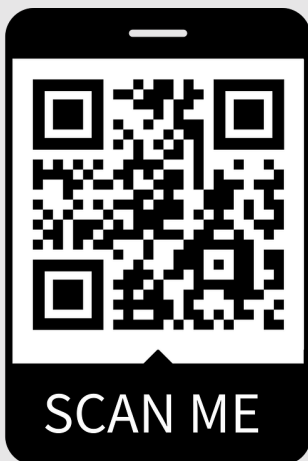
**Our Stratton Students will
honor Veterans with an
assembly from 8:15-9:30 am in
the Gym.**

(PTA sponsored Breakfast @ 7:45 am)

This assembly is to honor the veterans in our community and won't be able to accommodate a traditional family audience. Seating is limited

The 5Essentials Parent Survey

Open until Monday, Nov. 10th



[5E Survey](#)

Aiming for 80% participation to ensure every family's perspective is valued. Your feedback helps identify strengths and areas for improvement in schools, enhancing teaching, leadership, and family partnerships for student success.



No School

Monday, Nov. 10th

No Students /
Teacher Work Day

**Monday, Nov. 24th -
Friday, Nov. 28th**

District Closed
Thanksgiving Break

School News & Events

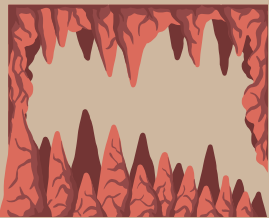
Field Trips

Fridays in Nov. ISP

7th-Walking Trip

14th- Walmart

21st- Fine Arts Center



Thurs, Nov. 6th
9:30-1:00pm

2nd to Cave of
the Winds

Fri, Nov. 21st

9:00-12:30 pm

1st to Bear Creek



Cub Scouts

Pack 24

November Meetings

Mon, 3rd 6-7 pm

Mon, 17th 6-7 pm



2nd & 3rd Grade Career Showcase Thurs, November 20th



Our 2nd and 3rd graders have been busy rehearsing for their Career Showcase, a fun and engaging performance that brings the world of work to life!

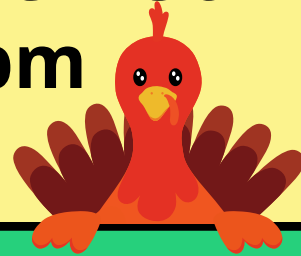
Showtimes:

- **1:30 PM** – Showcase for students and staff
- **5:30 PM** – Evening Showcase for families

School News & Events

Stratton Elementary 33rd Annual Turkey Day Feast

Wednesday, November 19th
11:00 am - 1:00 pm



Menu

Turkey

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Green Beans

Cranberry Sauce

Dinner Roll

Pumpkin Dessert

Join us for our
Annual Thanksgiving
Feast! Parents and
guardians are invited
to share a meal with
their children. D11
students eat free!

Adults- \$4.65
Non-Student Child- \$2.95

Stay tuned for classroom lunch schedules,
which will be announced soon!

Harvest Of Love Food Drive

November 1st-12th (Sponsored by Student Council)

Help fight hunger in our Community!
Participate in our Care & Share Food
Drive by bringing donations of
nonperishable food items to classroom
teachers.

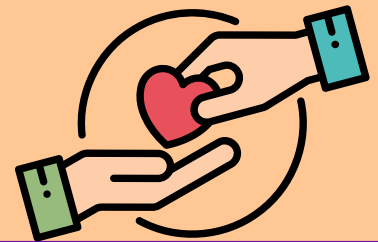


School News & Events

Support Stratton's SPED Resource Room & ISP Students

Celebrating the unique learning styles of our students. Our Special Education team uses hands-on, multisensory methods to make learning engaging and accessible.

Help us enhance our learning spaces by scanning their Amazon List for contributions!



Happy Fall from the Art Room!

We have been fine tuning our artistic techniques with all grade levels. Come check out the halls of Stratton for some beautiful artwork from our students. We've also been having a blast in Art Club! If you missed the fall sessions, there will more in the second semester. It's a great opportunity for you artist to get more exposure to different mediums and learn in a relaxed setting.

Our first fundraiser of the year is Art to Remember. If you are new to Stratton, each student creates a piece of art and you can order it on a variety of items. The flier for this went home on October 27th. **You have until November 10th to order!** These make great gifts for the holidays. All products you order can be shipped to you (for a delivery fee) or to the school (for free). If you choose to have the items shipped to school, they will be here by the first week of December! Here is the website if you need it to order:

<https://arttoremember.com/school/agc77x>

Please contact us with any questions!

Mrs. Vassar and Mrs. Niemeier



PTA News & Events

Stratton PTA Board

Email- thestrattonpta@outlook.com

President- Anna Rau **Vice President-** Anneliese McCain
Secretary- Amanda Lockwood **Treasurer-** Rhonda Ball

PTA Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 4th

Join us for the upcoming [PTA Meeting](#) to share updates, celebrate current initiatives, and plan for an amazing school year!

5:30-6:45 pm

School Library or via WebEx



Movie Night

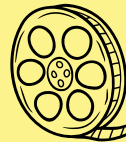
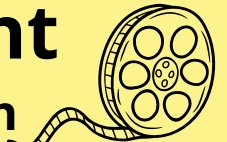
Friday, Nov. 7th

5:00-7:30 pm

School Gym

Bring your blankets, pillows, chairs, and family for a cozy night of fun!

Concessions available for purchase



Veterans Day Breakfast

Tuesday, Nov. 11th

The PTA will be serving breakfast to veterans from 7:45 to 8:15 am in the gym.

**WE THANK
YOU
FOR YOUR
SERVICE**



Skate City Night

Tuesday, Nov. 18th

5:00-7:00 pm

Constitution & Academy

**200 paid
entries =
\$1,000.00 for
our school**

Classroom with the highest attendance will win the Golden Skate.



School Clubs



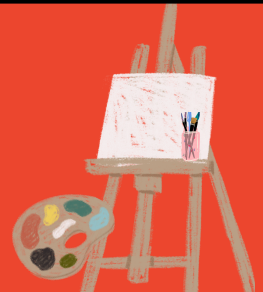
Yes Club

Thursdays
3:00-5:00 pm

Art Clubs

2nd Grade
Tuesdays
2:50-3:30 pm

3rd-5th Grade
Last Class
Thursday, Nov. 6th
2:50-3:50 pm



Battle of the Books

Tuesdays
2:50-3:50 pm

Thursdays
(During Lunch)

Yearbook Club
Wednesdays
(During Lunch Recess)



Student Council

Mondays
2:50-3:50 pm



Health & Wellness

Counselor's Corner



Hi Stratton Families!

I cannot believe we're already a couple weeks into quarter two of this school year. I hope you all had a lovely fall break and were able to enjoy some time together.

I wanted to provide some insight as to what the school counseling program has covered this year. Every week I am in classrooms teaching SECL (social emotional cognitive learning) lessons. The goal of these lessons is to teach the students important life skills for them to flourish at school and in their day-to-day lives. Each lesson is specific to the developmental needs of the students based on grade levels!

Here's what we've covered so far...

August – Settling into the new school year

We reviewed "who is the school counselor?" and classroom team building.

September – Kelso's Choices

This is a conflict management curriculum. It teaches and empowers students to handle small problems on their own. (Ask your child what a Kelso's Choice is and when they would use one!)

October – Bullying Prevention Month

We focused on what bullying is, the different types of bullying and how to handle bullying.

November – Kindness and Gratitude

The ultimate way to prevent bullying is to focus on being kind – so that's exactly what we do. We discuss things such as what kindness is, how to be kind and the ripple effect that kindness has in school and in the world. (Check out the Kindness Tree bulletin outside of the office to see what kindness means to the students here at Stratton!) In addition, in the final two weeks of November we're talking about gratitude as we approach Thanksgiving.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me directly if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student.

Ms. Combs

719-328-3405 | taylor.combs@d11.org



LINA
Connect
ONLINE PORTAL

Free and Reduced/FEDS Combo Application

Even though the students are eating their meals for free, other benefits [to apply](#) are:

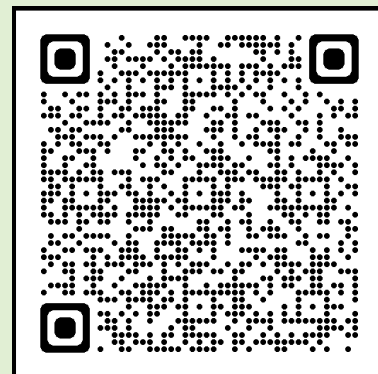
- Possible reduction of fees for programs both within District 11 and outside of District 11
- Qualified students will receive Summer Electronic Benefits (S-EBT) in the summer when school is not in session
- Additional funding for schools and District 11 thereby providing an enhanced educational experience for students



School Breakfast & Lunch Menus

Please scan the QR Code for
Breakfast and lunch menus.

*Menus are subject to change based on
availability.*





Attendance & Safety

Attendance Matters

AIS & Attendance Notices:

- The AIS system is fully operational, with automated texts and calls at 8:50 AM for absent or tardy students. Families of students with attendance below 90% will receive periodic updates until improvement.



Drop-Off & Pick-Up:

- Drop-off starts at 7:30 AM for breakfast.
- Pick-up is at 2:50 PM. Please arrange timely pick-up.



Kiss & Go Lane

The Kiss and Go Lane is a pull-through only. Pull to the right lane as far up as you can to drop off or pick up students. Please do so safely and quickly. **DO NOT PARK OR EXIT YOUR VEHICLES.** The left lane is used for exiting the Kiss and Go area. DO NOT let students out or pick up while in the left lane.

Employee Parking Area

The employee parking area is **strictly reserved** for staff, buses, daycare, and "Hop, Skip, Drive" student pick-up only.

Parents are not permitted to use this area for student drop-off or pick-up.



