



Stratton Sentinel

January 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Letter from the Principal

Hello again Stratton families—I hope you had a great holiday and are looking forward to 2026! We have a lot going on here at Stratton this semester (as usual) and of course we're looking down the road to recognize our 5th graders as they prepare to move on to middle school. But there's a little ways to go and a few things to do before that happens!

I am very happy to report that our mid-year testing data came out very strong overall! I am very proud of our students for their hard work and grateful to our teachers for the effort they put in to support our students. I'm also thankful to all our families for your help—we are partners in our students' education and I thank you for all your efforts for your children! Two very important ways to keep this positive momentum going: one, please continue to try to get students to school on time! When students are late, even just a few minutes, they miss something here at school! And, two, please continue to make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and has a healthy snack here at school during the day. Those two things make a tremendous difference in a child's day and have a positive impact on not just their behavior, but how well they learn, too.

This semester we have some very exciting opportunities for many of our students, which are being organized and supported by the district. In February, our 3rd graders will go to the Pikes Peak Center to see a performance by the Colorado Springs Philharmonic; in March, kindergarten gets to build their own "Pinewood Derby" cars; in April, 2nd graders will go to Venetucci Farms; and at the beginning of May our 5th graders will get to build and fire rockets again! More information about these opportunities will come out as soon as we have it for you.

We also have some things that we could use a little help with here at Stratton—we are in need of two Crossing Guards and possibly three Lunchroom Monitors here at school. The Crossing Guard positions are posted on the D11 website and are available for anyone to apply now! This entails about 30-40 minutes each morning and about 30 minutes in the afternoon, and is a paid position! The Lunchroom Monitor positions will be posted soon, and are actually a combination of outside Recess Assistant and indoor Lunch Monitor positions, and are also paid positions. If you are curious or interested in either of these, please contact us here at school and we'll give you information about the positions and how to apply.

Welcome back everyone! We're looking forward to a fantastic 2026 and hitting the ground running like Stallions!

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, Jan 21st
6:00-7:00 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

Field Trips

Fridays in Jan. for ISP
9:00-11:30 am

16th- We Rock the Spectrum



30th- King Soopers



Tue, Jan. 13th
9:00-1:00 pm
3rd Grade to
Pioneer Museum

5th Grade to Starbase

Monday, Jan. 12th & 26th
8:30-2:30 pm

Students will engage in hands-on STEM activities in a real-world learning environment. This experience builds curiosity, teamwork, and interest in science and technology careers.



**4th & 5th
Grade**

Basketball Games

3:15-4:30 pm Girls
4:15-5:30 pm Boys

Tuesday, Jan. 27th.
@ Stratton vs Edison

Thursday, Jan. 29th.
@ Stratton vs Carver

Coffee Talk w/ Principal Phalen

Tuesday, Jan. 20th
9:00-10:00 am

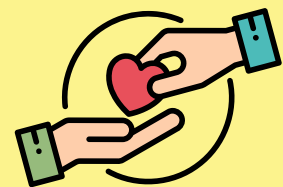
Connect,
share ideas,
and chat
about what's
happening at
Stratton.



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!



Cub Scouts Pack 24 January Meetings

Mon, 12th 6-7 pm

Mon, 26th 6-7 pm



No School

Monday, Jan. 19th

District Closed /
Martin Luther King Jr.
Day



YEAR BOOK PHOTOS

Did you snap a great photo at one of our events and think it belongs in the yearbook?

Let Mrs. Rickard in the office know, and she'll send you the link to upload your photos for approval—maybe it'll make it in!



PTA News & Events

Stratton PTA Board

Email- thestrattonpta@outlook.com

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

PTA Meeting Tuesday, Jan. 13th

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

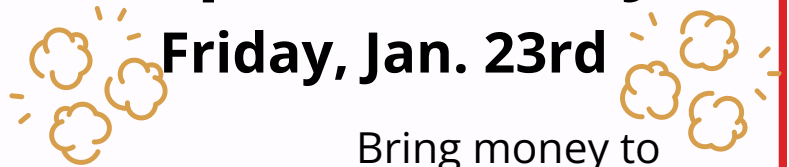
5:30-6:45 pm

School Library or via WebEx



Popcorn Friday

Friday, Jan. 23rd



Bring money to classroom teacher's in the morning. Popcorn is handed out at the end of the day.



\$1.00 per bag

Skate City Night

Tuesday, Jan. 27th

5:00-7:00 pm



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

Location: Constitution & Academy

Classroom with the highest attendance will win the Golden Skate.

School Clubs



Basketball Practice

January- 7th, 13th, 20th, & 21st

Boys- 3:00-4:00 pm

Girls- 4:00-5:00 pm

Choir Rehearsal "Annie"

Mondays 3:00-4:30 pm

&

Thursdays 3:00-4:00 pm
(Check calendar for specific dates)



Battle of the Books

Tuesdays
2:50-3:50 pm

Thursdays
(During Lunch)

Yearbook Club

Wednesdays
(During Lunch Recess)



Mondays
2:50-3:50 pm

Student Council

Health & Wellness

Counselor's Corner



Hi Stratton Families!

As we enter the second quarter of the school year, I hope you enjoyed a lovely fall break. I wanted to share what the school counseling program has covered this year through weekly SECL (social emotional cognitive learning) lessons tailored to students' developmental needs:

- ****August****: Introduced who the school counselor is and team-building activities.
- ****September****: Implemented Kelso's Choices for conflict management, empowering students to resolve small issues independently.
- ****October****: Focused on bullying prevention, discussing its types and management strategies.
- ****November****: Emphasized kindness to prevent bullying and explored gratitude as Thanksgiving approaches. Check out the Kindness Tree bulletin outside the office for student contributions!

Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

1.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

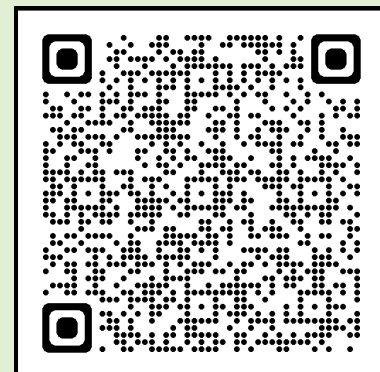
School Breakfast & Lunch Menus

Please scan the QR Code for
Breakfast and lunch menus.

*Menus are subject to change based on
availability.*



**Breakfast
is served
at 7:30 am**





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 7:35 AM.
- 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.



January 2026



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1 	2 	3 	1 	2 	3
		WINTER				
4	5 Teacher Work Day Break!	6 Professional Development Day	7 Students Return Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess 4 th & 5 th Grade Basketball Practice boys 3:00-4:00 pm girls 4:00-5:00 pm	8 Battle of the Books During Lunch	9	10
11	12 StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm 5 th Grade field trip to Starbase 9:30-1:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm	13 3 rd Grade field trip to Pioneer Museum + Bonforte Park 9:30-1:00 pm Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm 4 th & 5 th Grade Basketball Practice boys 3:00-4:00 pm girls 4:00-5:00 pm PTA Meeting 5:30-6:45 pm	14 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess	15 Battle of the Books During Lunch Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm	16 ISP Field Trip to We Rock the Spectrum 9:00-11:30 am	17
18	19 No School / District Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day 	20 Coffee Talk 9:00-10:00 am Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm 4 th & 5 th Grade Basketball Practice boys 3:00-4:00 pm girls 4:00-5:00 pm	21 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess 4 th & 5 th Grade Basketball Practice boys 3:00-4:00 pm girls 4:00-5:00 pm SAC Meeting 5:00-6:00 pm	22 Battle of the Books During Lunch Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm	23 PTA Popcorn Friday	24
25	26 5 th Grade field trip to Starbase 9:30-1:00 pm Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:30 pm StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm	27 Basketball Game @ Stratton vs Edison Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm PTA Skate City Night 5:00-7:00 pm	28 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess	29 Battle of the Books During Lunch Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm Basketball Game @ Stratton vs Carver Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm	30 ISP Field Trip to King Soopers 9:00-11:30 am	31