



Stratton Sentinel

February 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Letter from the Principal

Dear Stratton Stallion community,

Welcome to February! This is that time of year when our homes (and school) start to seem like an episode of **Scrubs** with illness and a lot of worn-out kids (and sometimes adults!) Regular attendance really is our **Sesame Street** to success, because every day at school helps build the ABCs of learning. When students are here on time and ready to go, the whole place runs with the good vibes of **Cheers**—where everybody knows your name and learning feels like a team sport. We know mornings can sometimes feel like an episode of **Survivor**, but your commitment to getting students here consistently makes a **Full House** of difference.

As we move towards spring testing, it's time to channel our inner **Friends** and remind students, "We'll be there for you," especially when the work gets challenging. All the daily practice, reading, math facts, and problem-solving add up—no **Stranger Things** here, just solid preparation. The effort students put in now is like **The Amazing Race**: every step forward brings them closer to the finish line. Time can fly by like you're in **Doctor Who**, but gentle reminders to students that effort is normal, and the work will pay off, are a big help. When we all remind students that "this is the way" then every student can channel their inner **Mandalorian** and fulfil their potential!

A quick but important reminder about safety during morning drop-off: please slow down, follow staff directions, and keep all eyes open—this isn't **Fast & Furious**, and we want every arrival to feel more like **Mister Rogers' Neighborhood**. Please help us by continuing to drop off on the sidewalk side, and try not to fly through the left side to pull over to the right. When we work together calmly and patiently, mornings run smoother than a well-organized episode of **The Office** (on a good day).

Finally, thank you to all our families for everything you do to make our school such a welcoming and energetic place. From volunteering and cheering students on to reinforcing expectations at home, you show us every day that **Family Matters**. Because of you, our school feels less like a rerun and more like a **Modern Family**—connected, supportive, and always growing. We truly couldn't do it without you.

Thank you all! Waiting patiently for the next season of **Ted Lasso**....
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, March 4th
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

Talent Show

Wednesday, Feb. 18th
5:30-7:30 pm

Come cheer on
and celebrate as
our students show
off their talents.

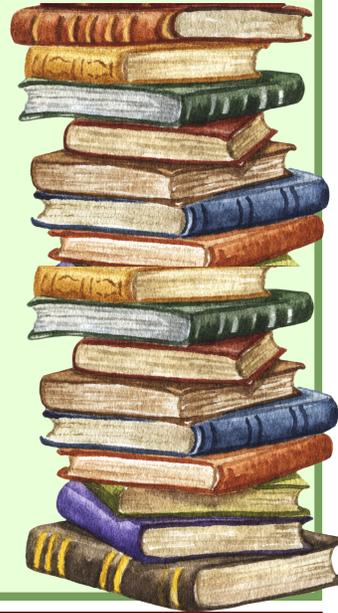
**Lights,
camera,
talent!**



Battle of the Books District Competition

Friday, Feb. 27th
8:30-11:30 pm

Pages turned,
knowledge ready
— good luck to
our Battle of the
Books team at
the district
competition!
We're cheering
you on!



GO STALLIONS

4th & 5th
Grade

Basketball Games

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

Tuesday, Feb. 3rd -
@ Stratton vs Adams

Tuesday, Feb. 10th -
@ Freedom

Thursday, Feb. 12th -
@ Rogers

Tuesday, Feb. 17th -
@ Penrose

Tuesday, Feb. 24th -
@ Taylor



Coffee Talk

Monday, Feb. 23rd
9:00-10:00 am

Come enjoy
some coffee
with Principal
Phalen and
talk about
what's
happening at
Stratton!



School News & Events

Field Trips

Fridays in Feb. for ISP

9:00-11:30 am

6th- I Top It

13th- Soda Springs Park

20th- Amy's Donuts

27th- Chick-Fil-A



Fri, Feb 20th

1:00-2:30 pm

Randolph's Class walk
to the Fire Station



Tue, Feb 6th

9:00-1:00 pm

1st Grade to the
Money Museum



Fri, Feb 27th

10:00-12:00 pm

2nd Grade to the
Money Museum

Wed, Feb 11th

12:00-2:00 pm

3rd Grade to the
Philharmonic



Fri, Feb 27th

1:00-2:30 pm

Bristol's Class walk
to the Fire Station



Band Concert

Thursday, Feb. 19th

6:00-7:00 pm

@ Mann Middle School

Our students can't
wait to share what
they've been working
on.



5th Grade to Starbase

Monday, Feb. 2nd & 9th

Tuesday, Feb. 17th

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.

School News & Events



American Heart
Association.

KIDS
HEART
CHALLENGE™

Kids Heart Challenge

Our school is launching the Kids Heart Challenge, encouraging students to learn about heart health while supporting kids with special hearts. This program helps students develop healthy habits, practice kindness, and earn rewards for themselves and the school.

Join us!

Student Council Spirit Week

RAK Week (Random Acts of Kindness)

Tuesday, Feb. 17th - Friday, Feb. 20th

Tue 17th

Twin Day

Wed 18th

Western Day

Thu 19th

Dress like a Teacher

Fri 20th

**Stranger Things
(NO GORE)**

Keep an eye out for painted rocks around our school! Take one, smile, and pass the kindness along.



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!



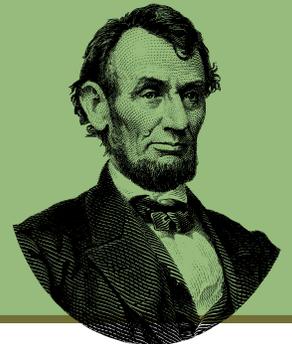
Cub Scouts Pack 24 February Meetings

Mon, 2nd 6-7 pm
Mon, 9th 6-7 pm
Mon, 26th 6-7 pm



No School Monday, Feb. 16th

District Closed /
President's 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- Noel Erdmann **Treasurer-** Rhonda Ball

PTA Meeting Tuesday, Feb. 3rd

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

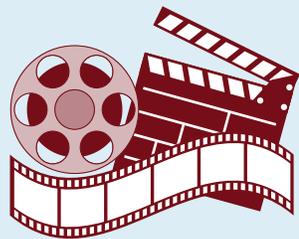
School Library or via WebEx



Valentine's Grams Friday, Feb. 13th (delivery)

On sale after school
Feb. 6th, 9th, & 11th

\$1.00 per gram

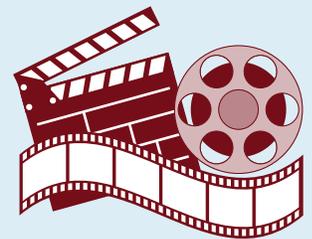


PTA MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, Feb. 27th

5:00-7:00 pm

School Gym



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

Concessions available for purchase

**MOVIE ??????
TBD**



School Clubs



Tuesdays
2:50-3:30 pm

**1st Grade
Art Club**

**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**

**YES
Club**

Thursdays
2:50-4:50 pm



Health & Wellness

Counselor's Corner



Hi Stratton Families!

National School Counselor Week is February 2nd – 6th! To celebrate the week, I wanted to bring some awareness to what a school counselor does day in and day out to support students and the overall culture of the school.

Elementary school counselors support all students' academic, social-emotional, and career development. Through classroom lessons, small groups, and individual support, counselors help students build skills like managing emotions, solving problems, making positive choices, and feeling connected at school. They also collaborate with families, teachers, and administrators to create a safe, supportive learning environment where every child can grow and thrive.

In a gist, I want students to know they belong in this world and here at school. I couldn't imagine doing this job at a better school than Stratton and the #1 reason is the amazing students we have here.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions regarding your student – please reach out to me as I am a firm believer that the more supportive adults in a child's life, the better.

Cheers!

Taylor Combs 719 – 328 – 3405 or taylor.combs@d11.org



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

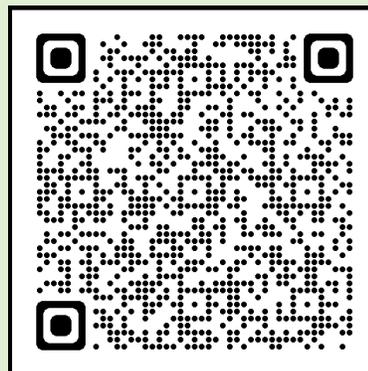
School Breakfast & Lunch Menus

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

Good attendance sets students up for success! Being at school every day helps children build strong learning habits, stay connected with their teachers and classmates, and keep up with important skills that build day by day. Every school day counts—and together we can help our students shine by making attendance a priority.

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.



February 2026



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1	<p>2 5th Grade field trip to Starbase 8:30-2:30 pm</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:30 pm</p> <p>StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm</p> 	<p>3 Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>1st Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm</p> <p>Basketball Game @ Stratton vs Adams Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm</p> <p>PTA Meeting 5:30-6:45 pm</p>	<p>4 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess</p>	<p>5 Battle of the Books During Lunch</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm</p> <p>YES Club 2:50-4:50 pm</p>	<p>6 ISP field trip to I Top It 9:00-11:30 am</p> <p>1st Grade field trip to Money Museum 10:00- 12:30 pm</p>	7
8	<p>9 5th Grade field trip to Starbase 8:30-2:30 pm</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:30 pm</p> <p>StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm</p>	<p>10 Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>1st Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm</p> <p>Basketball Game @ Freedom Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm</p>	<p>11 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess</p> <p>3rd Grade field trip to the Philharmonic 12:00-2:00 pm</p>	<p>12 Battle of the Books During Lunch</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm</p> <p>YES Club 2:50-4:50 pm</p> <p>Basketball Game @ Rogers Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm</p>	<p>13 PTA Valentines' Gram Deliveries</p> <p> ISP field trip to Soda Springs Park 9:00-11:30 am</p> <p>Class Valentine's Day Parties</p>	14
15	<p>16 NO School District Closed</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p> 	<p>17 5th Grade field trip to Starbase 8:30-2:30 pm</p> <p>Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>1st Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm</p> <p>Basketball Game @ Penrose Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm</p> 	<p>18 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess</p> <p>Talent Show 5:30-7:30 pm</p>	<p>19 Battle of the Books During Lunch</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm</p> <p>YES Club 2:50-4:50 pm</p> <p>Band Concert @ Mann 5:30-7:30 pm</p>	<p>20 ISP field trip to Amy's Donuts 9:00-11:30 am</p> <p>Randolph's Class walking field trip to the Fire Station 1:00-2:30 pm</p>	21
22	<p>23 Coffee Talk 9:00-10:00 am</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:30 pm</p> <p>StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm</p>	<p>24 Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p>1st Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm</p> <p>Basketball Game @ Taylor Girls 3:15-4:30 pm Boys 4:15-5:30 pm</p>	<p>25 Yearbook Club During Lunch Recess</p>	<p>26 Battle of the Books During Lunch</p> <p>Annie Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00 pm</p> <p>YES Club 2:50-4:50 pm</p>	<p>27 ISP field trip to Chick-Fil-A 9:00-11:30 am</p> <p>2nd Grade field trip to Money Museum 10:00- 12:00 pm</p> <p>Battle of the Book District Comp 8:30-11:30 am</p> <p>Bristol's Class walking field trip to the Fire Station 1:00-2:30 pm</p> <p>PTA Movie Night 5:00-7:00 pm</p> 	28