



Stratton Sentinel

October 2026

Monthly Newsletter

A Letter From The Principal

Hello again, Stratton families!

October is here, and with it comes cooler (and wetter!) weather, changing leaves, and plenty of exciting things happening around Stratton. It's always fun to see our students getting excited about the season, and I'm already hearing some early ideas about Halloween costumes!

One of the most important things happening this month is Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences. Conferences will take place on October 13, 14, 15, and 16, and the October update includes the specific schedule and information you'll need. Each teacher will be sharing their availability (we have some that need to have conferences on Monday) and they will share their sign-up process with you. We hope every family will make time to connect with your child's teacher. Conferences are a great opportunity to hear about your child's progress, celebrate the things they are doing well, and talk together about goals for the rest of the year. We truly value the partnership between our families and teachers, and these conversations are an important part of that partnership.

And, of course, October wouldn't be October at Stratton without some fun! Friday, October 30 will be our Halloween celebration, including classroom parties and our Halloween Dance. We know how much our students look forward to this day, and we're excited to make it a fun and memorable part of the school year. We'll share costume guidelines and other details with families as we get closer to the event.

There is a lot happening this month, and I'm grateful for the energy and enthusiasm our students, staff, and families continue to bring to Stratton. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. I'm looking forward to a great October together!

Go Stratton!

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.

**Tues, Dec 8th
4:30-5:30pm 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

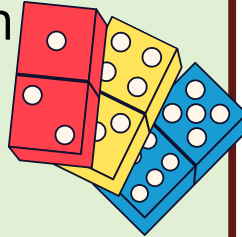
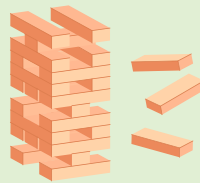
COUNT DAY

Thursday, October 1st
Students' attendance on
October 1st influences
school funding for
programs and resources.
It's also crucial for them to
be present on the days
before and after Count
Day.



GMP Game Night

Thursday, October 1st
4:30-5:30 pm



Students and families in our
3rd-5th Grade Gifted
Magnet Program (GMP) are
invited to join us for a fun
evening of games, laughter,
and getting to know new
friends!



BOOK FAIR



When: Tuesday-Thursday, October 13th -15th

Time: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Where: The Library

Come browse, discover a new favorite, and
stock up on some great books! There will be
something for every reader, so don't miss
the fun!

School News & Events

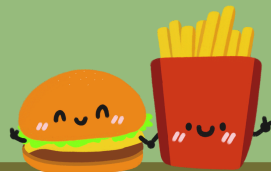
What-a-Burger Fundraiser

Tuesday, October 6th

706 E. Fillmore St.
5:00-8:00 pm



Enjoy a What-a-Burger dinner with family and friends, and support Stratton's Musical Department! A portion of your purchase will aid our talented Stallions. Mark your calendar and come hungry!



5th Grade Rocket Day

Thursday, October 15th
10:00 am-12:00 pm

3rd Annual Rocket Day! An exciting hands-on STEM event where fifth-grade students learn about how to design, build, and launch their own rockets.



Student Council Red Ribbon Week

Monday, October 26th - Friday, October 30th

Monday, Oct 26th: Rainbow Day

Tuesday, Oct 27th: 70's/80's Day

Wednesday, Oct 28th: Red Day

Thursday, Oct 29th: PJ Day

Friday, Oct 30th: Costume Parade Day

Red Ribbon Week is a national campaign promoting healthy, drug-free choices among children, teens, and communities. It raises awareness and encourages positive decision-making and mutual support for safe and healthy choices.

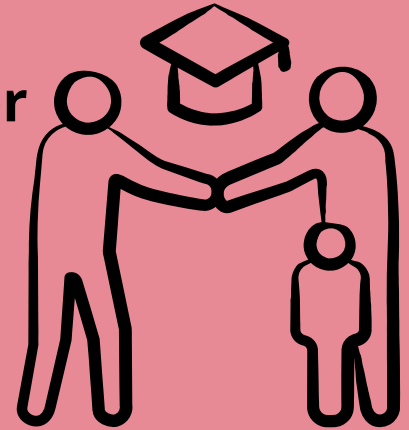
School News & Events

Parent Teacher Conferences



October 13th thru 16th
***times will vary per teacher**

Please reach out to your student's teacher to schedule a conference. This is a wonderful time to learn how your student is doing, celebrate their triumphs and successes, and talk about any areas where they may need a little extra support.



Come ready to share your questions or concerns and have a conversation about how we can work together to help your student continue to grow and thrive!

**NO SCHOOL
for Students**

Friday, Oct. 9th
**Teacher
Work Day**

Friday, Oct. 16th
**Parent/Teacher
Conferences**

**NO SCHOOL
District Closed**

Monday, Oct. 19th
thru
Friday, Oct. 23rd



**Fall
Break**

School News & Events

Stratton's Musical Performance

Calling all interested 4th and 5th graders! Audition information for The Wizard of Oz will be posted outside the music room at the beginning of October.

Audition Prep Rehearsals:

Tuesday, October 27 | 3:00–4:30 PM

Tuesday, November 3 | 3:00–4:30 PM

Thursday, November 5 | 3:00–4:00 PM

Auditions:

Tuesday, November 10 | 3:00–4:30 PM

Once the cast is selected, rehearsals will begin right away. Rehearsals will be Tuesdays and Thursdays in November and December, then switch to Mondays and Thursdays beginning in January.

Performance:

Thursday, March 11 at Mann Auditorium

Tech Week: March 8–10

Please save these dates and get ready for a little yellow-brick-road magic! We can't wait to see all the students interested in joining the cast!



Harvest Of Love Food Drive



Mon, Oct. 26th
thru
Fri, Nov. 13th

Picture Retake Day

Thursday,
October
29th



School News & Events

Field Trips

**Fridays in October
for ISP 9:00-11:30 am**

2nd - Walmart

30th - Longneck Pumpkin Patch

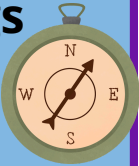


Cub Scouts Pack 24 October Meetings

Mon, 5th 6-7 pm

Mon, 12th 6-7 pm

Mon, 26th 6-7 pm



Stratton's Annual Costume Parade

Friday, October 30th 1:30 pm

Parade will start at 1:30 pm in the building- collecting classrooms as we go, and will proceed out front around the Kiss and Go area. Parents are encouraged to come support the students and admire costumes.

Parent Costume Reminder:

- All costumes worn must be appropriate for school. Please DO NOT allow your child to dress as a scary or violent character.
- No blood or weapons are permitted.
- Students are not to wear their costumes to school. Each child will be given a SHORT time to change prior to the parade.
- Please keep the costume simple enough that the child can dress themselves.

CLASSROOM PARTIES TO FOLLOW THE PARADE



PTA News & Events

Stratton PTA Board

Email- thestrattonpta@outlook.com

President- Anneliese McCain **Vice President-** Patty Lee
Secretary- Noel Erdmann **Treasurer-** Shawna Campbell

PTA Meeting

Tuesday, Oct 6th

5:30-6:30 pm

School Library

or via WebEx

Halloween Dance

Friday, October 30th
5:30-8:00 pm

Get ready for a spooktacular night of fun! Join us in the school gym for our PTA Halloween Dance, featuring music, dancing, and lots of Halloween spirit! Students are encouraged to wear their favorite school-appropriate costumes and come ready to have a boo-tiful time!

School Clubs

**Battle of
the Books**

Tuesdays
2:50-3:50 pm

Thursday
(During Lunch)



Mondays
2:50-3:50 pm

**Student
Council**

**Yearbook
Club**

Tuedays
2:50-3:50 pm



Thursdays
2:50-3:30 pm

Art Club
1st & 2nd
Grade

Health & Wellness



Counselor's Corner

Welcome back to school! These past couple of weeks have been so fun seeing our returning Stratton students and meeting our new students! Returning to school can bring a range of emotions for both kids and families. For some students, they're so excited, happy to be back and ready to jump in. And for other students, they're overwhelmed, nervous or just simply tired thinking about all that school entails. A big part of my job at the beginning of the school year is helping students with this transition and ensuring we are doing all that we can for our students to be successful here at Stratton.

QUICK TIP! As your child adjusts to the start of the school year – have a 1–2-minute check-in with them after school every day. You'll get a sense of your child's day at school and how their day may impact them throughout the rest of the evening. I want school to be a safe place for your child to thrive! If there is something you feel may get in the way of that (whether it's academically, socially, emotionally or situationally) please let me know so I know how to best support your child.

Taylor Combs School Counselor
taylor.combs@d11.org | 719-328-3405



LINQ
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 7:30 AM. Pick-up is at 2:50 PM. Please arrange timely pick-ups, as administrative staff cannot supervise students.



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. For safety students **must** exit on the sidewalk.

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.



October 2026



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1 COUNT DAY Battle of the Books during lunch Cross Country End of Season Party 3:00-3:30 pm GMP Game Night 4:30-5:30 pm	2 ISP field trip to Chick-Fil-A 9:00-11:30 am	3
4	5 Local Author Reading for Kindergarten 1:00 pm StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm	6 Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm Yearbook Club 2:50-3:50 pm Oz Musical What-a-Burger Fundraiser @ Filmore 5:00-8:00 pm PTA Meeting 5:30-6:35 pm	7	8 Battle of the Books during lunch 1st & 2nd Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm	9 NO SCHOOL for STUDENTS Teacher Work Day	10
11	12 RAK Stars @ Stampede StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm	13 Book Fair 8:30 am-4:00 pm Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm Yearbook Club 2:50-3:50 pm Parent / Teacher Conferences	14 Book Fair 8:30 am-4:00 pm Parent / Teacher Conferences	15 Book Fair 8:30 am-4:00 pm 5th Grade Rocket Day 10:00 am-12:00 pm Battle of the Books during lunch 1st & 2nd Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm Parent / Teacher Conferences	16 NO SCHOOL for STUDENTS Parent / Teacher Conferences Parent / Teacher Conferences	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
FALL BREAK / District Closed						
25	26 StuCo 2:50-3:50 pm Cub Scouts Pack 24 6:00-7:00 pm Harvest of Love Food Drive	27 Battle of the Books 2:50-3:50 pm Yearbook Club 2:50-3:50 pm Oz Audition Prep 3:00-4:30 pm	28	29 Picture Retake Day 📷 Zoopeteers 12:10-12:40 pm Battle of the Books during lunch 1st & 2nd Grade Art Club 2:50-3:30 pm	30 ISP field trip to Longneck Pumpkin Patch 9:00-11:30 am Stratton Annual Costume Parade 1:30 pm Class parties to follow PTA Halloween Dance 5:30-8:00 pm	31