ST CROIX FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

January

Happy Winter, Saints Nation!

2024



St. Croix Falls School District 740 Maple Drive St. Croix Falls, WI 54024 715-483-2507 www.scfschools.com

School Building Hours
(in session)
Dresser Elementary 8:17am-3:09pm
SCF Elementary 8:07am-3:19pm
SCF MS & HS - 8am - 3:30pm

Vision

Becoming the best version of ourselves:

- * Dynamic
- * Connected
- * Innovative

Mission

The mission of the School District of St. Croix Falls is to provide a supportive, studentcentered learning environment that cultivates character, fosters academic excellence, and embraces diversity.

Inside this issue:

- From the Superintendent
- District Resources
- STAR Foundation
- High School
- Middle School
- Athletics
- Elementary School
- Nurse
- Early Childhood Screening
- Kids Care
- Little Saints
- Community Education

Follow us on Facebook

A Letter from the Superintendent, Mark Burandt ~Winter 2023-24~

Although we have not had a lot of typical winter weather, I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the heart of the Winter season. While we have had little in the way of severe winter weather, please remember that this can change at any time.



By now you should have received communication from the district regarding our use of virtual/at home instruction when the weather (or other circumstances) dictate we cannot physically be in our buildings on a school day. If you have any specific questions regarding what your child can expect, please contact your child's building principal.

While we have made it through some of our most challenging time regarding the weather, please know that we continue to monitor this on a daily basis as there is still a good portion of winter for us to get through. As a friendly reminder, weather forecasts can vary widely from one geographic region to another, and weather forecasts can change quickly. We utilize driving our roads, local law enforcement, current forecasts as part of our decision-making process. As a reminder, if we are going to alter the school day, you can see this on our website, Facebook pages, the television channels from the Twin Cities, and our district messaging system. If you are not receiving the messages, please contact your child's building office to ensure the information we have entered into our system is accurate.

A reminder to please have contingency plans regarding childcare in place if we should need to delay the start of the day, let out early at the end of the day or cancel an entire day. We are certainly aware the burden this can put on families, however; sometimes not having school is the safest option available to us.

I want to reiterate that student safety is our utmost concern. It is when the air temperature or wind chill is very low that parents can have the greatest impact upon their child's safety and well-being. Being certain children have weather appropriate hats, scarves, gloves or mittens, coats, pants, and footwear goes a long way in being certain students are prepared to face Wisconsin's winter weather. The district does have several resources to help with providing some of these items, please talk to your child's building principal or counselor.

On another note, winter tends to be the season where we have significant increases in illnesses. In particular, those that involve the respiratory system. Please monitor your child for fever, difficulty in breathing, muscle soreness and the like. If a child is ill, please allow them to stay home to rest and recover. Also, please be certain to notify your child's attendance office.

Enjoy the rest of the winter,

Mark C. Burandt District Administrator



School Accountability and Educational Options - Notice

State law requires each public school to annually provide parents and guardians with

- A copy of the annual state accountability report (called the school report card) for the school that your child attends; and
- A list of the educational options that are available to children who reside in the <u>District</u>.

School and School District Accountability and Performance Data

Along with this notice, you are receiving access to a copy of the most recent state-issued accountability report (school report card) for the school that your child attends. These reports have been provided via an electronic link below. Please contact the main office of your child's school, or Brian Kray, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology if you have any difficulty accessing the reports or if you have any questions about the reports. In addition:

 The full version of the most recent state-issued accountability report for each of the District's schools and for the District as a whole can be accessed on the <u>District's Report</u> Card Information website.

Overall District Rating

Meets Expectations

Individual School Ratings

School Name	WI Report Card Accountability Rating
St. Croix Falls Elementary	Exceeds Expectations
St. Croix Falls Middle School	Meets Expectations
St. Croix Falls High School	Meets Expectations

2. Extensive school and school district performance report data is now generally available through the "Wisconsin Information System for Education Data Dashboard," which is referred to as "WISEdash." The website for public access to WISEdash is https://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/. In addition, parents and guardians may request a copy of such performance reports from the District. Provided that the report has been made available by the Department of Public Instruction, the District will provide a copy of the most recent report in response to each such request by no later than May 1 of each school year.

Educational Options

Along with a copy of the annual state accountability report (the "school report card") for the school that your child attends, state law requires each public school to annually provide parents and guardians with notice of the educational options that are available to children who reside in the District

In the School District of St. Croix Falls, children and their families have access to a variety of educational options, including all of the following:

- The District's Public Schools
- a. The <u>District's</u> primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12- grade. Various specialized programs and services are also offered, such as programs for students with disabilities (beginning as early as age 3) and students who are English language learners.
- b. The <u>District</u> operates 2 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 1 high school. In addition, district students in grades K-12 may also attend virtually through the St. Croix Falls Virtual School.

The main web page for each of the <u>District's</u> public schools can be accessed through the District's website. See scf.k12.wi.us.

- The <u>District</u> offers its 4-year-old kindergarten program with our St. Croix Falls Elementary building.
- Options for High School Students Who Are Enrolled in a District School
- a. Eligible high school students enrolled in the School District of St. Croix Falls can consider the following options that involve part-time attendance at an educational institution other than a District school or program:
 - The Part-Time Open Enrollment Program, as authorized under section 118.52 of the state statutes.
 - The Early College Credit Program, as authorized under section 118.55 of the state statutes.
 - The Technical College Course Program ("Start College Now" Program), as authorized under section 38.12(14) of the state <u>statutes</u>
 - Eligible high school students may also participate in the Youth Apprenticeship program authorized under section 106.13 of the state statutes.
- Other Educational Options (other than primary enrollment/attendance in a District school or District program)

The following educational options involve full-time (or at least primary) enrollment/attendance at a school, program, or other educational institution that is not a school or instrumentality of the School District of St. Croix Falls:

- Full-time Open Enrollment through a nonresident school district under section 118.51 of the state statutes (including possible enrollment in certain non-district charter schools and virtual charter schools).
- Enrollment in any independent public charter school (i.e., a school with no District authorization or affiliation) that may be open to students who are District residents.
- Enrollment in any private school participating in the Wisconsin parental choice program that
 may be open to eligible students who are District residents.
- d. Enrollment in any private school participating in the state's Special Needs Scholarship Program that may be open to eligible students with disabilities who are District residents.
- Enrollment in a private school of the family's choosing (normally at the family's own cost, unless otherwise provided).
- f. Enrollment in a home-based private educational program as provided under state law.
 Students enrolled in such a home-based program (i.e., home-schooled) have the opportunity to:
 - Apply for approval to take up to two courses per semester in public schools as provided under section 118.53 of the state statutes.
 - Participate in District interscholastic athletics and other District extracurricular activities as provided under section 118.133 of the state statutes.

For more information about any of the educational options listed in this notice, please contact the District Office at 715-483-9823. Additional information about educational options is also available from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction at https://dpi.wi.gov/ed-options.

Saint Croix Falls

District Report Card



OVERVIEW

District Details

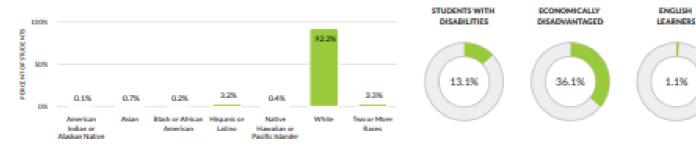
Grades: K4-12 Enrollment: 1,075

Percent open enrollment: 14.5%

Our mission is to provide a supportive, student-centered learning environment that cultivates character, fosters academic excellence, and embraces diversity. In connection with our vision to become the best version of ourselves: dynamic, connected, and innovative, we strive to ensure a year's growth in a year's time for each student. This report communicates one measure of these goals.

The statement above is provided by the district. It is not an evaluation by the Wisconsin DPI.

Student Groups



Score Summary

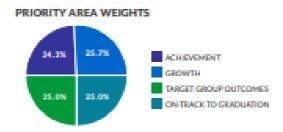


Please use caution when interpreting scores and ratings. Multiple years of data impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic are used throughout the report card. Also, see https://dpl.wi.gov/accountability/resources.



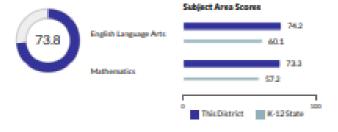




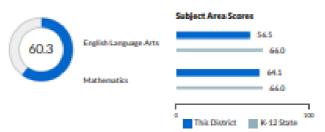


Priority Area Scores

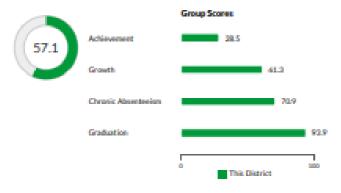


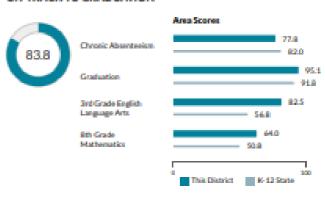


GROWTH



TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES





Saint Croix Falls High

Saint Crobs Falls



OVERVIEW

School Details

Grades: 9-12 Enrollment: 342

Percent open enrollment: 14.3%

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Student Groups





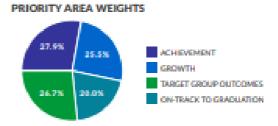
Score Summary

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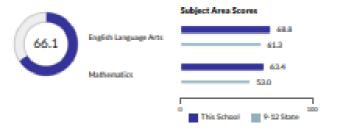




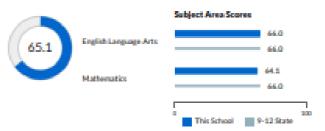


Priority Area Scores

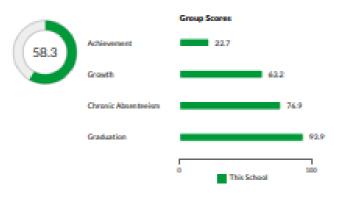


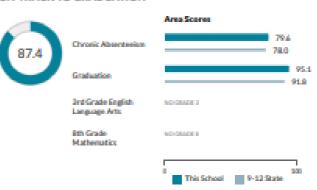


GROWTH



TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES





Saint Croix Falls Middle

Saint Croix Falls

Report Card, 2022-23 Public report

OVERVIEW

School Details

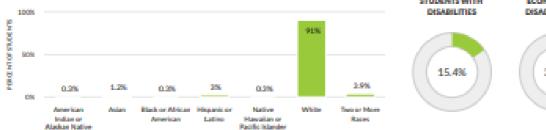
Grades: 5-8 Enrollment: 332

Percent open enrollment: 16.6%

Our mission is to provide a supportive, student-centered learning environment that cultivates character, fosters academic excellence, and embraces diversity. In connection with our vision to become the best version of ourselves: dynamic, connected, and innovative, we strive to ensure a year's growth in a year's time for each student. This report communicates one measure of these goals.

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Student Groups





Score Summary

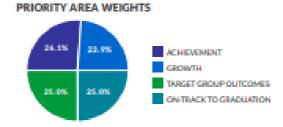


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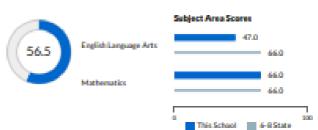


Priority Area Scores

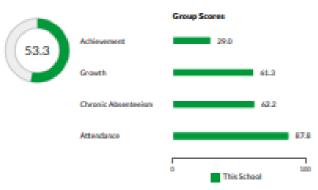


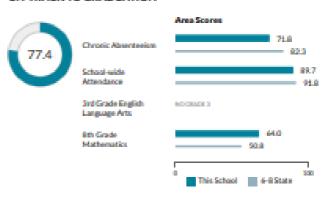


GROWTH



TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES





Saint Croix Falls Elementary

Saint Croix Falls



CHARGE HOLE

LEADNERS

1.7%

OVERVIEW

School Details

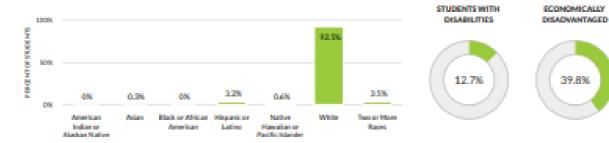
Grades: K4-4 Enrollment: 347

Percent open enrollment: 13%

Our mission is to provide a supportive, student-centered learning environment that cultivates character, fosters academic excellence, and embraces diversity. In connection with our vision to become the best version of ourselves: dynamic, connected, and innovative, we strive to ensure a year's growth in a year's time for each student. This report communicates one measure of these goals.

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Student Groups



Score Summary

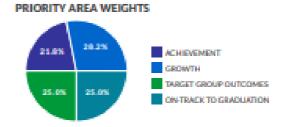


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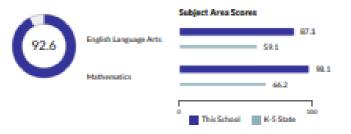
Exceeds Expectations



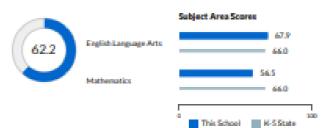


Priority Area Scores

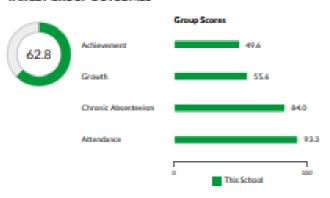


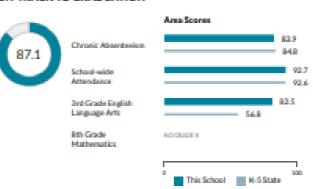


GROWTH



TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES





ENGAGE Wisconsin



What is ENGAGE Wisconsin?

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has partnered with Graduation Alliance to provide an extra layer of support for grades 6-12 students and their families to boost school engagement and academic success during the school year.

Students who choose to participate in the program will be assigned an Academic Success Coach who will answer questions, connect them with resources, and develop a plan to help the student stay on track and engaged with their schooling.

How does it work?

Coaches reach out to students by phone, email, text message, and more to provide support such as:

- Encouragement and motivation to help students stay on track with their studies
- Organization and study tips
- Educational resources and exercises to help strengthen reading and math skills
- Referrals to local nonprofit organizations that can provide support with life's challenges

What does it cost?

ENGAGE Wisconsin is state-funded and completely free to students.

How do I sign up?

Go to **RegisterWI.GraduationAlliance.com**, call **414.207.8960**, or email **EngageWI@GraduationAlliance.com** to get started.

"I couldn't ask for better dedication and support for my daughter. Our Academic Success Coach is a blessing and has incredible energy. I love how she got my daughter out of her shell and talking more (and finding her voice to speak up more). Thanks to our coach and this program, my daughter loves school and learning again. This program is the best thing that could ever happen for my daughter and me!" ~ ENGAGE parent



2024-2025 Full-Time Open Enrollment Regular Application Period for Wisconsin Public Schools

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

YOU MAY APPLY FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT FROM FEBRUARY 5 - APRIL 30, 2024.

What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend a school district other than the one in which they live. Applications may be submitted to up to three nonresident school districts if the pupil wishes to attend a brick and mortar school. There are no limitations to the number of open enrollment applications that can be submitted to a virtual charter school.

How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment regular application period for the 2024-25 school year is from February 5-April 30, 2024. The application period closes at 4:00pm on April 30, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

Parents may apply online at https://dpi.wi.gov/oe.

Can I apply to a virtual charter school under open enrollment?

A pupil may only open enroll to an online/virtual school if:
(1) the school has been created as a virtual charter school that meets the requirements of the charter school law [Wis. Stats. 118.40 (8)] or (2) the pupil is required to physically attend school on a regular basis in a school located in the nonresident school district on the days that school is in session. Other important things to know about applying to virtual charter schools:

- A virtual charter school is not homeschooling. Pupils attending virtual charter schools are public school pupils.
- You must know the nonresident school district in which the virtual charter school is located.
- You must know your resident school district to apply.
- A list of virtual charter schools may be found at https://dpi.wi.gov/parental-education-options/charter-schools/virtual-charter-schools.

Parents whose applications are denied may appeal to the DPI within 30 days of the denial. State law requires the DPI to uphold the school district's decision unless DPI finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable. The DPI's decision may be appealed to circuit court.

Who may participate in open enrollment?

Pupils in kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.

Open enrollment for prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

Can an application be rejected?

Nonresident school districts may deny an application if regular or special education space is not available for the pupil; special education or related services are not available; or if the pupil has been referred for a special education evaluation but has not yet been evaluated. Nonresident school districts may also deny an application if the pupil has been expelled during the current or preceding two years for certain violent conduct or if the pupil was habitually truant from the nonresident school district during any semester in the current or previous school year.

If there are more applications than spaces, pupils must be selected randomly, after giving preference to pupils already attending school in the nonresident school district and siblings of currently-attending pupils.

Some school districts establish waiting lists to fill unused spaces, but others do not.

Can a resident district prevent a pupil from leaving?

A resident district can deny a pupil's application for an invalid application (early or late application or missing information), ineligibility due to age (too young or too old), or if the resident district does not offer the same type of prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten, or early childhood program as the nonresident district or the pupil is not eligible for the program in the resident district. These are also reasons that a nonresident district can deny an application.

Can parents appeal if an application is denied? Must pupils reapply every year?

Once a pupil is accepted into a nonresident school district, the pupil may continue to attend that district without reapplication except that:

- The nonresident district may require a pupil to reapply one time at the beginning of middle school, junior high or high school.
- A pupil may be returned to the resident school district if the special education required in a new or revised IEP is not available in the nonresident district or there is no space.
- A pupil who has become habitually truant in the nonresident district may be returned to the resident district.

(continued on next page)

Is there a cost for parents to participate in the open enrollment program?

There is no tuition cost to parents for participation in open enrollment. Parents of open enrolled pupils may be charged the same fees as resident pupils.

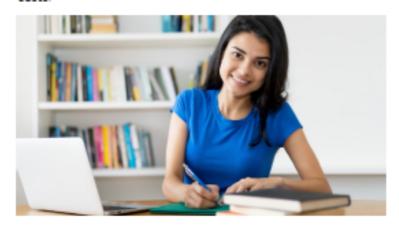
Who is responsible for transportation?

Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from school.

If transportation is required in the IEP for a child with a disability, it must be provided by the nonresident district.

School districts may provide transportation to open enrollment pupils if they wish. Usually, if transportation is provided, parents must transport the pupil to a location in the nonresident district.

Low-income parents may apply to the DPI at the end of the school year for partial reimbursement of their transportation costs.



Can a parent select a specific school in the pupil's nonresident school district?

Yes. A parent may request a specific school or program in the nonresident district. However, assignment to the requested school or program is not guaranteed and your pupil may be assigned to a different school other than the one requested. It is up to each nonresident district to determine a pupil's school assignment.

Can an open enrolled pupil participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities in the nonresident school district?

Open enrolled pupils have the same rights and responsibilities as resident pupils.

Inter-scholastic athletics are governed by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), which has rules concerning transfer pupils. Parents should check with the school district's athletic director about eligibility.

IMPORTANT OPEN ENROLLMENT DATES

February 5 - April 30, 2024

Parents must submit applications online or directly to the nonresident school district.

June 7, 2024

Nonresident school districts must send notices of approval or denial via US mail or email. If the application is approved, the school district must notify the parents of the specific school or program to which the pupil is assigned. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

June 14, 2024

Resident districts must notify applicants if the application is denied. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

June 28, 2024

Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the pupil will attend the nonresident district in the 2024-25 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the pupil to attend the district



For more information contact:
Public School Open Enrollment Program
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841
Toll-free: 888-245-2732, option 2
openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov
https://dpi.wi.gov/oe

2024-25

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.



The STAR Education Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational charitable organization. We're Making a Difference!

WE SUPPORT SCF STUDENTS! JOIN US!

For further information about donating your time, talents and/or monetary gifts, please contact Bonnie Kloos at 715.553.2996 or Melissa Ward at 715.557.1920.





PRINCIPAL Peggy Ryan

It is hard to believe that the first semester is done, given the lack of snow and cold up to this point. However, winter is far from over. Please remind your high school student to



bring their Chromebook home in case inclement weather strikes. In the event of a school closure, students will need to log in to Schoology for the day's assignments.

Also, please remember to call the school if your student is out for any reason. It is important as the year progresses that we have accurate attendance records. When parents do not notify the school, the excuse is marked unexcused, which can become a truancy issue.

Scheduling for the 2024-25 school year will begin at the end of January. Please work with your student(s) to plan out the best classes for their 2024-25 school year. Also, be aware that some courses are available on an every-other-year basis. Several courses that consume expensive supplies require a lab fee to help offset that cost. If your family cannot afford the fee and qualifies for free or reduced lunches, contact me about a fee waiver. Finally, courses are offered according to student selection. If only a few students sign up for a class, it will not be included in the schedule. This is why alternative selections are important considerations in making course choices.

The ACT test will be taking place on March 12, 2024. This will be a virtual learning day for freshmen, sophomores, and seniors. Only juniors will be in the high school that day. You will receive more information about test registration and test preparation in the coming weeks. This test is often used to determine whether a student is admitted to college, so it is important that students are well-prepared and well-rested prior to testing.

The Pre-ACT test will be administered to freshmen and sophomores in April. You will be notified when the exact date is set. This will be a virtual learning day for juniors and seniors. More instructions will be forthcoming on this exam.

Peggy Ryan St. Croix Falls High School Principal (715) 483-9824 ext. 1302 ryanpe@scfschools.com SOF IS STUDENT COUNCIE

COMING SOON!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT KITS

INCLUDES: ACTIVITY BOOK, MEMORY GAME, CRAFTS, SNACKS, AND MORE

Look for Order Form

Sent home with your student On the School Districts Facebook Page On the Parent Information Page

KITS WILL BE SENT HOME TO ENJOY OVER SPRING BREAK
THANK YOU, ST. CROIX FALLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

Operation Christmas Fundraising

Thursday, December 14th, the St. Croix Falls Student Council members hosted their annual Brinner, a pancake dinner, fundraiser, before the St. Croix Falls boys basketball game against Chetek-Weyerhaeuser. The annual "Chuck-a-Duck" and "Miracle Minute" fundraisers were also held that day. In "Chuck-a-Duck", fans could buy a rubber duck for \$2 and during halftime of the game, were invited to throw their duck from the stands, trying to land it in a bucket. In the "Miracle minute", students had one minute to run through the stands collecting as much money as possible. All proceeds from the three events went directly to Operation Christmas. In total, we fundraised \$508.81 for the Operation Christmas store. This store serves the families of Polk County in need around the holidays. In addition, the St. Croix Falls Middle School and Elementary collected an additional 57 toys for Operation Christmas. The St. Croix Falls Student Council would like to thank everyone involved with any of these events. Your support and help is greatly appreciated. We were able to spread so much good because of your contributions. Thank you.

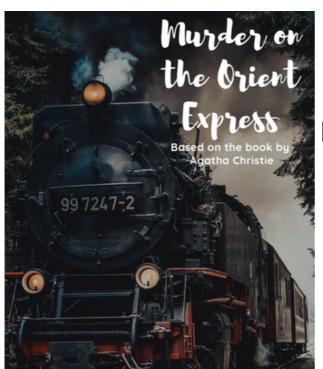
Thank You,

Morgan Marks, SCF Student Council PR



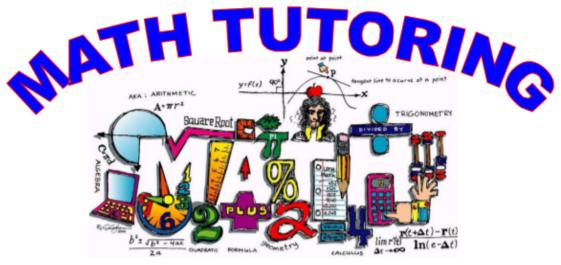






High School Drama
Production of Murder on the
Orient Express Show dates:

March 15, 16, & 17 in the Fine Arts Center



WHO: Algebra 1, Beginning Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Algebra 2, Common Core Algebra 2, Geometry, Common Core Geometry, Stats, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and Tech Math Students

WHEN: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday -- 7:00 - 7:55am; Friday -- 7:00 - 7:25am (By appointment only if virtual: email sirinma@scfschools.com the day before to make an appointment.)

WHERE: Mr. Sirinek's Room (Room #139)

WHY: To improve math skills and study habits.

WHAT TO BRING: A POSITIVE attitude & questions you would like help answering!





a note from the middle school Darrell Imhoff

The first semester has flown by and the second semester is just beginning. For students this means some new classes, new classmates and new teachers. For all students, this is a fresh start as they begin a new grading period. It is an opportunity for students to turn around a grade they were not happy with from the first semester, do even better in the second semester, or strive to maintain their level of achievement in the second semester.

Remember that PowerSchool Parent Portal is an excellent tool for parents to keep track of their student's grades. If you need help connecting to the PowerSchool Parent Portal please contact the middle school office. If you ever have questions about why your child is getting a specific grade, please contact their teacher.

Remote Learning Due to School Closure

We will be utilizing at home (remote) learning when weather or other circumstances do not allow students to attend in person. While we prefer to have face-to-face instruction, our experience has taught us that we can deliver quality instruction remotely to continue our students' learning. We will inform everyone when we are having a home (remote) learning day when the notice of school closure is given. This option will allow us to continue instruction and complete our school year as planned.

On virtual learning days, the middle school students will run through their schedule just like if they were in the school building. (For example if they have math 1 and 2 periods, 8:00-9:32, at school, they will have math at the same time remotely.) Students will need to attend all their academic classes - Language Arts, math, science, social studies, PE, art, tech, health, etc. They will not be attending their WYN times or study halls. Students will use their Chromebooks to log into Schoology, like they normally do, to get assignments and the Google Meet link for the day. Students will need to join their class on the Google Meet during their class period, so teachers can take attendance, give directions and answer questions. They do not need to remain on the Google Link for the entire class period. If the Google Meet link is not working for a student, they need to email their teacher, so we can accurately take attendance. If your child will be missing school because of illness or appointment, please call the office for attendance like you would if school was in session.

It's been a wonderful first half of the school year. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Mr. Darrell Imhoff St Croix Falls Middle School Principal Telephone (715) 483-9823 ext: 1202 imhofda@scfschools.com



THE MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING HOURS ARE 7:30 AM - 3:45PM

AS THE WEATHER GETS COOLER, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT STUDENTS ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO BE IN THE BUILDING FOR ACTIVITY PRACTICES, HOMEWORK HELP, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE WEIGHTROOM OR OTHER SPECIFIC STAFF SUPERVISED REASONS.

ALL OTHER STUDENTS WILL BE SENT OUTSIDE.



3:30-4:30 PM MONDAY -THURSDAY

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL REMINDERS

Parents: As we begin semester two, this is a reminder on attendance. Per our student handbooks, each student is allowed ten parent excused days each school year. A parent or guardian is required to notify the school when a child is absent from school. When taking a vacation, we require at least two days notification before being absent from school. If your student is out of school due to an appointment (medical, dental, eye, counseling, etc), please provide a note from the provider stating your student was seen; we can mark this as medical, and it will not go against their attendance.

Students arriving late to school must sign in at the office window and receive a pass from one of the school secretaries for class. Tardy is before 8:30am; after 8:30am, your student will be marked absent. Accumulating multiple tardies, excused or unexcused, to any class, will result in detentions.

For the specific school attendance policies, please visit our school website. If you have any attendance questions, or you are calling to excuse your student, High school office: 715-483-7726. Middle school office: 715-483-7727.

Power School is a great tool for parents to keep track of their student's attendance as well as their grades. If you are looking for guidance on how to access this, visit this link.

https://parentaccess.scfschools.com/home



MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL PRE-WINTER BREAK FUN



Notes from the Athletic Director

To our winter sports teams-

Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Dance, Boys Hockey, Girls Hockey, Boys Wrestling, and Girls Wrestling- we wish you all the best of luck in the second half of your season and into the post-season!

Sports Officials-

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming an official, please reach out to AD- Tara Rose for more information. We are really down on JV/C baseball officials for this spring. If you know anyone who would be interested in officiating have them contact Tara Rose. The number of officials for all sports is still down in Wisconsin. If you or someone you know wants to become an official, please let us know. Also, remember that officials are human and will make mistakes. Let's make sure we treat them respectfully when they are at SCF!

Spring Sports-

The following sports are offered through the school district for the spring season:

High School Sports:

- Baseball- Practice starts March 18, and Pitchers report March 11th
- Boys Golf Practice starts March 25th
- Softball Practice starts: March 11th
- Track & Field Practice Starts: March 4th

Middle School Sports:

• Track & Field - Practice Starts: April 1st

*Make sure the athletes have a current physical or alternate year card turned in, this must be in before the athlete can practice. Also, make sure to register and pay the activity fee for your athlete on RevTrak- Link: https://scfschools.revtrak.net/athletic-fees/#/f/athletics-fees

Concussion Impact Testing dates will be in early March for any students who need to take a concussion test. Students should listen to announcements and check their email to know when to take their concussion screener.



#SAINTSNATION



Notes from the Athletic Director



New Scoreboards

This summer we purchased two new scoreboards that were desperately needed in the high school gym. Because of our sponsors' generosity, we were able to get one video scoreboard. The scoreboards were installed mid-November, and on November 28 we used them for our first home girls' basketball game. We got so many positive comments and compliments from players, coaches, and fans about the new scoreboard. None of this would have been possible without our very generous sponsors! Not only do our athletes get a very exciting new game experience, but we also have students in our Sports Marketing and Management classes (Ms. Jacobson & I co-teach this class) who get the opportunity to learn Daktronics Software, sports management, and sports marketing. This is such a wonderful new experience for the School District of St. Croix Falls. I can't thank our sponsors enough!

Please thank these wonderful local businesses if and when you see them!





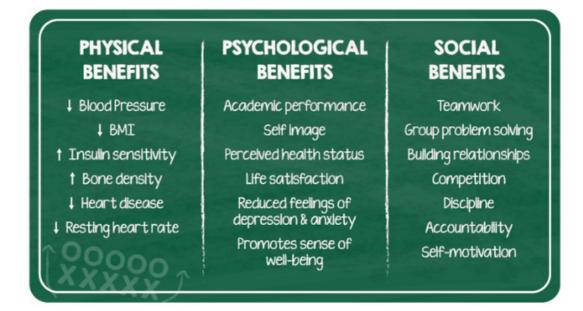




Notes from the Athletic Director

Sports Have So many Positive Benefits for our Students

Encourage your student(s) to get involved!



SCHEDULES

WE ARE ALMOST HALFWAY THROUGH THE WINTER SEASON.
FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULES ALWAYS CHECK THE ST.
CROIX FALLS PAGE ON THE HEART O'NORTH WEBSITE:

HTTPS://HEARTONORTH.ORG/PUBLIC/GENIE/142/SCHOOL/674/



Thank you for all your support of Saints Athletics - Go Saints!

Tara Rose

roset@scfschools.com

Work: 715-483-2507 ext. 1305

Cell: 715-417-2280



#SAINTSNATION



steebna@scfschools.com
#SAINTSNATION

715-483-2507 x1271

715-553-0569





SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Rita Platt

Dear SCF and Dresser Elementary School Families,

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through the school year, but here we are! Students are doing great and growing in their academic and social-emotional skills.

Parents, thank you for your work with your kiddos! The word "parent", as you well know, is a VERB! It's actionoriented and can be hard work. We appreciate all you do!

As a reminder, we ask for three things to happen at home to support our students' academic growth:



- 1. Home Reading: Students should read a just-right book for a minimum of 20 minutes every day outside of school (or, for our littles, have a book read to them.) If your child isn't bringing home books to read, reach out! We've got plenty!
- 2. Math Fact Practice: Students in grades 1-4 should practice math facts for a minimum of 10 minutes each day. Gaining fact fluency in elementary school means a way easier math experience in middle and high school.
- 3. Spelling practice or other homework assigned by teachers.

A Saint Always CARES!

At school we work with children on developing C.A.R.E.S. traits (cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control).

A Saint is:

- *Cooperative!* Working together to get a job done, is a great tool for helping children feel like active members of your family. Assigning simple chores is good for kids and even when they complain about them, in the long run, they will feel good about themselves when they contribute to the well-being of the family.
- **Assertive!** Learning to be assertive can help children feel in control of their lives. We define assertion as using your words to stand up for yourself and others and to ask for what you want or need.
- **Responsible!** Every student in grades K-4 should be reading at home a book of their choice for at least 20 minutes a day. Students in grades 1-4 should also be practicing math facts for 5 to 10 minutes a day. This little bit of homework can help students develop responsibility. If you need books or flashcards, reach out, we'll get them to you.

A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

- *Empathetic!* Empathy means thinking about how other people feel and following the Golden Rule. At home, you can work on pointing out examples of people showing empathy or kindness to each other in real life or even on television shows.
- **Self-Controlled!** Being in control of our bodies and minds is a life-skill. Help children with self-control by limiting their use of technology or screen time. Additionally, teaching kids to do "figure-eight" breathing can help with both self-control and reducing stress.





A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Start with Love, End with Love

I truly believe that every single child is a gift to the world. It feels to me like the last several years have presented numerous challenges. Many of us (adult and child alike) are fatigued. That fatigue can lead to stress that our kiddos feel, even when we try to shield them from it. At home, you might be seeing behaviors from your Saints that you haven't seen before. If you need help, reach out. The key is to work to let go of anger in discipline and replace it with a desire to help our young people learn to make better choices and use cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control to guide their lives. The key is to start with love and end with love.

Strategies to Help Parents Keep Our Cool

- *Breath.* Figure Eight breathing isn't just for kids, LOL! I keep a copy on my lanyard and remind myself to relax and breathe often.
- *Get Inspired*. Surround yourself with quotes, poems, and pictures that inspire you. Post them where you think you'll need them most. Then, when you feel your pulse racing or your mood shifting, read them. Really read them and ask yourself how you can live in accordance with the messages they share.
- *Laugh*. When we feel joyful, our bodies release dopamine which makes us feel even better. Joyful laughing is almost always a good thing. Add a bookmark on your browser for a website that always makes you laugh. Google Kid Snippets for some really funny videos or Charlie Berens for some good midwestern humor.
- *Love*. No matter what is happening, try to focus on how much you love your child and see her or him as 100% likely to be a wonderful, happy, healthy, and positive person in their future. When our kids misbehave (and they all do), we have to encourage ourselves to remember to dislike the behavior but love the person.

A Great Second Half!

At St. Croix Falls and Dresser Elementary Schools, our goal is for students to be happy, healthy, successful, and independent learners. I am so excited to head into the second half of our school year.

Families, I want to remind you that I am here for you too! Reach out if you need help, have a question or concern, or for any other reason you may have to talk with me.

Very sincerely yours,

Rita Platt
Elementary School Principal
715-483-9826 ext1102
plattri@scfschools.com

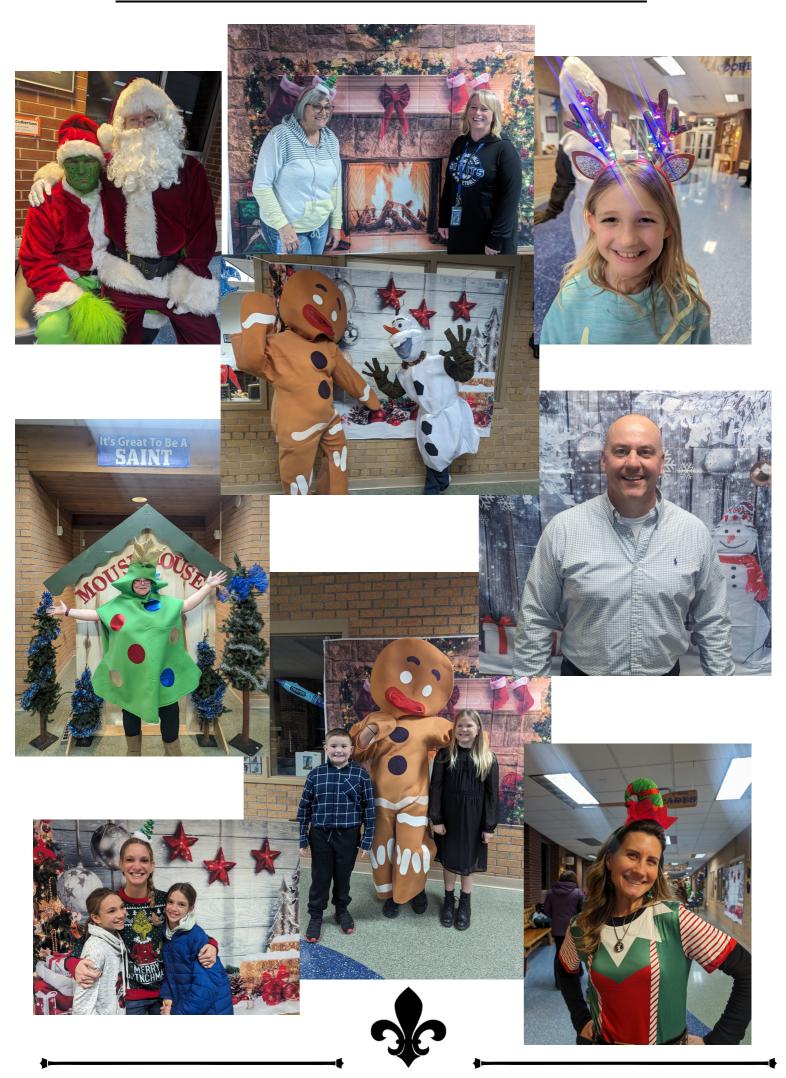
Saint Croix Falls Elementary

Saint Croix Falls, WI | Saint Croix Falls School District

#17 in Wisconsin Elementary Schools



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRE-WINTER BREAK FUN



Information from the Nurse

Winter is here and so is RSV, Influenza, Covid-19, and along with many other winterrelated illnesses. It is strongly encouraged to test when having symptoms to rule out which illness your child has and see if there are any treatments available.

Please encourage all family members to take these actions to fight the spread of our winter illnesses both at school/daycare and at home:

- Wash your hands. Encourage everyone to wash their hands with warm, soapy water
 after toileting and after any coughing, sneezing, or blowing their nose. Hand sanitizer
 can be used if handwashing is not readily available.
- "Cover your Cough". Encourage everyone to cover their cough with a tissue or cough into their elbow and, of course, wash their hands.
- Stay home if ill to reduce the spread.
- · Clean and disinfect surfaces at home.
- It is not too late to vaccinate for influenza and/or Covid-19.

Contact your medical clinic or the Health Department (715-485-8500) to get vaccinated.



TOO Sick for School? When to stay home

- 1. Fever: 100.4 F or greater. Student may return to school when fever-free for 24 hours without using any fever reducing medications.
- 2. Vomiting/Diarrhea: Any unexplained vomiting episode. May return 24 hours after last episode. Diarrhea=three or more unexplained episodes of watery or loose stool in 24 hours OR sudden onset of loose stools. May return 24 hours after last episode.
- 3. Cough: Serious, sustained coughing, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing. Consult with a health care provider.
- 4. Rash: Any new rash accompanied by fever. May return after rash goes away and fever free or clearance given by health care provider.
- 5. Skin Lesions/Sores: Drainage from a sore that cannot be contained within a bandage OR sores are increasing in size OR new sores are developing day-to-day. Consult with a health care provider





CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCREENING DAY



Saint Croix Falls School District

The School District of Saint Croix Falls and the Polk County Birth to 3 Program will be having a Child Development Screening for birth to 4-1/2-year-old students. The screening will be at the Dresser Elementary on Monday, February 12, 2024, starting at 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm, with a snow day make-up on Monday, February 19, 2024.

During the Child Development Screening, you will have the opportunity to learn about your child's cognitive (pre-academic), motor (fine and gross), social/emotional, and language development. There will be an Early Childhood teacher, a Speech and Language Therapist, a 4K teacher, and a School Psychologist from the Saint Croix Falls School District as well as representatives from Birth to 3 assisting in the screening. In addition, trained personnel will check your child's hearing and vision, for ages 3 and above only.

Please call Eimile Chelberg (715-755-3165 ext. 1600) to schedule an appointment. Please schedule an appointment by Friday, February 9, 2024.





Developmental Guidelines

2 ½ Year Old

Gross Motor

Walks, runs smoothly Jumps up and down Uses stairs, holding on to railing, 2 feet

Throws ball overhand in controlled manner

per stair

Rides toy vehicles (scooter, tricycle) Pulls and pushes toys on wheels Sits – gets up without help Kicks stationary ball Squats/bends over to pick up an object

Fine Motor

Control scribble (finger-tip or palmer grasp)
Turns one-two pages in book
Pulls apart pop beads
Places rings on post
Replaces 3 simple shapes in puzzle
Builds tower of 4 blocks
Scoops & dumps materials

Learning Skills

Completes simple puzzle
Matches by color/shapes/objects
Points to or names 1 or more body parts
Understands concept of "one"
Labels a variety of objects
Follows 1-2 step directions
Understands position words (in, on, under)

Points to or gets requested items

Tells first name

Recognizes object by function Beginning to show imaginary play (Birthday Party, talks on phone)

Communication Skills

Receptive

Demonstrates knowledge of "big" and "little"

Answers "who", "what", "where" and "what are you doing" questions by pointing, actions, or verbal response Reads non-verbal expressions

(happy-sad) Responds to yes/no questions Recognizes/points to common pictures Uses name, "me" or "mine" to refer to self

Expressive

self
Uses two or three-word sentences
Makes requests
Asks "What's that?"
Repeats word-number when reques

Repeats word-number when requested Uses social language (hi-bye-please-thank you)
Makes sounds for animals/activities
Speech is understood by familiar

Social-Emotional

isteners, but sound errors remain

Shows variety of facial expressions/emotions Shares toys, helps others, may offer toy to someone

Can delay gratification/wait for toys,

snack, etc.
Shows awareness of other children
Can be redirected
Uses toys appropriately
Explores environments

3 Years Old

Developmental Guidelines

Gross Motor

Walks and runs around obstacles smoothly Walks on a line (tape) Pushes, pulls, steers wheeled toys Rides tricycle by steering & pedaling

Jumps in hula hoop over edges, landing on both feet together
Throws ball overhead – 2 handed
Traps ball against body

Fine Motor

Crosses midline Builds tower of small blocks (9-10) Uses effective grasp on tools (hammer,

Uses effective grasp on tools (hammer spoon, marker) Copies circle, imitated cross Imitates strokes Able to manipulate small objects Experiments with using scissors

Learning Skills

Completes simple puzzles

Matches by colors
Identifies three or more colors
Recognizes basic shapes
Rote count 1-5
Labels a variety of objects
Follows 1-2 step directions
Uses objects to show concepts (behind, above, beside)

Puts objects in categories (food vs. animals vs. vehicles)
Object relationships (hammer/nails,

Object relationships (hammer/nails, scissors/paper)
Tells last name and age Imitates actions of adults & peers

Explores the environment
Engages in a variety of activities
Uses problem-solving skills (i.e. requests
help, manipulates puzzle pieces)

Communication Skills

Receptive

Understands size comparatives such as big and bigger
Understands relationships expressed by "If...Then", "because", or "First...Then"
Carries out a series of two or three related directions
Understand "pretend" situations
Shows understanding of story being read Categorizes toys/pictures (animals, colors, shapes)

Expressive

Initiates conversation with adult

Talks in sentences of three or more
words which take the form noun-actionlocation (Daddy sit on chair.)

Tells about past experiences, shares
information

Uses "s" on nouns to indicate plural
Uses "ed" on verbs to indicate past time
Asks "wh" questions

Refers to self-using pronounces for me

Refers to self-using pronounces I or me; knows gender Speech is understandable to strangers, but there are still some sound errors

Social Behavior

Asks adult for help
Begins to follow rules
Begins to problem-solve
Involves others in play
Shows effort to control emotions & resolve conflicts

AM Kids Care Call 715-417-2248 PM Kids Care Call 715-417-1694

KIDS CARE!



School Year Contract(All regular school days when school is in session.)		
Туре	Description/ Information	Fees
Registration Free	Online Registration https://scfschools.rev trak.net/rw- community- education/.	\$20 per child\$60 maximum per family
AM Location	AM Kids Care: St. Croix Falls Elementary SchoolPhone Number: 715-417- 22486:00am-7:45am	\$5 per child
PM Location	PM Kids Care: Dresser ElementaryPhone Number: 715-417- 1694 3:15pm-6:00pm	Until 4:30pm- \$5.00 per childUntil 5:00pm- \$7.50 per childUntil 6:00pm- \$8.50 per child

ALL FAMILIES ENROLLED WILL BE REQUIRED TO FILL OUT A MONTHLY CALENDAR WITH YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE, YOU WILL BE BILLED BI-WEEKLY. PAYMENT DUE BY FRIDAY FOR THE CARE PROVIDED FOR THE PREVIOUS TWO WEEKS. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO FILL OUT THE MONTHLY CALENDAR.

Late fee will be applied if payment is not received by the due date.

REGISTER TODAY!

HTTPS://SCFSCHOOLS.REVTRAK.NET/RW-COMMUNITY-EDUCATION/



Kids Care will provide:

- · A safe, healthy, comfortable environment.
- · Caring supervision by a qualified adult and great enthusiastic students.
- A consistent group of playmates.
- Quiet time with books.
- · Large movement games-when outside time can't happen.
- · A healthy, nutritious snack.
- Lots of fun!!

What will be expected of your child during Kids Care?

- · Be a Saint who C.A.R.E.S. (cooperative, assertive, responsible, empathetic, self-controlled)
- · Follow program rules & staff directions
- · Participate appropriately in planned activities within a group of children
- · Stay within the activity area and not wander away from the group
- · Behave in a manner that does not pose an unsafe situation for themselves or others
- · Be independent for personal care needs such as washing hands and toileting



KIDS CARE DIRECTOR

Tammy Jones jonesta@scfschools.com

AM Kids Care Call 715-417-2248 PM Kids Care Call 715-417-1694







COMMUNITY EDUCATION PRESENTS



Looking for a class to take? Looking for some social activities to do? Join Community Ed!

Classes available for registration at: https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/

Community Education Website: https://www.scf.k12.wi.us/community/

SCF COMMUNITY EDUCATION: HALLWAY WALKING

1. Use the SCF HS/MS School hallways for walking will be permitted during the following times:



- Monday-Friday, 5-7 PM, November March.
- Hallway walking is not permitted on non-school days (ie in-service days, fall break, winter break).
- If school is canceled, there is no hallway walking.
- 2. Registration is required. Please register online at https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/ or contact the Community Ed Director (commed@scfschools.com) or 715-483-2507 x1406 if you wish to be included on the list. You must be on the list that is shared with evening custodial staff to ensure safety. 3. Participants are not permitted to attend games or events that may be taking place on campus during scheduled walking times, unless paying entrance fees.



Registration for travelling volleyball teams for girls in 4th through 8th grades is open. Matches are on Saturdays between March 9th and May 11th in the Wisconsin Independent Volleyball League. Each team's schedule may be different.

Please, register by Thursday, February 1st. The registration fee per player is \$45. If this fee is a hardship for your family and would prevent your daughter from being able to play, please contact us.

If you have any questions about the registration process, call Joanna Lessard at 715-483-2507 ext 1200. Questions regarding the volleyball program, contact Patty Geisness at 651-235-1862 or email at geisnpa@scfschools.com



Community Concert
Scheduled for mid-late April.
See the Calendar and
Facebook for updates









Saturday Morning Basketball!!



Open to boys and girls Grades K-4

(Used to be called Bitty Ball)

The primary goals of this program are to teach youth fundamental basketball skills and to progress into fun, organized and competitive scrimmages. This is a non-traveling league and is recommended for all students (K-4) including those that play traveling basketball. December and January is spent doing fun drills that work on fundamental skills like dribbling, passing and shooting. In February, offense and defense will be introduced into simple organized games. This program is run by Chad Hall, varsity boys' coach, and HS basketball players.

Saturdays:

DEC. 16 MIDDLE School Gym JAN. 6 MIDDLE School Gym JAN. 20 ELEMENTARY School Gym

FEB. 3 MIDDLE School

Times:

All Grades K-4: 9:00-10:15 a.m.

Cost: \$25 If you have a jersey and \$45 for new players, includes new jersey.

REGISTER ONLINE ONLY: https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/

Questions, please contact Chad Hall 715-483-9823 ext. 1315 or hallch@scfschools.com

SCF Community Education

= YOUTH = BASEBALL

Registration Open Now

3RD/4TH GRADES

Through

STH GRADE

Important Information

COST \$125

 -This cost includes a hat & jersey, league fees, umpiring, balls, and some equipment.
 -Each player will be responsible for purchasing their own black baseball pants, black/blue socks, black belt, and cleats (no metal for 10u - 12u).

PRACTICE STARTS IN APRIL.
GAMES STARTING WEEK OF MAY 1ST
SCF HOME TOURNEY JUNE 21-23
SOME WEEKEND TOURNAMENTS WILL BE
SCHEDULED.

Register online at: https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rwcommunity-education/

Contact Jaanna Lessard lessajaésafschools.com for registration questions

SCF YOUTH WRESTLING

High Flyer Youth Wrestling in St Croix Falls
Grades PreK thru 1 will practice Mondays 6-7 PM
January – March 4th
Grades 2 thru 5 will practice Tuesdays and Thursday
6-7:30 PM January – March 28th
Location: SCF HS Wrestling Room. Cost: \$50
Register online at https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rwcommunity-education/ or email
commed@scfschools.com.





Ages 6+ are welcome - the first night is free! Thursdays starting September 7th-May 16th (billed monthly) Hosted in the dance room at the SCF High School





Cheer! Stunting! Dance!

Ballet (5:30pm-6:00pm) - \$30/month Hip-Hop (6:00pm-6:30pm) - \$30/month Cheerleading (6:30-7:30pm) - \$45/month Cheer Stunt Team (Invite Only) (7:30-8:30pm) - \$45/month

Register at http://ApexGymnast.com/CommEd/ Questions? (715) 539-3333 or office@apexgymnast.com



COMMUNITY EDUCATION PRESENTS



Driver's Education: St Croix Falls students interested in Driver's Ed

 <u>OPTION 1</u> Drivers Education is available online through Northwood Technical College.

All information is available by calling 715-234-7082 and select option 4, or can be found at:

https://www.northwoodtech.edu/continuing-education-and-training/driver-training/drivers-ed

<u>OPTION 2</u> St Croix Valley Driving School is located in St Croix Falls.
 New classes begin September 18, 2023 and go through October 12, 2023

Classes are held Monday - Thursday 6-8 PM. Classes are also available online through SCVD. All information is available by calling or texting 715-553-6602 or email scvds.office@gmail.com

 <u>OPTION 3</u> Bumper to Bumper School of Driving is located in the Somerset/New Richmond area and offers services to St Croix Falls students.

All information is available by calling 715-417-8316, email Btbsdllc@gmail.com, or on their website: btbsdllc.com





EDUCATION

*ST CROIX VALLEY DRIVING SCHOOL

*NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE

*BUMPER TO BUMPER SCHOOL OF DRIVING

GET A GOOD START

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

<u>Fitness Class with Linda - Strength & Stretch</u>

Wednesdays, from 6-7pm in the HS Fitness Room

Fee: \$40

Join Instructor Linda Shober to build your strength and mobility! This class will focus on basic bodyweight exercises such as squats, lunges, planks and more. Additionally, we'll integrate moves from yoga + pilates + barre for both our strength and stretch portions.

Start dates to come

SIMPLE CRAFTS FOR BEGINNERS -

Mosaic Stained Glass and more
Thursday 6:30 – 8:00 PM, SCF High
School FACE room
Cost: \$5/class. Bring your own 5x7
picture frame and join Kathy
Scharfenberg Learn how to use
transparent glass pieces to create a
beautiful framed mosaic stained
glass picture. Also, feel free to bring
your own craft supplies and work on
your own projects with some
company.

register online at https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/



Piano and Flute Lessons: with Instructor Julie Roadfeldt.

Lessons are open to youth and adults \$25.00 per half hour lesson, monthly tuition is due at the beginning of each month, payable to Julie Roadfeldt. Classes can be held in the SCF HS Music Room. St Croix Falls Community Ed welcomes experienced piano and flute instructor Julie Roadfeldt this school year for private after school music lessons, for students of all skill levels! Lessons are open to ALL ages. To learn more about music instruction and to schedule lessons, please email Julie at julie.roadfeldt@gmail.com or call715-557-2527.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION PREVIEW



Stage Combat Workshop

Dave Schneider is a certified stage combatant, actor and teacher. Learn how to fall, slap or punch safely on stage.

Dave has worked with hundreds of actors from High School students (SCF's Beauty and the Beast...) to the actors at the Guthrie and the Minnesota Opera.



Details Coming Soon

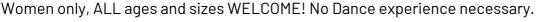


Need a metabolic pick-me-up? Does your meal planning need a kick in the pants? Join Andrea Petersen for a great workshop. Learn about nutrition and how to plan your meals for a new healthy you.

Details Coming Soon

Looking for a fun new way to workout? Maybe Middle Eastern Dance is your thing.

Women dance for women. We will focus on flexibility, strength coordination and positive body images.





Details Coming Soon



Join the Genius behind Fiddlehead Kitchen for a cooking class. You've seen these fantastic ladies in Balsam Lake at the Barred Owl as well as a number of different pop-up locations in the St Croix Valley.

Details Coming Soon

Want to take a trip to the Guthrie, or maybe the Chanhassen Dinner Theater? We will be working on putting together some community trips to the Twin Cities for some cultural events















Do you know someone who is deaf or hard of hearing? Would you like to be able to communicate better? Join us for Conversational Sign Language classes.

Tuesdays from 6-7:30 starting in February

Details Coming Soon

Oil painting, cooking and other fitness and dance classes ..

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