

ST CROIX FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

October

Happy Fall, Saints Nation!

2025



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, student-centered learning environment that cultivates character, fosters academic excellence, and embraces diversity.

Inside this issue:

- From the Superintendent
- District Contacts and information
- High School
- STAR Education Foundation
- Middle School
- Elementary School
- Forest Friends Gallery
- Athletics
- From the Nurse
- Little Saints & Kids Care
- Community Education

2025-26 School Bus Schedule Available on the School Website.
Please call x1500 for updates.



Follow us on Facebook

[@St Croix Falls School District](#)
[@SCF Athletics](#)



A Letter from Superintendent Craig Broeren ~ Fall 2025



Dear Saints Families-

The fall season is here even though we have had August temperatures recently... I am happy that the cool fall air has finally moved in. With the school year solidly under way, I have a few relevant updates for the community.

To begin, the Board of Education will conduct their annual meeting and budget hearing on Monday, October 27 beginning at 5:30pm. This is the meeting in which the Board officially sets the levy as well as adopts the budget for the 25-26 school year. It may seem odd that this occurs after several weeks of school have already passed but is entirely due to State statute and the timing with which we receive our certification of State aid as well as equalized property values which occurs on October 15. The other "moving part" to determine our overall budget and levy is the pupil count which occurs on the third Friday in September. Once Districts have conducted their pupil count as well as having received their equalized property values and certified State aid, they are able to officially set the levy and adopt a final budget for the school year.

When the State legislature adopted and approved the 25-27 biennial budget, they did allow for an increase of \$325 per pupil in the revenue cap (the total amount a school district can generate per student) in each year of the budget; however, they did not include any increase in equalized State aid which means that districts have to generate that amount entirely through local property taxes. For our district, it does appear as though we will see a roughly 5% increase in the school portion of property taxes to account for this. We are anticipating a balanced budget (or very near) this year.

With the winter season right around the corner, I wanted to remind families that school closures due to inclement weather are possible. As in the past, families will be notified by phone, text, email, and local television stations when schools are closed. The first TWO closure days will be "true snow days" in that there will be no academic requirements for students; after that, specific details about what is required will be communicated to you are your child(ren) by each school. The decision to close our schools will be made as early as possible and in consultation with other area districts as well as the National Weather Service.

I wanted to thank everyone who was able to attend the STAR Foundation's Bingo event held on Saturday, October 10! It was an excellent event with numerous high-quality raffle baskets and prizes as well as some very entertaining bingo. The STAR Foundation supports our kids and staff through very generous grants as well as their work. We sincerely appreciate the level of support they and the community provide for our students and staff!

Lastly, while the State and District Report Cards are embargoed until November 11, 2025, districts have access to them at this time. I will not go into detail, but I am very happy to report that our schools continue to perform very well and are among the best in the State! This is a credit to our kids, our staff members and our community.

GO SAINTS!

Take care.

Sincerely,
Craig G. Broeren
Superintendent



ST CROIX FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTACTS

School Board

- President: Brent McCurdy - mcurbr@scfschools.com
- Vice President: Tahsina Raygor - raygota@scfschools.com
- Clerk: Roni Schuler - schulro@scfschools.com
- Treasurer: Matt Brice - bricema@scfschools.com
- Member: Dawn Mielke - mielkda@scfschools.com

District Office 715-483-9823

- Superintendent: Craig Broeren (ext 1401)
- Finance Director: LaRae Zappa (ext 1402)
- Accounts Payable/Receivable: Betsy Beaupre (ext 1403)
- Director of Community Education: Kirk Anderson (ext 1404)
- Student Data Coordinator/Special Education Secretary: Tammy Guggisberg (ext 1209)
- Payroll/Benefits Coordinator: Kayla Daugherty (ext 1405)
- Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology: Brian Kray (ext 1253)
- Director of Special Education: Shelly Schmitz-Ince (ext 1410)
- School Psychologist: Austin Franzen (ext 1203)
- Athletic Director: Tara Rose (ext 1305)
- School Nurse: Hollie Miller (ext 1411)
- School Resource Officer: Officer Josh Tyler (ext 1412)
- Food Service Supervisor: Amy Dauscher (ext 1325)
- Building and Grounds Supervisor: Brian Warner (ext 1407)
- Transportation Coordinator: (ext 1500)



Building Administrator Contacts

High School Principal:

Mike Wilson

740 Maple Drive
PO Box 130
St Croix Falls, WI 54024
715-483-9824 ext. 1302
wilsomi@scfschools.com

Elementary School Principal:

Rita Platt

651 Louisiana Street
PO Box 130
St Croix Falls, WI 54024
715-483-9826 ext. 1102
plattri@scfschools.com

Middle School Principal:

Kris Wallace

740 Maple Drive
PO Box 130
St Croix Falls, WI 54024
715-483-9825 ext. 1202
wallakr@scfschools.com

General phone numbers

Elementary School: 715-483-9826, ext. 1100
Dresser School: 715-755-3165, ext. 1600
Middle School: 715-483-9825, ext. 1200/1201
High School: 715-483-9824, ext. 1300/1301



ST CROIX FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

Emergency Contact Information

Please return your child's emergency contact information as soon as possible.

All forms are online. Be sure to identify the applicable offices if you have a change of information any time during the school year. Keeping your phone numbers and emails up to date is the most reliable way for the school to get information to you.

School Closings

If, for any reason, schools need to close; closings are broadcast over the following television stations:

- WCCO Channel 4
- KSTP Channel 5
- KARE Channel 11
- FOX Channel 9

Updates will be put on the school website and on the school's Facebook page. School Messenger will call/text the phone number(s) you have provided as well.

Parents: 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.

Students arriving late to school require a parental note or phone call and must sign in at the office window and receive a pass from one of the school secretaries for class. Being tardy for school beyond the time specified in your school's handbook will result in your student being marked absent. Accumulating multiple tardies, excused or unexcused, to any class, will result in detentions (for middle and high school students only).

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, please call your school's office.

High School Office: 715-483-9824

Attendance: 715-483-7726

Middle School Office: 715-483-9825

Attendance: 715-483-7727

Elementary School Office: 715-483-9826

Attendance: 715-483-7728

Dresser School Office: 715-755-3165

Attendance: 715-483-7729

Power School is a great tool for parents to keep track of their student's attendance as well as their grades and school lunch accounts. If you are looking for guidance on how to access this, visit this link: <https://parentaccess.scfschools.com/home>



A NOTE FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL **Mike Wilson**



Greetings,

The 2025-26 school year is off to a great start. One of the most underappreciated traits of St. Croix Falls High School is the various systems of support. We have staff members who have been trained in Resiliency and who have attended a Mental Health Summit. Our special education department is implementing a robust transition program, helping our students get ready for “the real world”.

Our high school staff have been trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid. The BARR (Building Assets Reducing Risks) is arguably the most powerful program of support. Each grade level has a team of teachers who monitor grades, attendance, and other data. The teams (Professional Learning Communities) meet weekly to talk about our students and coordinate supports for those students in need. The goal of our PLCs is to provide support and guidance to our students as they navigate through their high school years.

School Safety is a priority for the School District of St. Croix Falls. The Saint Croix Falls School District is implementing a new safety initiative called SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT (SUSO). This confidential tipline, operated by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, allows students, parents, and community members to report concerns about school safety, such as bullying, drug use, suicidal thoughts, and threats of violence.

The goal of SUSO is to empower individuals to share information without fear of retaliation, promoting early intervention and a safer school environment. Please reference the [SUSO website](#) for a description of this tool. The school’s [website](#) has a link for students, parents, and community members to use, too.

The new staff in the high school are very positive additions. Mr. Vickerman has worked very hard to make sure he can offer the best business education classes available. He is also very busy coaching the varsity football team.

Mr. Bartsch started his tenure at SCFHS by leading our marching and pep bands and has transitioned nicely into the classroom. Our band is showing improvements almost daily.



A NOTE FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

We also have two long-term substitutes. Mrs. Sinclear-Todd is the long-term school counselor, stepping in while Mrs. Lecuyer is out on maternity leave. Mr. Sandell has committed to subbing in the technical education classroom and is doing an amazing job. We are so appreciative and fortunate to have these professionals in our building.

This year, we are continuing and enhancing the Academic and Career Planning (ACP) process. All high school students are assigned an advisor with whom they will meet during ACP time to work on post-secondary goals and future planning. The students also spend every day with this teacher in Advisory/Study Hall. During ACP, students will utilize various tools, applications, and websites, such as Xello, designed to support career exploration. Ask your student to show you their Xello work and to share with you what they are working on during ACP. Students are working on career exploration, resume writing, college searches, and financial literacy.

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for the evenings of October 2, December 4, and February 26. If you wish to meet and speak with a teacher face-to-face, drop in. We appreciate the communication and dedication that parents can bring to our partnership. Also, PowerSchool is a great way to keep on top of students' grades and attendance.

I am looking forward to a great school year. As always, you may connect with me via email at wilsomi@scfschools.com or call 715-483-9824 ext. 1302.

Mr. Michael J. Wilson
High School Principal



SCF HIGH SCHOOL

2025-2026 SCF Music Department Performance Calendar

All dates and times are subject to change or cancellation!

November 2025

- November 11: Veterans Day Program - HS Gym

December 2025

- December 1: HS District Honor Choir
- December 3: (Wed.): 2nd Grade Concert - FAC
- *December 4: (Thurs.): Snow Day Make-up for 2nd Grade Concert*
- December 8: | 5-12 - Band Winter Concert
- December 10: (Wed.): 3rd Grade Concert @ 2:00 PM (ends by 2:40 PM) | Fine Arts Center
- December 15: | 7-12 Choir Winter Concert @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | Fine Arts Center

January 2026

- January 13: HS District Honor Band @ 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM | Unity/Frederic/Luck

February 2026

- February 12: Middle School Solo & Ensemble Festival @ 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM | Unity

March 2026

- March 24: MS/HS Large Group Festival @ 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM | Siren

April 2026

- April 8: HS District Solo & Ensemble Festival
- April 10: (Fri): Kindergarten Concert 2:00 PM FAC
- April 15: (Tues): Beyond the Notes Music Festival (7-8 Choir) - All Day | Great Wolf Lodge, The Dells
- April 20: HS Band & Choir Spring Concert @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | Fine Arts Center
- April 30: (Thurs): 4th Grade Concert Setup & Sound Check - 3:30 PM - 8:00 PM | FAC

May 2026

- May 1: (Fri): 4th Grade Concert @ 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Fine Arts Center
- May 1-2: HS State Solo & Ensemble Festival @ 2:30 PM - All Day | UW-Eau Claire
- May 8: (Fri): 1st Grade Concert @ 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM | Fine Arts Center
- May 15: (Fri): 4K Concert - Time TBD | Elementary School Gym
- May 18: Spring Concerts
- 5th & 6th Grade Band Concert @ 6:00 PM PM
- 7th & 8th Grade Band/Choir Concert @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | Both at the Fine Arts Center
- May 22: HS Graduation @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM | HS Gym | HS Music Department Performs



In case of weather-related cancellations, alternate daytime concerts will be scheduled.



**HONORING OUR
BRAVE VETERANS**

**VETERANS
DAY
PROGRAM**

November 11, 2025 – 9 am
High School Gym

ALL ARE WELCOME

*RECEPTION FOR THE
PUBLIC TO FOLLOW*

DO YOU KNOW A ST. CROIX FALLS GRADUATE WHO SHOULD BE NOMINATED FOR THE VETERANS WALL OF HONOR?

**FOLLOW THIS QR
CODE
TO THE
NOMINATION FORM**



*Questions? contact Mrs. Marley Hoefs-
hoefsma@scfschools.com*

Do you know a St. Croix Falls Graduate who should be nominated for the Veterans Wall of Honor? Use the QR Code to make a nomination, or feel free to contact Mrs. Marley Hoefs with questions!



SCF HIGH SCHOOL



Rotary STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Brodie Allram

September 2025



St. Croix Falls School District



Rotary STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Carson Marks

October 2025



St. Croix Falls School District

Lewis Carroll's



THE ST. CROIX FALLS DRAMA DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Adapted by Anne Coulter Martens

St. Croix Falls High School Fine Arts Center

November 14th, 15th, & 16th

Tickets go on sale in early November.

SCF HS SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES



Dear Parents of High School Students With Disabilities,

Parenting of a student with a disability can be overwhelming. Thousands of questions run through your head. What type of accommodations and support should my child be getting at school? What type of support should I be giving my child at home? What's an IEP? Is there support after high school? This letter should serve as a guide to answering some of those questions.

SCF School District Special Education Information

<https://sites.google.com/scfschools.com/student-services/special-education?authuser=0>

Many special education questions can be answered here:

- **Special Education Home Page**

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sped>

- **Special Education: Parent Homepage**

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/families/rights>

- **Intro To Special Education Booklet**

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/families-students/intro-se.pdf>

If you have more questions or need more information and would like to talk with a special education teacher, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you!

High School Special Education Teachers:

Chris Schmidt Email: schmich@scfschools.com

Phone: 715-483-2507 ex 1308

Cory Schmidt Email: schmico@scfschools.com

Phone: 715-483-2507 ex 1309

Tia Svardahl Email: svardti@scfschools.com

Phone: 715-483-2507 ex 1337





EDUCATION FOUNDATION

ST. CROIX FALLS, WISCONSIN

STAR's backpack program feeds students over the weekend! Contact the district office for more information!

OUR MISSION REMAINS THE SAME.
WE'RE HERE TO HELP
SCF STUDENTS SUCCEED!

We're looking to GROW our long-term non-endowed fund. Reach out if you're in a position to donate and help us reach our goals!



**CLICK TO CONNECT
AND DONATE!**

MATH TUTORING



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 PRINCIPAL **Kris Wallace**



The 2025-26 school year has gotten off to a great start at St. Croix Falls Middle School! The students are getting back into the rhythm of school and have taken on the challenge of a new year. They have learned new routines and teachers, made new friends and reconnected with old ones, gotten involved with activities and hit the books. To say it's been a busy start to the year would be a huge understatement!

This year, we're keeping our focus on the 3 Rs: Respect Self, Respect Others, and Respect Property. These simple ideals form the foundations of our expectations for your middle schoolers. The 3 Rs promote positive practices and reinforce the qualities that lead to student success:

Respect SELF

- Make good decisions today for a successful tomorrow.
- Practice grit and take pride in your work.
- Care for your mind and body.
- Advocate for yourself.

Respect OTHERS

- Treat others as they wish to be treated.
- Be considerate of others' ideas, choices, and boundaries.
- Show empathy and assertiveness.
- Encourage your peers.

Respect PROPERTY

- Use items as intended.
- Ask before using others' belongings.
- Report any damage.
- Leave your space better than you found it.

Safety Reminder:

Drop-off and Pick-up: for the safety of all students, please use the designated drive-through area by the middle school office entrance for drop-off and pick-up. If you're waiting for your child, please remain in the drive-through or the parking lot across from the turnaround. Avoid waiting or lining up on the roadway, as it can create congestion and unsafe conditions.



A NOTE FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Grades:

Parents, please remember that PowerSchool and Schoology are excellent tools for tracking your child's grades. If you need assistance connecting to either platform, don't hesitate to reach out to the middle school office. We use a standard grading scale of A, B, C, D, and F. Classwork and assessments contribute to overall grades, with seventh and eighth graders' assessments counting for 70% and daily work for 30%. For fifth and sixth graders, assessments count for 60% and daily work for 40%. If you have questions about your child's grades, please contact their teacher directly. It's been a wonderful start to the year, and we are proud to be Saints!

Important Upcoming Dates:

End of 1st Quarter 10/31

Thanksgiving Break (No School) 11/26-11/28

It has been a fantastic start to the school year and it has been a true joy getting to know your awesome students! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Kris Wallace

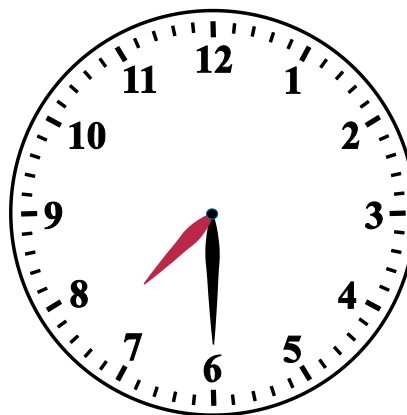
Middle School Principal

wallakr@scfschools.com

715-483-9823 ext. 1202

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

Students should not be in the building before 7:30 or after 3:45 without planned supervision



SCF MIDDLE SCHOOL

What SCF Students Think About Writing in the Age of AI

“There are better writers than me out there, there are smarter writers . . . but there’s nobody who can write a Neil Gaiman story like I can.” -Neil Gaiman

Have you ever read something and wondered, “Was this written by AI?” You’re not alone. The question has become so common that researchers are now studying how it changes the way we read and judge writing. Recently, scientists in the School of Business and Economics at the Arctic University of Norway published their findings (<https://shorturl.at/ZmluC>).

In short, people who think they are reading something that has been: A) written by AI or B) somewhat written by AI, find it less believable and less interesting compared to the same work they thought was C) written by a human.

What does this mean? That’s the kind of question students in Mr. Wondra’s 8th Grade Language Arts class have been inquiring recently in a unit where we ask the essential question, “What do we gain, and what do we lose, when we reduce struggle?”

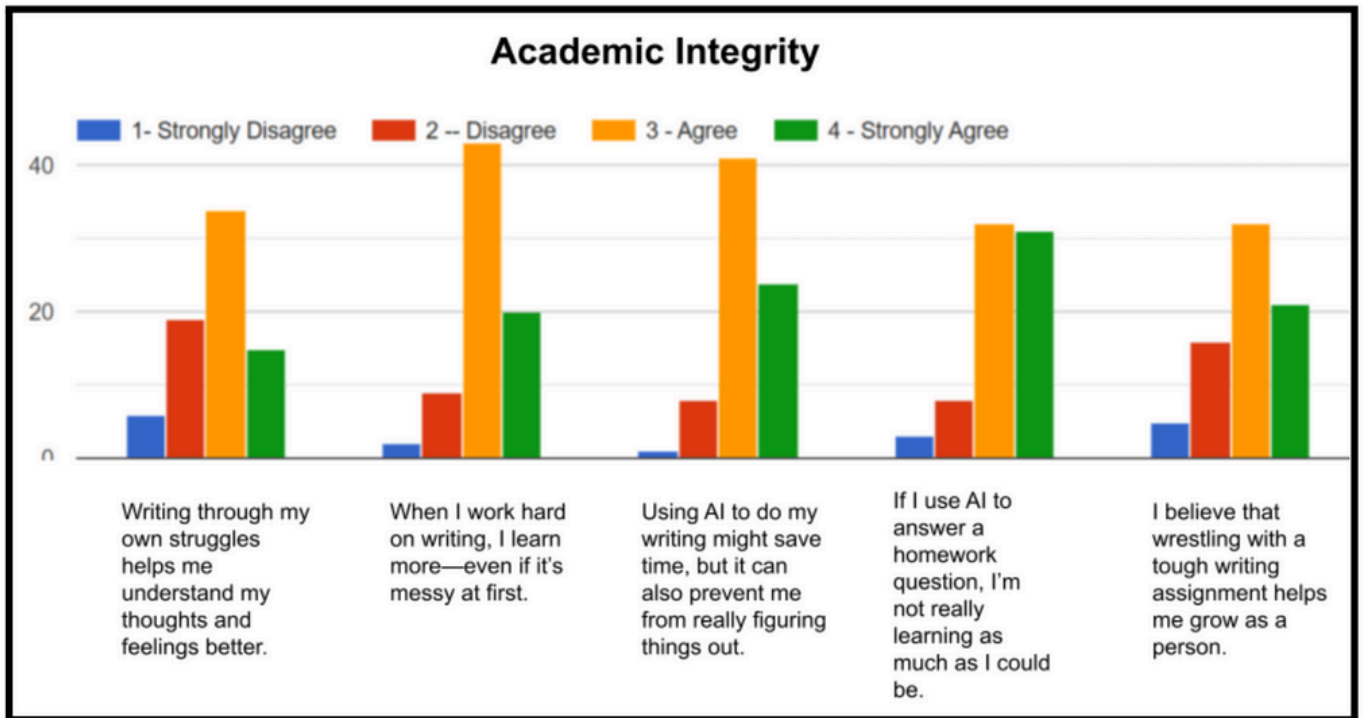
Throughout history, humans have developed technology to solve problems, conserve energy, and reduce struggle. It’s this drive for progress that makes us human. Recent tech breakthroughs, though, have left some wondering: Is convenience always progress? What do we risk losing when we let technology do the hard part for us? Will mass adoption of AI further erode our reading, writing, and thinking skills? Or, will using it to lighten the load allow us to reach greater heights?

Here, as with most important questions, there are no easy answers-only a “messy middle” we must muddle through together. It’s this messy middle that SCF 8th graders have been grappling with. And when it comes to using AI to write, their thoughts might surprise you.

While examining the tradeoffs of “effort vs ease,” students took a survey in which they considered AI-assisted writing through a number of lenses, such as: personally meaningful correspondence, academic integrity, and disclosure of AI use. The results suggest that we should give “kids these days” some credit. They are thinking more deeply, and with a lot more nuance, than adults tend to realize (<https://shorturl.at/fko4Y>). Visit the link for more details, but the image below illustrates how, when it comes to their learning, students understand the value of their efforts.



SCF MIDDLE SCHOOL



When we write, we are not only expressing an idea, but exploring it. Writing is a deeply **human** activity-of thinking, feeling, and communicating. Ultimately, it is the distinctive sound of another **human voice** that people relate to and connect with.

So hear this, dear reader: Our students recognize and value not only the effort it takes to learn, but also the unique voice that comes from each personal journey. They know that while there may always be better writers and thinkers (and now AI) . . . there's nobody (or machine) who (or that) can tell **their** story like **they** can.

Chris Wondra M.Ed., NBCT
8th Grade Language Arts Teacher
National Writing Project Fellow
Kohl Fellow



SCF MIDDLE SCHOOL



"Serving Musicians Since 1981"

BUY-SELL-TRADE-RENT- REPAIR-LESSONS

BEST Inventory and Lessons in The North Metro!

**MUSIC CONNECTION
BACK-TO-SCHOOL HEADQUARTERS**

School Band & Orchestra Instruments
Flexible Rental Programs
Sales and Repairs
Competitive Prices!
Sheet Music
Recorders
Headphones
LESSONS!





FREE MUSICIAN T-SHIRT!
with \$99 Purchase
(Limit 1 per customer Account)

Guitars, Amps, Drums,
Pro Audio, Keyboards
Priced to Go!

77 Eighth Avenue SW • Forest Lake, MN 55025
(651) 464-5252 • ConnectwithMusic.com

YOU ARE INVITED TO

HOMEWORK HELP

3:30-4:30

**MONDAY - MR. WONDRA
ROOM B144**

**TUESDAY - MR. WONDRA
ROOM B144**

**WEDNESDAY - MRS. BATEMAN
ROOM B145**

**THURSDAY - MR. WONDRA
ROOM B144**



A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL **Rita Platt**

Dear Saints Families,

Our year has been wonderful so far! The Dresser and St. Croix Falls kids are, without a doubt, the best kids in the world. Staff often comment on how working in our schools is like working in a little slice of heaven and I feel that way too. Additionally, families, we are VERY grateful to you for the support you've shown.



The success of our little school is known far and wide and I often get emails and phone calls from school leaders from far flung towns and states asking how we can be so successful. I always share the four things that make SCF and Dresser ES the best of the best.

We do so well because we have the best:

1. Teachers and staff.
2. Students.
3. Families.
4. Community.

School-Home Collaboration

The staff and I realize that parents are a child's first and best teachers. We need you. You can rely on us to do our best with your sweetie pies and to support you as parents and we ask you to do the following to support our work.

- Speak kindly of school and teachers. Research has found that parents' verbalized perception of a school has a profound impact on student learning and behavior. Staying positive is amazingly powerful!
- Organize your day so that children read for 20 minutes each day. This is a homework expectation for every Dresser and SCF ES student. If your little darling can't read, please read to her/him. Additionally, students should spend 5 minutes on math fact practice and/or spelling practice each day as needed. If you need support getting this going at your house, let me know, I truly love to help!
- Limit free-play electronics to an hour a day maximum and encourage as much outdoor and creative play as possible! We live in one of the most beautiful places on the planet, let's pledge to enjoy it this year!
- Communicate with us! Please check your ClassDojo, bookmark the elementary schools' webpage (<https://www.scf.k12.wi.us/schools/scf/>) and share your updated email information.
- If there is a change in transportation ALWAYS write a note or call the office directly. ClassDojo, email, and other communication systems do not work for changes in transportation.



A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Please remember, we need you as much as you need us. We serve children best when we try to be on the same page. Reach out with questions, concerns, and suggestions when you have them. Also, reach out with compliments. The teachers have been on overdrive trying to do the very best they can. Your words of encouragement mean a lot.

Parking/Drop Off/Pick Up Reminders

Unfortunately, the parking lot can be a very dangerous place. I often see folks driving fast, texting, or being otherwise distracted. My goal is to protect our precious Saints, not to bug you! But, sometimes one seems to come with the other! Please remember to:

- Park in designated spaces only.
- In the turn around at the SCF Elementary School, please go to the end of the circle to let your student out and keep the flow of traffic moving. There are no vehicles allowed in the circle after school.
- Please model safe walking by always using the sidewalks.
- We love dogs but they are only allowed on school grounds if they remain in your vehicle.

Tips and Hints for Happy/Healthy Kiddos

Below are some tips, hints, and reminders for helping your child continue to succeed in school and at home. Please never hesitate to reach out with questions, ideas, and concerns. Working with families is one of my favorite aspects of my job.

Chores! Not Just for Parents!

A good rule of thumb is: If they are capable of doing it themselves, they should do it themselves.

Check out the chart of chore ideas below for ideas. Then, after chores, let your sweetie chill-out with a good book for 20-30 minutes of much needed down-time.

TODDLER 2-3 YEAR OLDS	PRESCHOOLER 4-5 YEAR OLDS
Make bed	Load dishwasher
Take clothes to laundry	Set table
Put clean clothes away	Water plants
Clean up toys	Help feed pets
	Match socks
	Clean room

ELEMENTARY 6-9 YEAR OLDS	TWEEN 10-12 YEAR OLDS
Sweep	Take out trash
Sort laundry	Fold Laundry
Wipe counters	Vacuum
Help with meal prep	Mop
Empty dishwasher	Clean toilets
Pull weeds	Make easy meals



A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

A Saint C.A.R.E.S! Behavior Guidelines

Cooperation: I work well with others!

Assertion: I use my words to stand up for myself and others!

Responsibility: I do what needs to get done!

Empathy: I think about how others feel, and I am caring.

Self-Control: I control my body and my mind.

Attendance Reminders

We love our students and want to see their smiling faces as often as possible! This year, we encourage you to make good attendance a goal.

Building the Attendance Habit

Getting back into the habit of daily attendance matters more than ever as we recover from the pandemic. Going to school every day is an opportunity to:

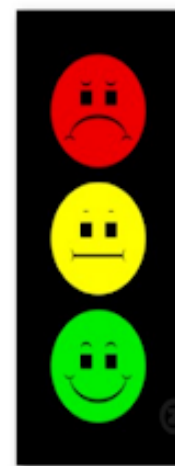
- Build routines that will be useful for the rest of life.
- Help reduce stress because students don't always feel "out of the loop".
- Connect to friends and teachers and build support systems and a sense of belonging.
- Engage in learning and stay at or above grade level.

Often parents don't realize how quickly absences add up and what a profound effect they can have on a child's life. When students miss two days a month it may not seem like much but it quickly adds up to almost a full month of learning loss!

Thoughts to Consider

- Keeping a student home when she or he has a fever is ALWAYS the right thing to do.
- Keeping a student home when she or he has a slight runny nose or cough may not be necessary.
- When students are frequently absent (more than once or twice a month) the teacher needs to devote more time to "catching up" and that means a loss of teaching time for all children.

Students who are frequently absent are more likely to be significantly below grade level in reading and math and that has far-reaching effects.



Chronic Absence
18 or more days

Warning Signs
10 - 17 days

Satisfactory
9 or fewer
absences



A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

When Your Kiddo Doesn't Want to Go

Sometimes our children (mine included!), don't want to go to school. That is normal! I love my job to the moon and back and sometimes I still don't want to go to work! The call of a cozy day at home can be tempting. But, I promise you, once your children are here, they tend to be happy, even if they put on a strong fuss at home in the morning. Below are tips to help your child get up and head to school each morning.

- Make sure that you share with them how important school is. Never give your child the idea that school is optional.
- Remind your child about how much fun they have with their friends.
- When your child comes home from school, ask her/him to tell you about something fun or funny that happened. Help your kiddos focus on how great it is to be in a community each day.
- Set a routine with an early bedtime. Most American children do not get nearly enough sleep. Elementary school children need between 9 and 12 hours of sleep each night!
- Don't allow electronics of any kind for at least an hour before bed.
- Read with your child for at least 20 minutes before bed.
- Build a routine for mornings with a set wake-up time and breakfast.

We work hard to make our school environment a place where everyone can be safe, happy, healthy and learning. Please reach out if you need help with attendance or building routines. We will do our best to listen and partner with you so that our children have a successful year.

Yours in teaching and learning,

Rita Platt

Principal, St. Croix Falls and Dresser Elementary Schools





Forest Friends Gallery: Art, Nature, and Learning

When art teacher Jennifer Clemins, librarian Amy Klein and principal Rita Platt decided the cafeteria sound panels needed an update, the vision was color, nature and learning--a connection to our Northwoods.

Here in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, we live along-side the forest creatures. Deer, rabbits, raccoons, and even bear often amble across our paths. The night sings with the hoots and peeps of owls and frogs, and heron and eagles soar through the daytime skies, dipping in the lakes and rivers that turtles, salamanders and otters also call home.

Now twenty-two of those creatures live on the walls of the St. Croix Falls Elementary School cafeteria. The Forest Friends Gallery is a giant visual eco-system, a vibrant collection of interdependent living things that connect the natural environment to the lives of the students who go to school here.



The cafeteria is a busy place: breakfast, lunch, Kids Care before and after school, plus a variety of small learning groups use it. The space is occupied everyday, nearly all day. Along the ceiling of the high walls, twenty-two 4 x 4 foot sound panels were installed when the school was renovated almost twenty years ago. A blue tile "river" spirals throughout hallways and floor space.



Jen Clemins, Amy Klein and Anna Klein shared the artistic load. Each St. Croix Falls teacher painted nine panels and SCF alumnus, Anna Klein had time to contribute four. The project took 5 weeks, with artists putting in 8-10 hours per day.





Clemins and Klein imagined the sound panels with larger-than-life animals from all families and habitats. They choose living things that connected to each other--animals, plants and environments from Wisconsin's Northwoods that could be talked about and learned about. A simple background in a variety of colors with big energetic figures would enliven the space.

It seemed fitting to change the theme to something like the Northwoods, to echo life on the St. Croix to fill the walls with the colors of nature, to surround students with scenes they knew and loved.

Process

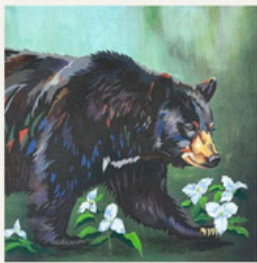
The project got started in mid-July 2025 when the sound panels were removed from the cafeteria walls, cleaned and primed for repainting. A palette of latex and acrylic paint colors was purchased with the environment and habitats of a forest in mind: bright blue skies, the inky nocturnal woodland, the muted greens of the marshy edge of a pond, an electric-green summer day meadow. Foam rollers and large paint brushes helped create the blended colorful atmospheric backgrounds that could represent various times of day or habitats. A list of favorite forest animals was assembled, those seen everyday--and those rarely seen but perhaps needed to be more commonly seen in the Wisconsin forest eco-system.

Using AI image generators, a collection of excellent realistic color-block reference pictures of forest animals was assembled. These pictures were paired with a background that suited the animal and the colors of the image. The color-block design made it possible to project and trace enough information from the picture onto the panel and to then use the image as sort of a paint-by-number map to guide the process. The art room became a studio with plenty of room for three artists, their student-grade paint brushes, foam trays for mixing colors--and the occasional large latte and chocolate fix. Each panel took about 8-35 hours to complete, a total of 5 weeks of full time work and over 350 square feet of hand-painted detail!

It was a joy to watch the lively color contrasts and relationships bring beloved animals to life on each panel. Their gazes stared eye-to-eye or disinterestedly went about their animal business as the artists, now the observers, watched in quiet awe.

The finished paintings, re-hung high on the cafeteria walls are ordered with consideration to each animal's typical time of activity, flowing from the early morning crow's caw-caw and the rabbit's clover snack, to an eagle's lunch catch at high noon to a browsing buck at dusk to the owl's dark night hunt.





Potential

The Forest Friends Gallery was created to enhance the cafeteria space with vibrant, colorful, authentically created artwork. The panels depict a sense of place, a meaningful backdrop of our world in Northwest Wisconsin through visual images and color. Beyond revitalized panels, the project will have learning value beyond the panels' new images.

Here are 5 potential learning extensions the Forest Friends Gallery will offer to the students of St. Croix Falls Elementary:

- **ART MATTERS.** Visual images enliven and secure memory. Color and image deepen learning. Most significantly, art brings beauty and joy, love and wonder.
- **The value of making art.** Teachers lead by example. The act of making art is said to foster creativity, enhance academic performance, and promote inspiration and appreciation for the world around us. The students will no doubt use these images to carry forward what they learn to do in their future years.
- **Strengthening students' sense of place.** The St. Croix Valley is a place of ancient rock, woods, clean waters, and spectacular beauty. Our school believes in passing along respect, deep love and care for our environment and all that lives here. The artwork depicting animals we encounter everyday will build connections to this place.
- **A springboard for learning.** Art lessons, science lessons, social studies lessons, research and creative writing lessons and more can stem from the Forest Friends Gallery. The visual images will serve as a basis for critical thinking: What complementary colors do you see? How do these animals represent a food chain? What animals and plants are important to Wisconsin's history and why? Write about a time you saw one of these animals in the wild.
- **Labor of love.** The month-long Forest Friends Gallery project was a labor of love for the teachers themselves as artists and for their school community. They wanted to share their talent and love for this place by adding beauty and joy to an already joyful place. The love for Wisconsin and the beautiful place we live, for art, and for learning will continue for many years to come.



Jen Clemins is a 20-year veteran art teacher who studied art at UW-Stout. She lives with her husband and two growing boys in St. Croix Falls.

Amy Klein, Librarian and Reading Specialist has taught in many schools in many positions for many years. She practices art at the Art Academy in St. Paul. She and her husband live in St. Croix Falls and raised four now-adult children in the St. Croix Falls School District.

Anna Klein, SCF alumnus, studied art education at UW-Madison and currently teaches elementary art White Bear Lake School District in Minnesota.



ALL SCHOOL REMINDERS

Power School is a great tool for parents to keep track of their student's attendance as well as their grades and school lunch accounts. If you are looking for guidance on how to access this, visit this link: <https://parentaccess.scfschools.com/home>

Transportation Department Basic Information

The St. Croix Falls School District Transportation Department is happy to serve you! Our drivers are fully certified, trained, experienced, professional, and dedicated to getting students to and from school safely. We know that drivers are the first school employees your children see in the morning and the last in the afternoon and we take pride in getting to know and supporting students as they grow and learn.

Below you will find general information about transportation systems. The stop schedule is located on the district website under "Transportation." We will update it quarterly. www.scf.k12.wi.us/district/transportation.cfm

Please be on time to your bus stop, and have students out of the house/vehicle they are waiting in so they are ready to hop on the bus. Arriving a few minutes early to your stop can help the driver stay on schedule. Please be at stop 5 minutes before time given and up to 5 minutes, after due to weather and traffic conditions.

When needed we reach out to families through our PowerSchool communication system. It is critical that your email addresses and phone numbers are kept up to date.

BUS DRIVERS

NOW HIRING

School Bus Drivers have an important job and they love what they do!

**2025/2026
SCHOOL YEAR**

THINGS TO KNOW:

- ☑ Competitive Pay
- ☑ Part Time
- ☑ Training Available
- ☑ Supportive Team
- ☑ Great Students
- ☑ Van Driver Also Needed

CONTACT RITA:

📞 715-483-9823 x 1102

✉ plattri@scfschools.com

🌐 <https://www.scf.k12.wi.us/district/>





School Bus Safety Regulations & Consequences for Infractions

Whether riding the bus is a daily occurrence for your student(s) or just for special occasions, sports, or field trips, we must work together to ensure safe rides. The drivers must have orderly riders. Drivers have to focus on the road and appropriate behavior from passengers is essential to the safety of all.

That means that riders must:

- stay quiet (a reasonable voice level is a level where children can converse comfortably with those s/he shares a seat with.)
- stay seated and facing forward with their legs, arms, and feet out of the aisle.
- be polite and respectful to the driver and fellow passengers.
- not eat or drink on the bus.
- follow the driver's directions.

If a passenger doesn't meet these expectations, the driver and/or school administrator will follow the protocol below:

1. Issue a verbal warning to the passenger.
2. Issue a written warning and contact parent.
3. Issue a bus suspension.
4. Exclude from bus services.

The steps above may be skipped if the nature of the disciplinary issue is deemed to significantly impact the safety of riders. However, the drivers and school administrators will work with families to solve problems proactively.

Other Information

- Guest Riders: If your student does not regularly ride the school bus, but you are planning on having them ride home to a friend's house or to another destination, please contact your child's school through a written note or a phone call. This must be done in advance so that we can be sure space is available.
- Multiple Stops: If you have a student that needs to be picked up or dropped off at different stops due to having multiple households or after school activities - please contact the Transportation Office and discuss the schedule in advance with us. That way we can have your student rostered on all appropriate routes ahead of time.

Changes in Transportation:

- For short-term changes (ex: a student who usually rides will be a parent pick-up, a student is not riding for a week due to an after school activity, a student is going home with a cousin, etc) please contact your child's school through a written note or a phone call.
- For long-term changes (ex: you have moved and have a new address) please contact the transportation department directly or your child's school and request the information be passed on to transportation.

Communication:

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have questions, concerns, or even compliments!

Transportation Supervisor, Rita Platt
plattri@scfschools.com
715-483-9823 x 1102



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR SAINT

High School Clubs and Activities

In addition to the school sports opportunities, there are numerous activities your student can be involved with. Contact the high school office for more information

- Clowns - mentorship program
- Environmental Club
- Drama
- FFA
- Forensics - (speech/acting)
- Kinship
- NHS
- SOS - student support program
- Yearbook
- SALT (Student-Athlete Leadership Team)
- SkillsUSA
- Student Council
- Art Club
- Prom committee
- Powerlifting

Middle School Clubs and activities

Middle school students have activities available to them as well. Some activities take place after school, some during the school day.

- After-school weight room
- Drama - Watch the website for updates on schedule
- Forensics
- Student Council
- Yearbook
- Booster Athletics are open to many ages and grade levels - Check the Community Education section of the website

Other activities

Elementary school students have the option of going to Kids Care before and/or after school - register online.

The Girl Scouts are a fun organization for our young ladies to get involved.

www.girlscoutsvr.org

4-H has a variety of options for many grade levels.

polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development



Notes from the Athletic Director

Tara Rose



Fall Sports have been exceptional here in SCF, and we are so proud! We wish all of our fall teams the best as they enter their postseasons. Our athletes are having amazing success in competition, but here are some Fall Highlights outside their amazing athletic accomplishments.

- Six SCF students (Addi Warner, Brock Sladky, Lexi Arneson, Tyler Anderson, Olivia Shimon, and Brett Sladky), along with Mrs. Rose and Coach Vickerman, went to the Heart O'North Leadership & Sportsmanship Summit
- Nevaeh Nwachukwu represented SCF and the WIAA Student-Athlete Leadership Team at the WIAA District 1 Area Meeting
- Papa Murphy's has been selling concessions at some of our home games and donating a portion of their profit back. Thank you, Papa Murphy's!
- Certain HS Athletes are recognized as athletes of the month by showing exceptional integrity, leadership, and sportsmanship!
- Our SALT (Student-Athlete leadership team) meets twice a month with Mrs. Rose to grow their leadership skills, strengthen teamwork, and develop as positive role models within our school. Meetings focus on identifying ways to improve the athletic department, planning opportunities to show gratitude and appreciation for others, and creating projects that serve our school and community.

Below are our very generous sponsors of the Video Scoreboard. We want to thank these sponsors for their support! If you or your business is interested in being a sponsor, please contact Athletic Director Tara Rose.



ATHLETICS



Sports Schedules

The best place to find St. Croix Falls sports schedules and changes in any schedule is the Heart O' North website:

<https://heartonorth.org/public/genie/142/school/674/>

The hockey Schedules (both boys and girls) can be found on the Middle Border Conference website as Somerset is the host school for those co-op teams:

<https://middleborderconference.org/public/genie/91/school/210/>

Winter Sports:

Athletic Participation Reminder

Before an athlete can begin practice, the following must be completed:

- Up-to-date physical or alternate year card on file
- Sport registration submitted
- Athletic fee paid

Concussion Testing

- Required every other year for high school athletes
- Some co-op sports require annual testing
- Winter concussion testing dates will be shared through high school announcements at the end of October

Physical and Alternate Year forms can be found outside of the high school office and at the bottom of the athletics school webpage, link:

<https://www.scf.k12.wi.us/district/athletics.cfm>

Sports Registration can be done here: <https://scfschools.revtrak.net/athletic-fees/#/f/athletics-fees>

Start Dates for each Winter Sport:

MS Boys Basketball & MS Girls Wrestling- Practice starts on Monday, October 27, 2025

Boys & Girls Hockey and Girls Basketball- Practice starts on Monday, November 10, 2025

Boys & Girls Wrestling and Boys Basketball- Practice starts on Monday, November 17, 2025

MS Girls Basketball and MS Boys & Girls Wrestling- Practice starts on Monday, January 5, 2026



We wish our winter sports teams the best of luck as they prepare for their upcoming seasons. We know that many of them are coming off of very successful years, and we know this year will be even better!

Winter Sports Club Powerlifting - Open to students in 7th-12th grade.. Anyone interested should look out for an upcoming meeting and check it out. If you are interested, but can't make the meeting, contact coach Jordan Braund - jordanrbraund@gmail.com

A Note of Thanks and Reminder from SCF Athletics

I want to take a moment to say thank you to all of our athletes for representing St. Croix Falls with such athleticism, work ethic, and grit! Your dedication makes our community proud.

To our **parents and fans**: thank you for the constant support you give to our athletes and teams.

And a very special thank you to our game workers, officials, transportation, and maintenance staff. You do incredibly hard and often thankless work, and without you, our athletes would not have the opportunity to compete. We see you, we appreciate you, and we are grateful for you.

As a reminder to all SCF athletic fans, both the WIAA and St. Croix Falls require **good sportsmanship** at all education-based sporting events. Our **Athletic Department core values** are:

- **Integrity**
- **Sportsmanship**
- **Leadership**

We ask our athletes and coaches to live out these values, and I want to encourage our families and fans to also do their best to demonstrate integrity, sportsmanship, and leadership in the stands. Together, we can continue to make SCF Athletics something truly special.

Thank you,
Tara Rose
roseta@scfschools.com
715-483-2507 ext. 1305

ATHLETICS





Volleyball



Football



Cross Country



Dance



Two St. Croix Falls legends were recognized at the last Varsity home game of the season.

Superintendent Craig Broeren, Bink Ward, Dr. Steve Bont, and Greg Guggisberg stood on the Saints Football Field on Friday, Oct. 10, where Ward and Bont were honored by the St. Croix Falls Football Club for their lifelong service to St. Croix Falls Saints Football.



Soccer



Girls Golf

2025-2026 SCF School District Calendar

August						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

13 New Teacher Inservice
18 All Staff Inservice
19 Driver Inservice (8-noon)
19-21 Teacher Inservice
25 Teacher Inservice
26-28 School in session

February						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

16 Teacher Inservice
19 days / 112 total

September						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 Labor Day (No School)
2 First Official Student Day
21 days / 21 total

March						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

16-20 Spring Break (No School)
17 days / 129 total

October						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

17 Teacher Inservice
22 days / 43 total

April						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

3 No School
6 Teacher Inservice
20 days / 149 total

November						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

7 Teacher Inservice
26 No School
27 - Thanksgiving (No School)
28 No School
16 days / 59 total

May						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

22 Graduation
25 Memorial Day (No School)
29 Last Student Day
20 days / 170 total

December						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

23 Teacher Inservice
24-31 Winter Break (No School)
16 days / 74 total

June						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1-2 Teacher Inservice
Summer School - June 8-26

January						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

1 New Year's Day (No School)
2 No School
5 School Resumes
19 Teacher Inservice
19 days / 93 total

- Two inclement weather days will be forgiven / floating inservice.
- Student Contact Days 170
Board Approved: 11/19/2024



INFORMATION FROM THE NURSE **Hollie Miller**



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: If there is 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.

Information on Head Lice

An estimated 6 to 12 million infestations occur each year in the United States, most often among children ages 3 to 11 years of age. It is a good idea to check your child's hair frequently.

Head lice are not dangerous. They do not transmit disease, but they spread easily. Head lice are tiny, wingless insects that live close to the human scalp and feed on human blood. The eggs (nits) are tiny, tear-drop shaped; and attach to the hair shaft and are often found around the nap of the neck or ears. Nits may appear yellowish or white and can look similar to dandruff. But, unlike dandruff, they can be difficult to remove. Baby lice (nymphs) are smaller and grow to adult size in 1-2 weeks. Adult lice are the size of a sesame seed and are tan to grayish-white. Lice crawl, they do not fly or jump.

Infestation can occur at home, school or in the community. Head lice are mostly spread by direct head to head contact - for example, during play at home or school, slumber parties, sports activities or camp. Sometimes, head lice are spread via objects that were in recent contact with a person infected by head lice, such as hats scarves, combs, brushes, hair attachments, etc. It is very important to check your students hair throughout the school year.



HEAD LICE TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Examine each family member's head. A magnifying glass in good light may help. Wash your hands between examinations.
- Consult with your doctor or go to the pharmacy for a lice killing product. Follow the directions on the labels or inserts of the medicated product.
- Promptly treat all members of the family who have head lice. Follow the product directions exactly!!! If your child has very thick or long hair, 2 treatment packages may be needed.
- Each head lice treatment product is different and instructions vary. It is EXTREMELY important to follow the directions included with the product you choose to use.
- Some lice killing products are applied to dry hair. If the lice killing product recommends shampooing hair prior to use, do not use a combination shampoo/conditioner or conditioner.
- Lice killing products should be applied and rinsed at a sink, not in the shower or bathtub, to avoid unnecessary chemical exposure. Protect the neck, ears, and face with a dry towel. Make sure the child is comfortable as this process takes several minutes.
- Do not wash the hair for 1-2 days after treatment for lice.
- It is not necessary, but hair can be combed with a fine-tooth nit comb or tweezers to remove all nits (eggs).
- Remove mattress pads, sheets, pillowcases, and blankets from beds. Wash and dry on hot setting.
- Put pillows, non-washable bedding, stuffed toys, furniture throw pillows, etc. in a dryer set on hot for 30 minutes; or seal them on a plastic bag for 7-14 days.
- Make beds with clean linen.
- Thoroughly vacuum all mattresses, upholstered furniture, carpet, car seats, and seats in the car/s, especially around buttons.
- Wash all jackets, sweaters, hats, and other clothing that may have come in contact with head lice in the last 3-4 days.
- Take non-washable clothing to the dry cleaners or use an alternative treatment: dryer for 30 minutes or seal in plastic bag for 7-14 days.
- Notify all people who were in contact with any family member with head lice in the past week. Inform them, they must check for head lice/nits, treat persons with head lice/nits and do thorough house cleaning. This step is important to avoid reinfestation.
- Many products require another treatment in 7 to 10 days. Check product inserts or labels for details.
- Do not use the product more often than the directions state. Do not use the product to prevent head lice. The risk is developing immunity to the product.



HOW TO EXAMINE FOR **HEAD LICE**

Use bright light to look at:

- 1 Crown of head
- 2 Bangs
- 3 Behind both ears
- 4 Nape of neck

How to inspect

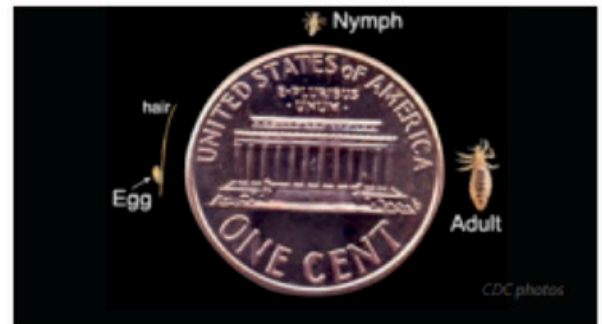
- 1 Place gloves on your hands
- 2 Use fingers to separate hair and create a part. The part should allow you to clearly see the person's scalp.
- 3 Look for lice crawling on the scalp where the hair is parted or on the hair shaft. The lice will be dark in color and the size of a poppyseed.
- 4 Look for nits near hair follicle about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from scalp. Nits (eggs) will be white or yellowish-brown. Nits are often more easily seen than lice, especially when the person has dark hair.
- 5 Also look behind both ears and near the back of the neck. You may see lice

SCREENING TIP:

To distinguish between dandruff and nits, try to flick or pull off the white speck. Dandruff is easily pulled off, but nits are not.

Change gloves between each child's examination and wash your hands after all examinations are completed.

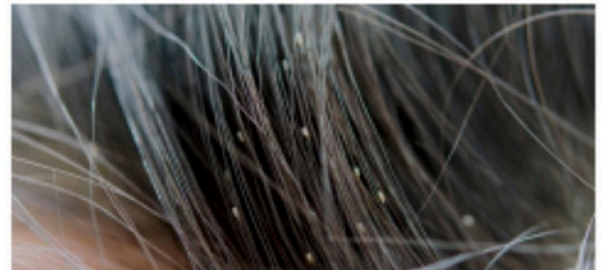
The size of a nit (egg), nymph, and louse relative to a penny



A. Checking hair for lice



B. Nits (lice eggs) on hair



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

SCREEN TIME AND THE EYES FOR CHILDREN

Use the acronym SCREENS to keep children's vision healthy while using technology.



Screen Limits

Children under 2 Years: No screen time outside of video phone time
Children 2-5 Years: Limit to 1 hour per day. Opt for a bigger screen if possible.



Comfortable

Keep computers and tablets at arms length away to reduce strain on the eyes.



Rest

Follow the 20/20/20 rule:
Every 20 minutes of looking at a screen, take a 20 second break and look 20 feet away.



Eye Fatigue

If your child notices any eye irritation after screen time, encourage them to blink more.



Exit Outside

Encourage your child to spend time outdoors, 1-2 hours per day. Exposure to sunlight can reduce the risk of developing myopia (nearsightedness).



No Nighttime Screens

Stop screen time use at least 1 hour before bedtime.



Screen Settings

Decrease the brightness and increase the contrast on your child's electronic devices.

Little Saints are having fun! Want to be part of it? Join our TEAM!



Little Saints are having fun! Want to be part of it? Join our TEAM!



Little Saints are having fun! Want to be part of it? Join our TEAM!



BEST OF THE VALLEY

CHILD CARE CENTER

Little Saints Child Care Centers

October 2025



Rita Platt
Principal

Craig Broeren
Superintendent

Kids Care Kids are having fun AND learning



Kids Care 2025/2026

Register At:

<https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/>

Kids Care will provide:

- A safe, healthy, comfortable environment.
- Caring supervision by qualified adults and great, enthusiastic students.
- A consistent group of playmates.
- Choices of a wide variety of wholesome activities.
- 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 you in regards to Kids Care?

- Return your bi-weekly calendar and pre-payment on time.
- Help your student to understand the importance of following Kids Care rules.
- Reach out to us with concerns and collaborate with us to solve problems



School Year Options (All regular school days when school is in session.)

Type	Description/Information	
School Year Registration Fee	Online Registration https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/	\$20 per child \$60 maximum per family
Before School Care	Location: SCF Elementary School Phone Number: 715-417-2248 6:00am-7:45am	<u>Before School Daily Fee:</u> \$6.00 per child per morning session
After School Care	Location: SCF Elementary School Phone Number: 715-417-2248 3:15pm-6:00pm	<u>After School Daily Fees:</u> Until 4:30pm- \$6.00 per child Until 5:00pm- \$8.00 per child Until 6:00pm- \$9.00 per child



Kids Care Phone

Number:

715-417-2248

Kids Care Director

Tammy Jones

[jonesta@scfschools.com](mailto:jonestat@scfschools.com)



Discover What's New in Community Education This Fall!

Dear Saints Families,

St. Croix Falls Community Education believes that a strong community is built through shared experiences, lifelong learning, and connection. That's why we're working to grow our programming—and we'd love your help.



Kirk Anderson

Do you have a skill, talent, or passion you'd like to share with others?

Is there a class, event, or activity you wish we offered here in St. Croix Falls? We're currently building new opportunities for both youth and adults—and we want to hear from community members, parents, local businesses, artists, coaches, and more who are interested in teaching or hosting classes.

The Vision

Our goal is to make Community Education a vibrant hub for all ages—offering programs like:

- Youth enrichment (STEM, art, music, sports, etc.)
- Adult learning (technology, writing, financial literacy, gardening)
- Fitness and wellness (yoga, walking clubs, strength training)
- Creative workshops (crafts, photography, woodworking)
- Practical skills (CPR, cooking, home repair)

If you've ever thought, "I could teach that!" or "I wish we had that here," — now is the time to bring it to life.

Let's Create Together

We're looking for:

- Instructors with experience or enthusiasm
- Program ideas from anyone in the community
- Partnerships with local organizations and businesses

Whether you want to lead a one-day workshop, host a weekly class, or simply suggest an idea — we'd love to talk!

Connect with Us

Kirk Anderson, Community Education Director

📞 715-483-9823 ext. 1404

✉ anderki@scfschools.com

Help us build a Community Education program that reflects the talent, creativity, and heart of St. Croix Falls.



LET'S PLAY HOCKEY!!

with the River Valley Eagles

LOCAL RINK
in St. Croix Falls

STATEWIDE RECOGNITION
Only outdoor association in Wisconsin

AWESOME OUTDOOR FUN!!
Learn more at rivervalleyhockey.com




Ages 4+

FREE equipment and 1st year!



[@rivervalleyhockey](https://www.facebook.com/rivervalleyhockey)

Register Online: scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education



CHORDS ARE KEY
A FASTER EASIER WAY TO LEARN
Piano and Guitar Lessons

COMMUNITY EDUCATION PRESENTS

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

GET A GOOD
START

OPTIONS
AVAILABLE



St Croix Falls students interested in Driver's Ed

- **OPTION 1** - 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: www.northwoodtech.edu/continuing-education-and-training/driver-training/drivers-ed
- **OPTION 2** - St Croix Valley Driving School is located in St Croix Falls - Information available by calling (715) 553-6602 or by visiting their website: www.stcroixvalleydrivingschool.com/driver-education
- **OPTION 3** - 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: www.btbsdllc.com



Woodland Chorale will be returning to St Croix Falls in 2026. Auditions for the Chorale will take place in December and the chorale will begin rehearsals in January 2026. All who love to sing are welcome. Please look for more information on the website, the SCF District Facebook page, or contact Shawn Gudmunsen at gudmush@scfschools.com



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

DECEMBER 6TH & 13TH
JANUARY 10TH & 17TH
9:00 TO 10:15 AM

KIDS
4K-4TH GRADE-BOYS AND GIRLS

BASKETBALL

SATURDAY MORNINGS

REGISTRATION \$25
JERSEY: \$20

REGISTER ONLINE:
[HTTPS://SCFSCHOOLS.REVTRAK.NET/RW-COMMUNITY-EDUCATION/](https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/)

**BOYS
BOOSTER
BASKETBALL**

3rd - 8th Grade Boys

Dates vary by grades.
See website for details.

Fees: \$35 + Uniforms
Please register soon to allow time to order uniforms!

REGISTER NOW
<https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/>

Register Online: scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education



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

**GIRLS BOOSTER
BASKETBALL**

ST. CROIX FALLS

**OCTOBER - FEBRUARY
ST. CROIX FALLS
MIDDLE SCHOOL Gym**

FOR MORE INFO, CALL 715-483-9823, #1404
TO REGISTER, VISIT:
[HTTPS://SCFSCHOOLS.REVTRAK.NET/RW-COMMUNITY-EDUCATION](https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education)

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

**WE'VE BEEN
LOOKING FOR
YOU!**

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION IS
FOR THE COMMUNITY!**

Do you have an expertise, a passion, a skill, or talent that others might want to learn? Consider teaching a Community Education class.

Please send your suggestions to
commed@scfschools.com

SUBMIT NOW!

Surrounding segments include:
- I'm an expert at Canning vegetables
- I can certify a Babysitter
- I can teach basic pottery
- I want to learn to do watercolor
- I can knit really well
- I'm a Whiz at Jigsaw Puzzles
- Let's have a BOOK CLUB
- I want to learn how to dance
- I can speak multiple Languages
- I want to learn investing
- I can teach people about estate planning
- I want to help families do things together
- I'm an expert gardener
- I know lots of Card Games
- I'm a history buff
- I can help with using computers

Looking for other community opportunities or support?

Visit our Community Links page of the SCF Website

<https://www.scf.k12.wi.us/community/communitylinks.cfm>

Classes available for registration at:

<https://scfschools.revtrak.net/rw-community-education/>

Community Education Website:

<https://www.scf.k12.wi.us/community/>

St. Croix Falls School District
c/o District Office
740 Maple Drive
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

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ST. CROIX FALLS, WI



St. Croix Falls
School District

We Are
HIRING
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Technology Tech-Ed Teacher
- Part-time Custodian (12 Month)
- Food Service Substitute
- Middle School Drama Director
- Kids Care Aide
- Custodial Substitute
- Bus & Van Drivers
- Substitute Teachers



APPLY NOW

Visit our website:

www.scf.k12.wi.us/district/employment.cfm