

Clipper Pride

School District of Sturgeon Bay
 1230 Michigan Street
 Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

FROM DAN'S DESK

Residents and Supporters of the Sturgeon Bay Clippers,

As I write this letter, Fall continues to progress and life around school is much more "normal" as compared to the past couple of years. More importantly, our students and staff members are focusing on the daily tasks necessary to help all our students learn and grow in various ways. A question we all deal with involves some version of the following: What defines success? For the Green Bay Packers, they win the game or they don't, they qualify for the playoffs or they don't, and they win the Super Bowl or they don't. How about the rest of us in our daily lives? The response is more unique as we define what success looks like in the various phases of life. In our classrooms, schools, and district, we want our students to be safe, healthy, and happy. We want to help all our students learn, grow and reach their full potential. We want our students to be successful in various ways and find things that inspire and develop their interests. While there is no single measure of school success, there are various types of snapshots, and providing a wide range of academic and co-curricular offerings continues to be a critical part of what our community has come to expect—and what we continue to provide at Sturgeon Bay Schools.

As always, thank you for your continued support as we work to bring value not only to our students and families, but to our community as a whole.



With Clipper Pride,
 Dan Tjernagel
 Sturgeon Bay
 Superintendent of Schools

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 3, 2023

Please join parents, students, friends, staff, alumni and the community for the inaugural "Rock the Dock" for Education celebration! Featuring Live Music, Food, Raffles and Silent Auction at Sturgeon Bay Yacht Club from 3-8pm.

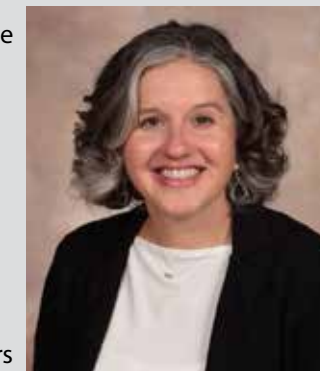


This event benefits the Friends of Sturgeon Bay Schools, a new group established to support unique programming opportunities at Sturgeon Bay Schools that are beyond the regular school budget. For more information or to volunteer contact Jane Stephen 847-217-7273. See you there!

MEET SUNRISE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, KATIE SMULLEN

This school year, Sunrise Elementary families and staff welcome Katie Smullen as the Principal of grades 3-5. Mrs. Smullen taught 4th grade for the past two years at Sunrise Elementary.

Prior to that, she worked part-time at NWTC as a Student Support Specialist, as her two daughters were not yet school-age. Before becoming a mom, Mrs. Smullen served as an assistant principal and then principal in her hometown of Beloit, WI for seven years. Prior to becoming an administrator, Mrs. Smullen served as a teacher for seven years in the Marshall Islands (as a Jesuit Volunteer), and in Alabama, Oregon, and Wisconsin. She also completed her Masters at UW-Madison.



Mrs. Smullen loves to spend time with her family and enjoys traveling, reading, learning, and finding new ways to care for the earth. She says, "I am excited to serve Sunrise staff, students and families in this role. We have an incredibly dedicated and talented staff and I am so grateful my own children are part of the Sturgeon Bay school family as well."

PROGRAMMING FOR COMMUNITY MEMEBERS CONTINUES AT SBSD

The Sturgeon Bay School District will be continuing the community Adult Education program this winter. The primary mission of adult community programming at Sturgeon Bay Schools is to welcome the Sturgeon Bay community into our school to see the facilities and interact with our staff while being engaged in learning.

Staff member in the district (and retirees) are invited to teach a class outside of the regular school hours. Classes will center on subjects that are of interest to adult members of our community, including areas of general education, arts, technology, crafts and/or hobbies.

Classes will begin in January/February 2023. If you would like to learn more or attend a class, please email sbcp@sbsdmail.net to receive information once the community programming schedule is finalized.

CLIPPERS CLAYS CLUB

In 2018, TJ Walker Middle School's science teacher Matt Propsom was inspired to share his passion for the outdoors with students. Sixth grade students were offered a new class called Outdoor Adventure to learn lifelong outdoor skills and earn DNR licensure in hunter's safety, boating safety, snowmobiling, and ATV.

Over the past several years, the momentum has grown beyond the classroom and now Sturgeon Bay Middle and High School students are involved in a club sport of trap. Each year the Clipper Clays club continues to improve and grow, from an original 32 students to now



nearly 60. "Seeing the interest from the students and the support within the Sturgeon Bay community, we as coaches felt this could be a really strong extracurricular program," says Coach Propsom, who is assisted by Scott Richard and Clint Henry.

Sturgeon Bay High School's junior varsity Clipper Clays group won the state championship, and the middle school team took second out of 2,000 participants. A high school participant shared, "You don't have to be the most athletic person like in some other sports, but you just have to concentrate and persevere and put a bad round behind you." Competitions take place on weekends, allowing student-athletes who are involved in other sports to participate. "Trapshooting over the last 10 years has been the fastest-growing sport in high schools across the country," Propsom said. "Currently there are over 3,000 kids in Wisconsin involved with it, and we are very pleased to offer this opportunity in Sturgeon Bay Schools."



TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPT.

Sturgeon Bay High School's Technical Education program has added a new project. Thanks to the referendum-funded renovations last year, the district was fortunate to update our Technology Education areas in the middle and high school. The improved technology spaces and equipment are being put to very good use.



For example, high school students in the Construction class are building four ice shanties that they plan to sell to community members. This project provides students with valuable construction skills while also offering a valuable product to our community. As students learn the curriculum, they immediately apply their learning to a real-world project. Next semester, the students will shift from building ice shanties to building storage sheds. The storage sheds will also be available for sale to community members. For more information or if you would like to make a purchase, please contact Technology & Engineering teacher, Mr. Bryfczynski at 920-746-5757.

A VISIT FROM GRIFFON STRING QUARTET AND BIRCH CREEK JAZZ MUSICIANS



Sunrise Elementary students and staff were treated to two wonderful musical performances in early October. Elementary students enjoyed a classical music concert performed by the

Griffon String Quartet, an outreach string ensemble that is part of Midsummer Music. One fourth grader wrote in her thank you letter to the musicians, "Your music was so beautiful and calm and you are all extremely talented. Your Harry Potter theme song was some of the best music I have ever heard." Students were also treated to a mini jazz concert performed by Birch Creek Music instructors who are known across the US as top jazz educators.

One fourth grade student wrote, "Your music was as soothing as the ocean waves" and many students commented on how well the melody, rhythm and bass jived together to create such relaxing music. Thank you to the community donors and granting organizations that helped bring these performances to our students.

TJ WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL FOCUSES ON POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE

Teachers at TJ Walker Middle School are making it a point of emphasis this year to recognize students for positive behaviors.

One initiative that has been given a bit of an upgrade this year is Clipper Cash. Clipper Cash is our school "currency" and is awarded for a variety of reasons, such as coming to class prepared, turning in assignments on time, participating in class discussions, and being involved in school activities. Students can use the currency to purchase snacks at the school store, buy raffle tickets for weekly prize drawings, and select classroom perks like using the teacher's chair or choosing songs for the class playlist.



In addition to Clipper Cash, the TJ Walker staff has started a new initiative this year called TJ Walker P.R.I.D.E. Each week, staff members are asked to identify students who excel in the areas of Positivity, Responsibility, Initiative, Determination, and Empathy. Staff members fill out a P.R.I.D.E. postcard for students, and the cards are read out loud and distributed at lunch on Fridays. Once a student earns all five letters, they will be eligible for a series of rewards, such as a Clipper Pride Shirt, a special breakfast, and an end of the school year field trip.

During the month of September, students at TJ Walker earned 5,839 in Clipper Cash and 101 different students earned P.R.I.D.E. certificates. Students are on pace to be recognized over 53,000 times this school year for being positive members of the TJ Walker community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS FOR 2022-2023



The School District of Sturgeon Bay is excited to announce a series of engagement sessions for parents/guardians, families, and community members in Sturgeon Bay. There will be six sessions offered one evening/month between November and April. Participants can choose to attend any one, two, or all of the sessions!

Sessions are presented by a variety of experts in their field and include topics on:

- * Online Safety
- * Body Safety
- * A Door County Resource Fair
- * How to Support your child's Organizational Skills, Time Management and Attention both in School and at Home
- * How to Support the Anxious Child
- * Understanding Supports available to your child who has Academic, Behavioral and/or Health Struggles in School.

Registration is easy - you may email the Director of Student Services, Lindsay Ferry at lferry@sbsdmail.net or via the school website at www.sturbay.k12.wi.us and click on Community Engagement Sessions on the homepage Quick Links tab.

Free meal and childcare are provided. If you have any questions about the topic or presenters, please call 920-746-2804. We look forward to seeing you there!



SBHS AP Chemistry students share Science concepts and hands-on learning with 3rd grade students at Sunrise Elementary.



LITERACY WORK AT SAWYER

The start of the 2021-2022 school year marked the beginning of a literacy initiative for Sturgeon Bay School District. In the first year of this work, the staff at Sawyer Elementary School studied to gain knowledge about current literacy practices in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, and oral language through professional development. Teachers worked alongside a reading coach and literacy consultant to implement new instructional methods in classrooms.

Our district's literacy journey continues during the 2022-2023 school year. We remain focused on building teacher knowledge of vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency through professional development and support from a literacy coach. Furthermore, we are implementing a new phonics curriculum for grades K-2 and we are excited to see how this impacts student growth. Finally, we are working with new diagnostic assessments that provide specific data on all 4K-2 students. We are using this data to meet with all grade level teacher teams regularly to analyze student progress and ensure that we are meeting the literacy needs of all our students.

