



Families enjoyed the activities at our Innovation Fair

# Stoner Prairie News

*Stoner Prairie Monthly News*

## March, 2018

### UPCOMING DATES:

March 5-9	PTO Penny Wars
March 14	Parent Teacher Conferences 3:00-7:00 p.m.
March 16	PTO Sponsored School Dance 6:00-8:00 p.m.
March 22	Parent Teacher Conferences 3:00-7:00 p.m.
March 26-30	Spring Break-No School

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 Curriculum Update: Mathematics  
 Behavior Update: Second Step Program

## MESSAGE FROM Mr. PISANI

• **Teaching and Learning in Academics and Behavior:** Our Literacy, Math and Behavior Implementation Teams continue to review student performance data and make plans for how to support teachers based on this newly acquired winter information. One example from our Literacy Implementation Team is working to increase the amount of independent reading students are doing in classrooms and more professional development for our staff on grade level reading skills. Also, winter Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Test results for reading and Math will be coming home to families in the next few weeks from your child's classroom teacher.

• **Increase Communication with Families:** Our newsletter goes home in backpacks with the youngest or only Stoner Prairie student in your family at the beginning of each month. It is also emailed to all families using our SchoolReach mass email system. If you did not get an email containing the newsletter please contact our office at 845-4200 to make sure we have the correct email address on file. Email is a vital way we communicate with families.

• **Enhanced Collaboration:** Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up during the month of March. These conferences are a great way for teachers and families to share all the great things kids have done up to this point in the year. If you have questions about your child's conference time, please contact your child's teacher.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Ms. BRIGGS, CURRICULUM LEARNING SPECIALIST



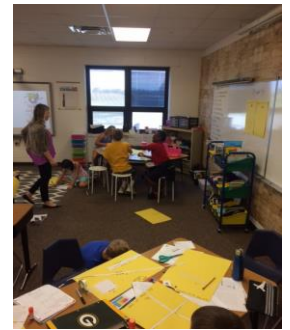
Julie Briggs is new to Stoner Prairie this year as the Curriculum and Learning Specialist. Prior to coming to Stoner Prairie she was an instructional coach in Sun Prairie and has experience teaching first, second and third grade. Julie has a strong passion for learning and has attended Teacher's College Institutes at Columbia University. She has worked closely with staff developers from Teacher's College to implement the Reading and Writing Units of Study. In her spare time, Julie enjoys watching her daughters sporting events and traveling with her family.

*Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Responsible, Be a Problem Solver*

## CURRICULUM UPDATE: MATHEMATICS

The Verona Area School District expects students to be able to solve problems in more than one way and with deep understanding. It is important that children not only solve math problems accurately, but also develop number sense, learn about the relationship between addition and subtraction and deeply understand place value. These two documents on addition and subtraction and multiplication and division will give you ways to help your child at home as they solve problems. Below is the link to our Stoner Prairie website with the worksheets.

[http://spes.verona.k12.wi.us/news\\_and\\_communications/what\\_s\\_new/math\\_resources](http://spes.verona.k12.wi.us/news_and_communications/what_s_new/math_resources)



Ms. Scanlon's class works on math

## BEHAVIOR UPDATE

We want your child to be as successful as possible at school. Success in school is not just about reading and math. It is also about knowing how to learn and how to get along with others. We use the *Second Step* program in your child's classroom to teach these critical skills.

The *Second Step* program teaches skills in the following four areas:

- 1. Skills for Learning:** Students gain skills to help themselves learn, including how to focus their attention, listen carefully, use self-talk to stay on task, and be assertive when asking for help with schoolwork.
- 2. Empathy:** Students learn to identify and understand their own and others' feelings. Students also learn how to take another's perspective and how to show compassion.
- 3. Emotion Management:** Students learn specific skills for calming down when experiencing strong feelings, such as anxiety or anger.
- 4. Problem Solving:** Students learn a process for solving problems with others in a positive way.

If you have any questions about the *Second Step* program, please do not hesitate to contact Liz Schlitz, School Counselor (608) 845-4228 or [schlitz@verona.k12.wi.us](mailto:schlitz@verona.k12.wi.us). Thank you for supporting your child in learning the skills that lead to success in school and in life.

Also, make sure to join [www.secondstep.org](http://www.secondstep.org) with the activation keys below to watch videos about the *Second Step* program and get information about what your student is learning.

Kindergarten: **SSPK FAMI LY70**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: **SSP1 FAMI LY71**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: **SSP2 FAMI LY72**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: **SSP3 FAMI LY73**  
 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: **SSP4 FAMI LY74**  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: **SSP5 FAMI LY75**

## PTO NEWS/MARCH PTO DATES

**March 5-9** Penny Wars  
**March 16** Free School Dance

March should be a fun month for Stoner Prairie. Penny Wars the week of March 5<sup>th</sup> are always a blast for the kids and teachers. Make sure to save those pennies! We also have our first free dance sponsored by the PTO. Once we're back from Spring Break we'll have a classroom Box Tops competition so start saving those Box Tops now and watch your emails for announcements about the start date. All the fundraisers sponsored by the PTO go towards making our school a better environment. Activities like the school dance and the Figureheads musical group are just a couple that would not be possible without the PTO. The entire PTO board will be moving on to new endeavors after this school year. We won't be far away, so we'll be around making sure the transition goes smoothly. If you have any interest or questions about how to become more involved in decision making within the PTO next year, please send an email to [stonerprairiepto@gmail.com](mailto:stonerprairiepto@gmail.com).