



STRACK NEWS

Impacting futures through learning today.

December '15/January 2016

Cougar Contacts

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6th Grade: Asst. Principal
Karee Kelly, 832-249-5411,
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Counselors:

A- G: **Mr. Wilson -**
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Case Manager: **Ms. Moss,**
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Nurse:

Ms. Pali- 832-249-5405

Attendance:

Mrs. Hart- 832-249-5404

Lost and Found

As we end the first semester, the Strack lost and found has grown quite large. If you have students missing clothes, book bags, library books or lunch boxes, please encourage them to go to the lost and found area of the cafeteria to retrieve their items. Each semester, Strack collects unclaimed items and donates them to Northwest Assistance Ministries.

If your child is missing items such as jewelry, phones or eye glasses, those will be kept all year in the front office.

Strack on Social Media and Online

There are a variety of ways to keep track of what's happening at Strack using all the latest technology. Feel free to join us on the following social media sites:

Twitter: @StrackKISD

Remind: text @Strack to 81010

Web: <http://strack.kleinisd.net>



Attendance Counts!

If your child is absent from school, please remember to send a note stating why your child was absent. On your note include your child's first and last name, grade level, the date(s) of the absence, reason for absence and your signature. Turn the note into the Attendance Office within five school days of the absence. You may e-mail Mrs. Hart at mehart@kleinisd.net

If you take your child to the doctor, please ask for a doctor's note and return the note to Mrs. Hart in the Attendance Office as soon as your child returns to school.

Important Dates for the 4th Six Weeks

January 14th—Strack Bullritos Night

January 15th—8th grade tour to Klein Collins High School

January 21st—Strack Chick-Fil-A spirit night

January 28th—Progress Reports go home

February 4th—Strack Fest from 6-8pm; Open House from 6:30-7:30pm

February 11th—Strack Bullritos Night

February 20th—End of Six Weeks

February 24th—8th Grade Panoramic Picture

February 26th—Report Cards go home

For a complete list of school activities including basketball games and fine arts events, please visit the Strack website.

Comer's Corner

Dear Families,

Welcome back for the second half of the school year. Strack students have accomplished some amazing things over the last few months, and we know that success will continue through the end of the year!

Our attendance initiative for last six weeks was a huge success! We are pleased to announce that 8th grader Madison Trevino won the pair of "Beats by Dre" headphones after achieving perfect attendance!

As the new semester begins, we will continue to help our students build good character, and we will be focusing on appropriate behavior in the hallways. Strack has nearly 1200 students, and it's crucial that we move safely between all eight of our classes and our three lunches each day. Please review with your students that in the hallway they are expected to:

- Walk to class, even if they feel they are going to be late. Continue to "walk and talk" rather than gathering around lockers to socialize.
- Use the assigned locker and keep its combination private.
- Respect others by keeping our hands to ourselves.
- Speak respectfully and quietly to other students and adults.

Vistors/Volunteers

For security reasons, any adults staying on campus are required to sign in at the main office, show a state ID, and wear a visitor badge. Without a visible badge, you will be stopped by a staff member and asked to return to the office. If you are eating lunch with your child in the cafeteria, please stay in the designated parent area. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Spelling Bee Champ

This year, nineteen students competed in the Strack Spelling Bee held in the library on December 9. The competition was fierce but ultimately eighth-grader Vishnu Yarabarla was declared the winner, and seventh grader Elijah Jackson was runner-up. Congratulations to both boys and good luck to Vishnu who will compete in the KISD District Bee on February 16.



Change for Children

The Path 1 Class of Strack Intermediate conducted a Community Service Drive named "Change For Children". They collected change that will be sent to Texas Children's Hospital.

The drive was extremely successful and they exceeded their goal by collecting \$1,066.58!



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Making Beautiful Music

The Strack Orchestra had a fun and successful fall semester. Our Fall and Holiday Concerts went exceptionally well and we placed 8 students and one alternate in the prestigious All-Region Orchestras (see photo).

Our fundraiser was also very successful this year and we look forward to using the profits to pay for entry fees and transportation to our Spring Festivals where we hope to again dominate the competition this year even better than we did last year!

The students are now beginning work on their music for our Solo & Ensemble contests and the Spring Festivals mentioned above. We're also looking forward to a pizza party in January in celebration of the great job the students did on their fundraiser and our Music Department Skating Party on January 25 at Champions Roller World. Our Varsity Orchestra will be the next group to perform with presentations for the fifth graders, Open House and our Strack Cluster Concert quickly approaching.

We want to thank all of our parents, guardians, family and friends for their wonderful support and we look forward to a busy spring semester!

(Strack Orchestra All-Region Orchestra Members Julio Lima, Cameron Taylor, Jacob Trevino, Sophia Sagar, Amelia Baker, Avelon Daniels, Tim Nguyen and Cara Ung)



Strack STARS

The Strack STARS One Act Play, "Postcards from Shakespeare," placed 3rd at the Texas Renaissance Festival School Days Theatre Competition on November 3rd. Cast members include:

Jon Gibbs, Grace Guillote, Rita Yonkeu, Cole Caldwell, Andy Ayup, Santiago Arias, Matthew Durand, Houston Tackett, Olivia Lepien, Morgan Padgett, Sophia Wanzong, Rhiannon Sachnik, Cady Gibbs, Rylie Weeden, Taylor Thomas, Julianna Brunner, Carissa Nye, Hannah Ticer

The Strack STARS Group Scene, "When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet," placed 3rd at the Texas Renaissance Festival School Days Theatre Competition. Cast members include:

Cady Gibbs, Makayla Hall, Kennedy James, Asmita Karmarkar, Isabelle Olson, Megha Sengupta

The Strack STARS tournament team has had an extremely successful season. Congratulations to all of the Strack STARS!



Klein Oak Junior High Tournament: 1st place small school sweepstakes. Tournament Champions: Cole Caldwell, Jon Gibbs, and Kennedy James

Klein High Junior High Tournament: Courtesy Award Tournament Champions: Cole Caldwell and Jon Gibbs

Klein Collins Junior High Tournament: 1st place small school sweepstakes. Tournament Champion: Cole Caldwell

Strack Art Updates

Strack art students have been busy creating original artwork in a variety of mediums. Forty beautiful pieces have been selected and submitted to the Scholastic Art and Writing regional competition. Results will be received by the end of January. The regional Gold and Silver Key award ceremony will be held in February.

Eighteen pieces will be selected to represent Strack in the district art contest for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Contest. The Best of Show piece selected by the rodeo committee will then be on display in the Hayloft Gallery during the rodeo.

Strack artists showed off their rapid-fire sketching skills by completing a still-life in 50 minutes! Thirty pieces were submitted to compete for an invitation to the HLSR Quick Draw Contest. Twenty-four intermediate students from the region will be invited to come down to compete in the Quick Draw Contest which is held the Saturday afternoon before the rodeo begins.

Abigail McMurray's artwork, "Life of Football", has been chosen to represent Strack in the current district art display at the Klein Instructional Center on Louetta. Her artwork will be on view from January 5th through February 12th. Congratulations, Abigail!

Caroline Knight's prisma pencil on paper artwork, "What's YOUR Superpower?" was chosen to compete in the State Capitol Youth Art Month contest. One hundred pieces will be selected from across the state of Texas to be displayed at the capitol in Austin. Good luck, Caroline!

History Comes Alive

During December, the 8th graders held their Constitutional Conventions in each class period. They elected their own presiding officer, George Washington, and they played the parts of the fifty-five delegates at the convention. The 8th graders argued and debated and came out with six very unique constitutions!

