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SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- 12/12 Pro-
gress Reports
- 12/13 Drum-
line & Choir
Concert
- 12/14 Band
Concert
- 12/16 Martin
Luther King
Holiday
- 12/26-1/8
Christmas
Break
- 1/20 , 1st Se-
mester Ends

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Silverland Middle School

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

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From the Principal's Desk

The Importance of Parent Involvement during the Middle School Years.

The education of a child today is a three-pronged partnership involving the school, the student, and the parent. Much like a three-legged stool, if any one leg is missing, the stool doesn't function. The results of recent research are very clear: When parents are actively involved in their children's education, they do better in school. *The academic level of the parents, their socioeconomic level, and their ethnic or racial origin are not determining factors for academic success.* It is essential for parents to have a positive attitude regarding education,

My phone number is 575-1575, or send me an email at rcross@lyon.k12.nv.us.

Silverland Middle School Marching Band Banner. Donation from Mike Thompson of the Silverado Casino in Fernley

and to demonstrate trust that their children can do well. (Parent Involvement at the Middle School Level, <http://www.middleweb.com/ParntInvl.html>). Silverland Middle School knows that parents today are busy. Many of you work long hours out of town and have other obligations that prevent you from being at the school during school hours. One way to stay connected is through Powerschool. Did you know you can receive monthly, weekly, or even daily emails with details about what is going on in school? By setting up "email notifications", you can get information sent di-

rectly to your computer or phone on a regular basis. You can view grades, attendance, the daily school bulletin, and email contacts for all of your child's teachers. Use the enclosed step-by-step instruction sheet to set up email alerts from your computer. The whole process takes about two minutes. Staying connected this way will help you stay in the loop about events like dances, athletic and performing arts events, and any changes to the normal schedule.

You can also contact me at any time with your questions or concerns.



Recognition for Attendance

Silverland Middle School's New Military Wall of Fame

Vaquero's Marching Band Celebrate Veteran's Day at Virginia City

Ms. Harris, Asst. Principal

Veterans Day Parade: Silverland Middle School staff, students and parents are very proud of the fantastic job Mrs. Galahan and her band did performing at the Virginia City Veteran's Day Parade on Nov. 11. It was really wonderful to see the progress these students have made. I heard many comments from the audience about what a nice job they did.

Recognition for Attendance: During our awards

all the work making sure our students are in class and learning. Thank you to all our parents for helping us stay on top of this. We have already noticed a big change in the number of students getting to class on time. Great job students at Silverland!

ceremony for the end of first quarter, Silverland started a new tradition. In order to recognize all the students that are diligent about attendance, we gave out tiger striped lanyards to 190 students that have had no unexcused absences, and no unexcused tardies for the entire quarter. This entitles them to get out of class a few minutes early to get to the front of the lunch line. Seventh grade had a slightly higher number of students recognized then eighth

Military Wall: Students and staff at Silverland that have family members in the military are invited to bring in an 8x10 framed photo of them to be added to our Military Wall of Fame. We would like to honor those staff and student's family members that are serving in the military now or in the

past. Please include the student's name, the name of the person in the military and their relationship to the student and what branch of service they are/were in. These can be brought to SMS office.

grade! The unexcused absences are reflected under the attendance on the progress report as a "B" and unexcused tardies show up as a "U". When a student is absent, they have three days to either have a parent call the school or write a note to let us know where the student was. After three days, if we do not receive a note or phone call from a parent, the absence remains a "B" and is supposed to be reflected as a "truancy". It takes extra time from all of us to keep track of



Counselor's Corner

With the holidays fast approaching and the current state of the economy, many of our students and their families are facing a difficult holiday season, which is why Silverland Middle School is gearing up for our fourth annual Angel Tree Project. With the combined efforts of staff members and community support we hope to reach our goal of providing every child in need with a gift to open on Christmas morning.

If you are interested in helping with our efforts please contact Mrs. Vasquez at 575-1575. Any level of contribution will be greatly appreciated by

the school and the families in need. If you have any questions or need further information please feel free to contact me. With your help, we can make this wish a reality.

Happy Holidays!
Wilikinia Vasquez



Inside Story from Mr. Burns, Athletic Director

What a great start to the athletic season with both girls basketball and cross country representing SMS proudly. Boys basketball has started and we are looking forward to coaching these young men. Matt Adamson is coaching the

7th grade and I am coaching the 8th grade. We are very pleased with what we have seen so far. The student-athletes have worked extremely hard in practice. This hard work ethic will continue to pay dividends

for the rest of the year. If you get a chance come out support your SMS Vaqueros.

Dave Burns

Rumor (ru-mor) noun

A story or statement in general circulation without confirmation or certainty as to facts: gossip, hearsay.

At a recent meeting here at school, a parent asked me about a rumor that she had read on Facebook about our school. Someone had posted a comment about a big incident, saying the parking lot

was “full of police.” Another person who saw the comment even called a parent and told them they need to hurry to the school and pick up their kid! The reality was a single deputy had stopped by for a routine truancy call. Unfortunately, this kind of rumor gets started quite regularly. Rumors, no matter how ridiculous they seem, shape attitudes and perceptions. They create a negative envi-

ronment and cause undue stress to our students, families and staff. There is also a lot of time spent in “damage control” mode over things that are completely untrue. As the old saying goes, “A rumor can march all the way around the world before the truth gets its boots on”. The next time you hear something that sounds suspect, please contact us. You can call us at 575-1575 or email Mr. Cross at rcross@lyon.k12.nv.us.

