

SNOWY RANGE ACADEMY

Falcon Flier

April 2024

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Snowy Range Academy Families,

I can't believe we have already made it to April! I hope that all of you are surviving these last few months of the school year as we head into the final term.

I'd like to take a moment to thank all of you for the academic support you give to your students. This is one of the biggest contributors to Snowy Range students being so incredibly successful, and our teachers and staff appreciate the hard work you put in at home.

As most of you know, the WYTOPP assessments will be administered toward the end of the month. This is a summative assessment measuring your students' competency on state standards. This is obviously a very important assessment, arguably the most important assessment of the year, and we want to encourage our students to be prepared to do their very best. WYTOPP will begin on April 22nd and the various testing sessions will be held throughout the week. Please be sure that your students arrive on time and are in attendance every day during this week. As a side note, some of your students have already taken the writing section of the WYTOPP (grades 3, 5, and 7). The Wyoming Department of Education assigned ACSD1, including Snowy Range Academy, to administer the writing section the week before Spring Break. Unfortunately, they scheduled the week *of* Spring Break for any makeup assessments. Therefore, if your student was not here for the writing section of the WYTOPP, they will not be able to make it up, as per the scheduling error from WDE. We have already been in contact with them regarding this error and we hope that this is not an issue in the future.

Thank you so much and have a great month,

Mrs. Diediker



- **April 1: Deadline to submit Letter of Intent**
- **April 2: Field Trip—Battle of the Books 3rd**
- **April 3: Enrollment Lottery**
- **April 4: Field Trip—Battle of the Books 4th/5th**
- **April 4: Open House with Mrs. Diediker**
- **April 5: Report Cards**
- **April 8-12: Kindergarten Pre-Registration**
- **April 8: PTA Meeting**
- **April 12: NO SCHOOL**
- **April 17: SRA Board Meeting**
- **April 18: Field Trip—Battle of the Books MS**
- **April 18: Evening of Fine Arts**
- **April 22: Field Trip— Kinder Roller Skate**
- **April 26: Jeans Day**
- **April 26: Midterm**
- **April 29: Field Trip— Kinder Roller Skate**
- **May 1: CK Music Festival**

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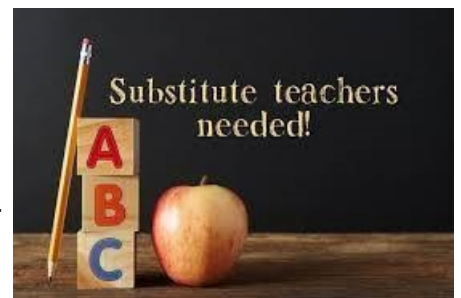
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Substitutes Wanted!

SRA has an urgent need for SUBSTITUTES. We are seeking qualified applicants to serve as substitute teachers and ask that you visit our website at www.snowyrangeacademy.org or call 307-745-9930 for more information.

All interested individuals must hold a current Wyoming Substitute Teacher Permit. Please go to the following link <http://wyomingptsb.com/licensure/substitute-teaching/> to learn more about obtaining a permit. We look forward to meeting you!

Now accepting applications for 2024-2025 substitutes.



What's for Lunch?

The school lunch menu can be found posted on the district website. There is a quick link on the right side of our page, under family Resources.

Join Us for the Next Board Meeting

SRA Board Meeting
6:00 pm, April 17, 2024
All are welcome!

Notes from the Nurse



nurse

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 7TH GRADE NEXT YEAR

Wyoming state immunization requirements mandate that all students entering seventh grade must have a booster dose of diphtheria/tetanus/ pertussis containing vaccine (Tdap). Your healthcare provider might also recommend other important vaccinations for your pre-teen such as immunizations to prevent Meningitis, Hepatitis A and Human Papillomavirus. **Please remember to send an updated immunization record to school after your child has received any new vaccinations.**

EMERGENCY LOANER CLOTHING

Please check your laundry area for any articles of clothing loaned to your student during the school year. All loaned clothing is marked in the waistband, neckband or on the backside with the initials SRA. We would appreciate the return of this clothing as soon as possible.

ILLNESS QUESTIONS

Please contact the school nurse via phone or email with any illness related questions or concerns. School nurse contact info : lsmith@acsdl.org 745.9930

CK Music Festival

Please Mark Your Calendars For:
Core Knowledge Music Festival!!
This is SRA's annual All School music concert.

When: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Time: Concert begins at 6:30 p.m.

All students arrive at 6:15 p.m.

Who: ALL SRA STUDENTS–Kindergarten through 8th grade

Where: Laramie High School Theater

Attire: ALL STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DRESS NICELY: slacks, ties, skirts (knee length or longer), dresses, dress shoes etc. No jeans or t-shirts, please. School uniform is not required.

Questions?: Contact Ms. Cowell at acowell@acsdl.org

The concert should last a little over an hour.

Your child's participation in this event is a very important part of their SRA experience; attendance is required.

We look forward to having all students and parents at this annual SRA tradition.

Join us for an *Evening of Fine Arts.*

This is an evening to show-case student artwork, small ensembles performed by SRA orchestras and Choirs.

When: Thursday, April 18, 2024

Doors open at 5:30

Orchestra performances will begin at 5:30

Choirs will perform at 6:30

Artwork will be on display from 5:30-7:00

Look for an informational flyer in your student's take home folder.

Contact Ms. Cowell (acowell@acsd1.org) or Mrs. Stebbins (hstebbins@acsd1.org) with questions.

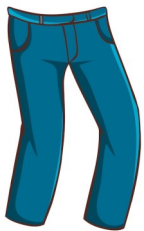


Student Council

Jeans Day will be on April 26, 2024

Periodically, the school will hold Jeans Day. Students who choose to pay \$1.00 will be allowed to wear denim jeans with their uniform top. Denim jeans will only be allowed on designated Jeans Days. If denim jeans are worn any other time, a uniform citation will be issued, and parents will be called to bring uniform pants. The money raised on Jeans Day will go to the Student Council for projects in the school.

Guidelines for jeans worn on Jeans Day are as follow:



- No words or logos on the jeans (besides Brand logo)
- SMALL amounts of embroidery and bling will be allowed as long as it is a school appropriate design such as flowers or butterflies. (Not allowed: words or skull and crossbones, excessive bling.)
- Must wear regular school belt (with the exception of Kindergarten)
- No rips or holes
- No key chains
- No baggy or excessively wide-legged jeans
- Denim must be blue or black in color (no pink or purple jeans)
- No denim jeggings, or skirts are allowed
- Shirts need to be tucked in and jeans need to be clean.

Students who forget their money will be given a chance to call home for money or uniform pants. Students who do not follow the Jeans Day guideline will be asked to call home for an appropriate school uniform. If the problem cannot be fixed, a uniform citation will be issued. Students will pay for the jeans and get a stamp by the front office.

*Classroom teachers will reserve the right to make final dress code decisions.

2024 SRA Board Elections

Snowy Range Academy has 4 Board of Director openings in the upcoming election cycle. Openings include 3 Parent Members and 1 Community Member. All qualifying individuals are encouraged to reach out to Board members and the Principal for more information. Important dates, information links, and deadlines are below. For more information you can also contact the members of the Nominations Committee (Derek Scasta - dscasta@srafalcons.org, Stephanie Diediker - sdiediker@srafalcons.org, Megan Smerud - msmerud@srafalcons.org, Rita Brechlin - chaosliveshere@gmail.com).

Opportunities to Learn More:

- Open House with Principal – Thursday, April 4th @ 6:00 pm; there will be at least one Board member at this meeting available for informal discussions
- <https://www.snowyrangeacademy.org/board-of-directors>
- <https://www.snowyrangeacademy.org/s/2022-Charter-Renewal-Application-dmjb.pdf>

Deadline to Apply: Wednesday, April 19th

Ballot Opens: Wednesday, May 1st

Announce Results at Annual Meeting: Wednesday, May 15th

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

#1 – What is the composition of the SRA Board? 10 members of which 7 shall be voting members; shall include 5 parents of enrolled students, 2 community members, a Board Member Emeritus, the Principal, and one Employee Member. The Board Member Emeritus, Principal, and Employee Member shall serve as non-voting members.

#2 – What is the time commitment? It can vary depending on committees, positions, and current events. Board members report spending 1 to 5 hours per week accordingly.

#3 – What is expected for attendance? In-person attendance at monthly board meetings and assigned committee meetings. Virtual attendance is possible if extenuating circumstances are an issue. Communication with the Board Chair is expected if you are going to miss a meeting. It is also expected that Board members will observe instruction, attend other regular school functions, attend special meetings, ensure confidentiality for human resources and executive session discussions, and listen to parents and staff about concerns.

#4 – How are Committees and Board positions determined? These are determined each year by the Board and vary in time requirements. Standing committees include Finance, Hiring, and Nominating, and Ad Hoc committees include Facilities, Marketing/Development, Technology, and High School. Positions include Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

#5 – What kinds of skills are needed? A prospective Board member would need to be willing to learn about conducting public meetings, the SRA Charter and Bylaws, curriculum, human resources, SRA finances, the relationship with ACSD#1, and applicable county, state, and federal laws and statutes.

Yearbooks

Yearbook sales end April 24th! Be sure to purchase a yearbook by April 24th so that your child receives one during the last week of school in May and to avoid paying shipping. The school will not have extra copies on hand for purchase. Yearbooks are \$17.86. You can order yours by visiting <https://www.treering.com/purchase?PassCode=1013243978743051>. Please contact Ms. Hedderman with any questions.



Board Notes

Hello from the SRA Board of Directors,

The SRA Board of Directors has been working in several different areas recently. The Board continues to think through various options regarding continued expansion to accommodate enrollment increases. We've all grown fond of the Falcons' Nest and would love to find a way to keep it as part of our floorplan even while adding necessary classrooms and moving the school's main entrance to the Dollar Tree entryway.

The Facilities Committee continues to monitor the expansion work taking place at the back of the building, which is on schedule to be completed this summer. Meanwhile, a property survey was completed, which paves the way for the committee to reach out to playground equipment suppliers and talk about improvements to the playground space.

The Board continues to talk about the 2024-2025 school calendar and wants to hear what parents think about a couple different calendar options. Please be watching for communication soon.

The Principal Hiring Committee has named Mrs. Diediker as the finalist for the permanent principal position. An open house for families is scheduled for 6 p.m. April 4, in the Falcons' Nest. Please come with your questions and help Mrs. Diediker get to know our community better.

The next board meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. April 17. All meetings take place at SRA and stream online via Zoom. To view agendas and meeting minutes, visit the Board of Directors page on the website and click on the link for BoardDocs.

Best,
Eve Newman
Snowy Range Academy Board Chair

PTA News

PTA Elections

Are you ready for a new way to help SRA? Why not give it a try with PTA in the 2024-2025 school year? **Please consider becoming a PTA Board member.** It's an easy and fun way to help students, teachers, and the entire school community. Email pta4sra@gmail.com if you are interested.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up in May. Please stay tuned for opportunities to help with this important event!

Spring Scholastic Book Fair

The PTA would like to send a huge THANK YOU to all book fair volunteers. We could not have done it without you!

Next meeting

The next will be held April 8 at 6:30 pm in the SRA library. Email pta4sra@gmail.com with any questions or visit "PTA 4 SRA" Facebook page.



SPECIALS



WISDOM



Snowy Range Academy students will be looking at the attributes of knowing the character trait of wisdom during the month of April. Wisdom is applying truth to your daily decisions. Students will discuss why wisdom matters, how to use wisdom in their daily lives in light of having good character, and celebrate the good character qualities others have demonstrated in their lives. Students will discuss people in their

lives that have wisdom, how to learn from mistakes, how to use wisdom to go in the right direction when friends may be wanting them to go another, and to use wisdom and consider the consequences of the decisions they make on a daily basis. Finally, wisdom is being able to ask, “What is the right thing to do?”

“Lessons in life will be repeated until they are learned.” ~Frank Sonnenberg



K-2nd grade: Students will begin a striking and fielding unit along with parachute team-building activities and obstacle course skills (jumping, crawling, balancing, etc.). Additionally, Kindergarten students will visit the Laramie Ice and Event Center for roller skating on Monday, April 22nd and Monday, April 29th from 12:00 - 1:30 pm. Please mark your calendars and look for permission slips! 2nd grade post-year fitness tests will occur the week of April 8th.

3rd - 5th grade: Students will continue their tennis unit. 5th graders have designed workouts related to their chosen fitness goal and will be given the first 15 minutes of each class to complete their workouts and record their progress. Fitness tests for 3rd-5th graders will occur the week of April 8th.

6th - 8th grade: Students will continue their golf and frisbee golf units. Additionally, in preparation for our post-year fitness tests on the week of April 8th, students have been asked to design a workout specific to their chosen fitness goal and will be given the first 15 minutes of each class to work out and record their progress toward their goals. Fly fishing will begin at the end of the month.

ART



“The worst enemy to creativity is self-doubt.”
~Sylvia Plath

Kindergarten- Elements of Art: Color & Texture

Featured Art: *The Banjo Lesson, My Nieces*

1st Grade- Kinds of Pictures- Portraits & Still-Life

Featured Art: *Mona Lisa, Don Manuel Osorio*



Manrique de Zuniga, Van Gogh Self-Portrait, Frida Kahlo Self-Portrait with Necklace of Thorns, Pippin Self-Portrait II, The Make Believer, Irises

2nd Grade- Abstract Art

Featured Art: *The Snail, Bull’s Head, Baseball Players*

3rd Grade- Architecture & Design and How the Elements of Art Work Together

Featured Art: *Pit House, Neolithic Long House, Plains American Tipi, Cahokia (Mississippian Culture), Musgum (or Fali) compound in Cameroon, Tar Beach, Icarus, Victorian Interior, Le Monde*

4th Grade- The Art of China

Featured Art: *Emperor Ming Huang’s Journey to Shu, Porcelain Ming Dynasty Vase, Which is Earth, no. 7, Dropping a Han Dynasty Urn*

5th Grade- Art of Japan

Featured Art: *The Kamakura Buddha, Landscape gardens (Landscape of Autumn and Winter, Number 52 One Hundred Famous Views of Edo), Sound, All the Eternal Love I have for the Pumpkins*



Middle School- Contemporary Art

Featured Art: *Shirin Neshat photo series Unveiling (Women of Allah series), Wrapped Reichstag, Girl with Balloon, Balloon Rabbit, Soundsuit*



April Spanish

Kindergarten- Food, Clothing, and The Three Bears in Spanish

First- Finish unit on Mexico with History and Holidays. Start the Spanish Alphabet.

Second- Continue reading “Esperanza Rising” by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Third- Start 3rd grade play for a performance in May

Fourth- Somos FLEX Unit 1:1 (Ñu Story and Los Pollitos dicen)

Fifth- Don Quixote digital narratives

MUSIC



All Classes will be preparing for SRA's Core Knowledge Music Festival (SRA's all school music concert).
The performance is on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Laramie High School Theater.

Kindergarten



- **Composer:** *Camille Saint-Saens: "Carnival of the Animals"*
- **Songs:** *Old MacDonald Had a Farm; This Little Light of Mine; Pin Pon; Ella Fitzgerald: A Tisket, A Tasket*

First Grade:



- **Composers:** *Jazz: Louis Armstrong; Duke Ellington*
- **Songs:** *Frere Jacques; La Raspa; Take Me Out to the Ballgame; There's a Hole in the Bucket*

Second Grade:

- **Composer:** *Bach; Mozart; Mendelssohn: Keyboard Instruments*
- **Songs:** *De Colores; Erie Canal; Lil' Liza Jane; Swing Low Sweet Chariot*

Third Grade:

- **Violin Unit**



Fourth Grade:

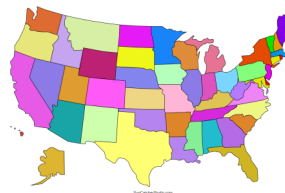
- **Composer:** *Mozart: "The Magic Flute"*
- **Songs:** *Loch Lomond, Waltzing Matilda, Cockles and Mussels; I Love the Mountains; Down in the Valley; My Grandfather's Clock*

Fifth Grade:

- **Ukulele Unit**
- **Songs:** *God Bless America; Battle Hymn of the Republic; Fifty Nifty United States; Red River Valley; Git Along Little Dogies*

Middle School:

- **Instrument ensembles**



April 2024

Wisdom
You're a Grand Old Flag

ASSEMBLY RECITATION SCHEDULE	
*	April 3: Character
*	April 10: Honor Roll
*	April 17: 3A & 3B
*	April 24: Kinder A & Kinder B

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2  Field Trip– Battle of the Books -3rd gr	3 	4  Field Trip– Battle of the Books - 4th/5th gr OPEN HOUSE with Mrs. Diediker 6-7pm	5 	6
7	8 Kindergarten Pre - Registration Opens 	9	10 	11	12 	13
14	15	16	17 	18  Field Trip– Battle of the Books - MS 	19	20
21	22  Field Trip– Kinder Roller Skate	23	24	25	26  JEANS DAY MIDTERM	27
28	29  Field Trip– Kinder Roller Skate	30				