

# SNOWY RANGE ACADEMY

## *Falcon Flier*

February 2024

---

### From the Principal's Desk

---

Dear Snowy Range Academy Families,

My name is Mrs. Diediker. As most of you know, Mr. Cowper decided to step down as principal and I was recently hired as the interim principal. In the short time that I have been at the academy, I have already begun to see what an amazing school this is. The families prioritize student learning and do a wonderful job of supporting the teachers and staff. The classrooms are filled with engagement and productivity, and the focus is clearly on values and rigorous instruction.

In an effort for you to get to know me, I will give you a bit of my background. I am originally from Moorcroft, Wyoming and I graduated from the University of Wyoming with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. The Open School here in Laramie was brave enough to hire me as a first year teacher which started me down the path of teaching and administration. For the last 20+ years, I have been in the classroom or an administrator. Prior to me being hired at Snowy Range Academy, I was an administrator at American Leadership Academy in Spanish Fork, Utah for many years. It was difficult to leave my position, but the draw to return to Wyoming was strong, and in learning about the vision, mission, and high expectations at SRA, the decision was much easier.

I am excited to be a part of Snowy Range Academy and I can't wait to get to know all of you better. Please feel free to stop in and meet me in person. My door is always open!

Lastly, thank you to everyone I have already met for welcoming into Snowy Range Academy.

It's going to be a great year!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Diediker*  
Principal



- February 1: Field Trip, Regional Science Fair
- February 2: Fun Friday– Hat Day, 25¢
- February 6: Viking Day, 3rd gr
- February 8: Class Picture Day
- February 9: Fun Friday– Hoodie & Crazy Sock Day, 50¢
- February 9: Field Trip, 1st gr, UW Planetarium
- February 9: Papa Murphy’s Pizza Night
- February 12: PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm
- February 13: Observation Open House, 9:00-11:00 am
- February 14: Field Trip, 5th gr B, XC Ski
- February 15: Field Trip, 8th gr, WY Capitol
- February 15: Field Trip, Math Counts Competition
- February 15: **HALF DAY**, Dismiss at 11:15 am
- February 15: Fun Friday– Crazy Hair Day, 75¢
- February 19: **No School**
- February 21: Midterm
- February 21: Observation Open House, 9:00-11:00 am
- February 21: SRA Board Meeting, 6:00 pm
- February 23: Fun Friday– Dress as a Teacher Day, \$1
- February 26: Field Trip, 4th gr, Snowshoe
- February 28: Field Trip, 5th gr A, XC Ski
- March 1: Field Trip, 5th gr, UW Symphony
- March 5: Field Trip, gr 5-8, All City Honor’s Choir
- March 8: Field Trip, 5th gr, UW Planetarium
- March 11-15: Spring Break

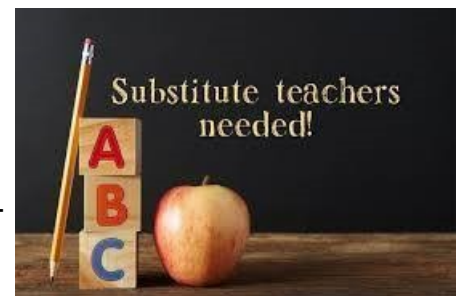
## Inside this issue:

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Substitutes Wanted               | 2    |
| Nurse Notes                      | 3    |
| CK Music Festival– SAVE THE DATE | 3    |
| ENROLLMENT and Open Houses       | 4    |
| Class Pictures                   | 5    |
| COMMUNICATION– Remind App        | 6    |
| Student Council                  | 4    |
| Board Notes                      | 7    |
| PTA                              | 7    |
| Specials                         | 8-10 |
| Calendar                         | 11   |

## 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](http://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!



## 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, February 21, 2024**  
*All are welcome!*

## Notes from the Nurse

---



### **EMERGENCY LOANER CLOTHING**

Please check your laundry area for any articles of clothing that were loaned to your student during the school year from SRA. All loaned clothing is marked in the waistband, neckband or on the backside with the initials SRA. We are running low on clothes to loan out to our students. We would appreciate the return of any SRA loaner clothing to the nurse's office as soon as possible.

### **WINTER CLOTHING**

Please send your children with proper cold weather gear. Don't forget gloves! Gloves are the most requested item from students.

### **ILLNESS**

If your child will be absent from school please call or email the front office to let us know. If you have any illness related questions, feel free to call the school and ask to speak to the nurse, or email me at [lsmith@acsd1.org](mailto:lsmith@acsd1.org). Thank you!

Lori Smith  
[lsmith@acsd1.org](mailto:lsmith@acsd1.org)

## 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 6:00 p.m.***

***All students arrive at 5:40 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@acsd1.org](mailto:acowell@acsd1.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.***

# Open Houses– for enrollment in 2024-2025

**Do you have friends and neighbors who are interested in enrolling their child at SRA?  
Invite them to join us for one of our upcoming **OPEN HOUSE** dates!**

Priority lottery status will be given to families who attend an open house.

- ◆ **Observation Open Houses** are a great opportunity for prospective parents to see our classrooms in action. Seating will be available in each grade. No reservations necessary. Come and go as you please, visit more than one room, and pick up literature about the school. There will be tours available.
- ◆ **Community Information Night** starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. and is a great chance to learn more about our school, what makes SRA unique, take a tour, and meet and speak with the principal and teachers.

**We look forward to sharing Snowy Range Academy with prospective families.**

## Observation OPEN HOUSES

*Tuesday, February 13, 9:00 -11:00 a.m.*

*Wednesday, February 21, 9:00 -11:00 a.m.*

*Thursday, March 21, 9:00 -11:00 a.m.*

*Wednesday, March 27, 12:00—2:00 p.m.*

## Community Information Night

*Thursday, March 7*

*Join us promptly at 6:00 p.m.*

## RE-ENROLLMENT for 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR!

We hope your child has had a great year at SRA!

The Open Enrollment period for next year is here. We would like to remind you that currently enrolled children and their siblings have priority for available spots in next year's classes.

We are asking you to notify us of your intentions for **all current** and **any new siblings** so that we can determine how many openings are available for new students to join SRA.

Some classes will have long waitlists, so please let us know as soon as possible!

**Please submit the form even if your child will not be attending SRA next year  
(this includes all graduating 8th graders!).**

Only one form per family is needed.

For **CURRENT STUDENTS**, please use the **RE-ENROLLMENT** form.

If you wish to enroll a new **SIBLING**, please use the **NEW STUDENT** Letter of Intent.

**Form(s) are due by FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024.**

# Class Pictures



## Class Picture Day

is

Thursday, February 8

This is a **\*UNIFORM DAY\***.

Please make sure your student is in attendance, and looks their best.

Pictures are scheduled for the morning. There will not be a retake day for this event. Order forms have been sent home; extra forms are available in the Front Lobby.

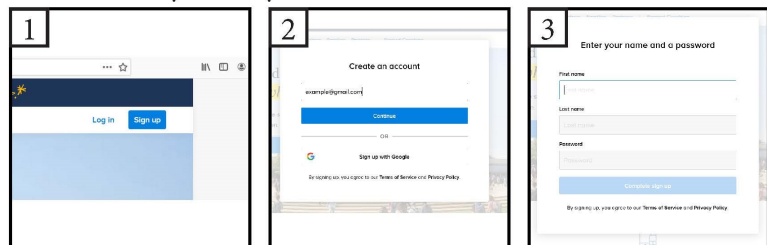
## Remind App

# Stay Informed!

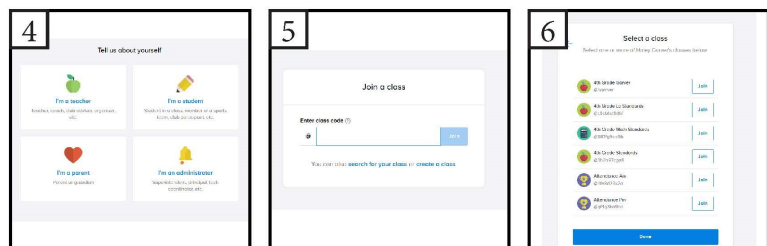
Dear SRA Families,

In January we moved all communication notices to REMIND. You will get messages from us, as well as from the District. You can download the Remind App onto your phone. You are also in control of how you receive messages— via email, text, or both.

### How to Join Remind for Updates from Albany County School District #1 and its Schools



1. Head to the Remind website, and click on “Sign Up” in the upper right-hand corner.
2. Create an account by using either an email address or phone number. You will then be asked to enter a code that has been sent to the phone or email address you gave.
3. Enter your name and a password you would like for your account, and click “Complete sign up.”



4. You will select “I’m a parent” when Remind prompts this screen. After that, you can add a phone number if you began with email.
5. You can then join a class by entering a class code if you know it, or by searching for your child(ren)’s school and teacher.
6. Once you find the teacher, you can join the class your child(ren) has with that teacher. When you have picked all the classes, select “Done.” You are all set to receive notifications from Remind.

# Student Council

---

For the month of February, the Student Council has decided to raise money for *Family Promise of Albany County*.

They help support those experiencing homelessness within our community. To support this, each Friday in February we will have an optional, fun activity students may pay to participate in.

**Feb. 2- \$0.25 Hat Day** Students will still be required to wear their regular school uniforms but may wear a ball cap, stocking cap, or cowboy hat that is smaller and school appropriate (no inappropriate pictures or words displayed). Masks may not be a part of the hat, students faces must be visible.



**Feb. 9- \$0.50 Hoodie and/or Crazy Socks Day** Students will still wear their uniform shirt, belt, and pants. They may wear a school appropriate hoodie, zip up or pull over, over their uniform shirt. They **may not** have the hood up within the building. No masks should be included in their hoodie because student faces must be visible. For the \$0.50 donation students may wear a hoodie or crazy socks or both.

**Feb. 16- \$0.75 Crazy Hair Day** Students will still wear their regular uniform but may come to school with crazy hair. Any words, pictures, or designs must be school appropriate. Any crazy hair designs should be temporary, nothing permanent. Evidence of the crazy hair should be gone by the following Monday.



**Feb. 23- \$1 Dress Like a Teacher Day** Students do not have to wear a school uniform **IF** they dress like one of the teachers. Any clothing should still be school appropriate (shorts, skirts, or dress should be no more than 3" above the knee; shoulders and torsos are covered; clothing is appropriate to participate in the activities throughout the day; no sandals).

Students who forget their money will be given a chance to call home for money or uniform clothing for the day. Students who do not follow the guidelines 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 to participate in each fun activity by the front door.

There will be **no jeans day** during the month of February to accommodate the fun, Friday activities.

# Board Notes

---

Hello from the SRA Board of Directors,

The SRA Board of Directors met three times in December and once in January. On Dec. 6, the Board approved a bid from Shepard Construction for Phase 1B of our expansion project. Construction is underway in the back of the building, and we're looking forward to the addition of three new classrooms and a set of bathrooms by next fall.

On Dec. 20, the Board approved the first reading of the 2024-25 academic calendar while also considering ways to include Board input in calendar considerations. The Board approved the hiring of a consultant to help SRA establish a fundraising program.

On Jan. 17, the Board discussed reviving the after-school program that was in operation until several years ago. The Board plans to continue exploring the feasibility of the program and gauging potential participation.

Interim principal Stephanie Diediker began her position on Jan. 22, while we said farewell to Mr. Cowper on Jan. 18. The interim position will run through June 30, and the process of hiring a permanent principal has begun.

The next board meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Feb. 21. 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 Chairman

## PTA News

---

### Spring Book Fair Co-Chair

Calling all of our awesome volunteers! We are looking for a co-chair for the Spring Scholastic Book Fair! Many hands make light work, so contact us today to help us with the book fair!

### Papa Murphy Pizza Night

What two things go together like PB & J? A Friday evening pizza and supporting SRA. February 9 is the next Papa Murphy's SRA family night.

**Big thank you to book cover volunteers** – Thanks for all of the support in covering books for our teachers this year! We couldn't have done it without you!! We know people have worked throughout the year, but also thanks to those who showed up and helped on Sunday, January 14.

### Spring Elections

This spring the PTA will be holding officer elections! We hope you consider running for a position and helping our students, teachers and overall SRA community continue to thrive!

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 12 at 6:30 in the SRA library. Please join us.



# SPECIALS



## COURAGE

**We become brave by doing brave acts.**

**~ Aristotle**

For the month of February, students will be discussing the character trait of Courage. Courage is overcoming fear so I can do what is right. Courage begins by knowing what is good, true, and right so that when you face strange, difficult, or frightening situations we will know what to do. C.S. Lewis wrote, "Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point." Students have learned many character traits while being at Snowy Range Academy: self-control, respect, compassion, honesty and responsibility to name a few. Sometimes peer influence is good and healthy, but other times it leads in the wrong direction and it takes courage to stand up for what is right even if that means standing alone. Students will learn why courage is important; whom they can talk to when they feel afraid, and circumstances that they may face that will require them to have courage.

**It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends.**

**~J.K. Rowling**



This month in PE

3rd – 8th grade students will begin their Archery season. We follow the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) utilizing official NASP equipment, range set-up, safety rules, and teach the 11 steps or archery success. Parents are welcome to volunteer during your child's PE class to learn along with us or share their expertise and help at the shooting line. Please contact Mrs. Laura Palmer if you would like to attend at [lpalmer@acsd1.org](mailto:lpalmer@acsd1.org).

K-2nd graders are wrapping up their tennis and rhythm and dance units to begin jump rope this month. 5th Grade will be going Cross-Country Skiing this month with 4th grade participating in a snowshoe outing as part of the PE Lifetime Activities and Outdoor Pursuits Field Trip series. Please see your child's permission slip for details.

Mr. Patrick Coffey with Fast Haus will be a guest instructor this month, coming in to introduce 5th graders to skiing skills prior to our trip. If you would like to volunteer to join us on an outing, please email [lpalmer@acsd1.org](mailto:lpalmer@acsd1.org). Thanks and have a great February!



# ART



“Art is as natural as sunshine and as vital as nourishment.” – MaryAnn F. Kohl

## Kindergarten- Elements of Art: Color: warm vs. cool

Featured Art: *Evening Clouds, Two Girls in Spanish Harlem, Le Gourmet*



1<sup>st</sup>- Elements of Art-  
**Shape:** or-  
ganic vs geo-  
metric  
Featured Art:  
*Stone City*

*Iowa, Dada Head, The Family, Elizabeth, Nothing Under the Sun*

## 2<sup>nd</sup>- Landscapes

Featured Art: *Bigger Trees Near Water, Night House with Lit Windows, Fever Graph (algorithm for serendipity), Winter in the North*

## 3<sup>rd</sup>- American Indian Art

Featured Art: Jewelry, Kachina dolls (Hopi, Zuni), Navajo (Dine) blankets and rugs

## 4<sup>th</sup>- The Art of Africa

Featured Art: Antelope headdresses of Mali, Bamana Headdress, Portrait Head of an Ife King, Benin Bronze Head, Face Mask (Benin), Ivory Mask (Benin)



## 5<sup>th</sup>- American Art: 19th Century U.S.

Featured Art: *The Shaw Memorial, Central Park Winter (prints by Currier and Ives), The Westwood Children, My Neighbors, Into Bondage, image from book “Harriet and the Promised Lands”, Exodus of Confederates from Atlanta*



## Middle School- 20th Century Sculpture

Featured Art: *Black Wall (1981), Repetition Nineteen III (1968), The Dinner Party (74-79), Clothespin (1976), Vietnam Veterans Memorial (1980s), The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living (1991), Spider (1994)*



Kindergarten- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see? En ESPAÑOL, face and start Hola Niños: Unit 2

First- Hola Niños: Unit 3 (Food and Emotions) and start Unit on Mexico: Geography, History, and Culture

Second- Hola Niños: Unit 4 (Body) and start Immigration with reading Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Third- Hola Niños: Unit 6 (Countries and Languages) and start Spanish pronunciation training

Fourth- Hola Niños: Units 1-8 REVIEW

Fifth- Finish Spanish Novel, “Pobre Ana” and start Don Quixote digital narrative

# MUSIC



## Kindergarten

- **Composer:** *Edward Grieg: "Morning and In the Hall of the Mountain King"*
- **Songs:** *Pin Pon; Oh, John the Rabbit; The Bear Went Over the Mountain; BINGO; This Old Man*



## First Grade:

- **Composers:** *Humperdinck: "Hansel and Gretel"; Jazz*
- **Songs:** *There's a Hole in the Bucket; Skip to My Lou; On Top of Old Smokey; She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain; Frere Jacques*



## Second Grade:

- **Composer:** *Beethoven: "Symphony #6"*
- **Songs:** *When Johnny Comes Marching Home; Swing Low Sweet Chariot; The Erie Canal*

## Third Grade:

- **Violin Unit**

## Fourth Grade:

- **Composers:** *Mozart: "Variations on a French Song"; Handel: "Hallelujah Chorus"; Haydn: "Surprise Symphony"*
- **Songs:** *Loch Lomond; Cockles and Mussels; Waltzing Matilda*

## Fifth Grade:

- **Composers:** *Alice Parker: American Folk Song and Hymns*
- **Ukulele Unit**
- **Songs:** *Down By the Riverside; Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child; Wayfaring Stranger; WE Shall Overcome; Go Down Moses*

## Middle School:

- **Instrument ensembles**



# February 2024

Courage

Yankee  
Doodle

## ASSEMBLY RECITATION SCHEDULE

- \* February 7: Character
- \* February 14: 6th grade
- \* February 21: 4A and 4B
- \* February 28: 7th grade

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |   |   |   | 1 <br>Field Trip—<br>Regional<br>Science Fair                              | 2 <br>HAT DAY- 25¢   | 3   |
| 4   | 5   | 6 <br>Viking Day   | 7   | 8 <br>SCHOOL<br>Photo Day   | 9 <br>HOODIE AND<br>CRAZY SOCK<br>DAY- 50¢<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">             Papa Murphy<br/>Pizza Night           </div>             | 10 <br>Field Trip<br>FRIDAY<br>FEB 9- 1st<br>grade<br> |
| 11  | 12 <br>PTA Meeting                         | 13 <br>PARENT<br>OPEN HOUSE<br>PLEASE JOIN US<br>9:00-11:00 am | 14 <br>Field Trip—<br>5B XC Ski  | 15 <br>Field Trips—<br>Math Count<br>Competition<br>8th gr WY<br>Capitol | 16 <br>CRAZY HAIR<br>DAY- 75¢<br><div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <b>HALF<br/>DAY<br/>Dismissal at<br/>11:15</b> </div> | 17  |
| 18  | 19 <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             NO<br/>SCHOOL           </div>       | 20  | 21 <br>PARENT<br>OPEN HOUSE<br>PLEASE JOIN US<br>9:00-11:00 am<br>SRA Board Mtg<br>6:00 p.m. | 22  | 23 <br>DRESS AS A<br>TEACHER<br>DAY- \$1   | 24  |
| 25  | 26 <br>Field Trip—<br>4th Gr Snow-<br>shoe | 27  | 28 <br>Field Trip—<br>5A XC Ski  | 29 <br>HOPPY<br>LEAP DAY!<br>2/29/24                                      |    |   |