



December
2025

Reminder from Ron Swier:

Nov. 30-- Free college application period ends.

SCHOLASTIC
It's **BOOK FAIR** *time!*

You're Invited to the
Corsica-Stickney Elementary Book Fair

December 4, 2025

5:30p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Online sales begin Dec.1 thru Dec.12

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/corsicastickneyelemschl>

COMETO
THEFAIR
CHOOSEBOOKS
YOULOVE



Shop with Book Fair eWallet for **cash-free** purchases



Reminder you can find a copy of our Title I School wide plan, LEA Plan, Parent/Teacher/School Compact, District Parent Engagement, and School Parent Engagement policies on the school's webpage under the Academics tab or Students tab.

FYI you can see what assessments your student will be taking by checking out the school website Home Page and clicking on South Dakota District Testing Dates 25-26.



Title I Tidbits

Happy Holidays



We are now in the time of year that we find ourselves inside more spending quality time with our families. This is a great time to engage in some family friendly activities that promote literacy. There is plenty of research that says that children raised in homes that promote family literacy grow up to be better readers and do better in school than children raised in homes where literacy is not promoted. **Why not give the gift of books instead of toys this holiday season!**

We know that promoting family literacy is important to future reading and school success. While family literacy activities are often based in reading, there are lots of other ways families can implement literacy activities at home: through picture books, songs, poetry, storytelling, playing board or card games, visiting a library, and reading together.

Family literacy is defined as home literacy activities that provide literacy skill-building opportunities for young children while enhancing literacy skill development in all members of the family. These activities should be started as early as preschool and continue throughout High School. **Modeling reading to children is also important for literacy development at all ages. We are having a Book Fair the night of the Christmas Concert Thursday December 4, from 5:30-8:30 at the Corsica-Stickney Elementary school in the Music Room. Online ordering is also available beginning Dec. 2nd thru Dec. 12th. Use this website to access our online Book Fair.**

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/corsicastickneyelemschl>

Here is a list of board games that promote literacy (Reading and Math) for all ages

Tall Tales	Scrabble	Old Maid	Phase 10
Sequence Letters	Monopoly	Go Fish	Rummikub
Sequence Junior	Boggle	Bingo	Sequence Numbers
Apples to Apples	Hedbanz	Yahtzee	Tenzi
Read My List	Dominoes	Memory	Quirkle
Outburst	Blurt!	Smart Mouth	Scattergories Jr.
Cranium Jr.	Zingo Bingo	Farkle	PayDay
Scattergories	Apples to Apples Jr.	Hi! Ho! Cherry-O	Boggle Jr.
Twister Scrabble	Head Full of Numbers	Proof!	Lady Bug Game
Snap if Up!	Sequence Letters	The Sneaky Snacky Squirrel	

All of these games are available on Amazon.

Reading literacy involves phonics, decoding, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and writing. Math literacy involves, number sense, problem solving, computation, and explanation. These are the skills that we teach in school and we hope you will help us reinforce them at home by taking the time to implement some family literacy activities in to your daily schedules. Our joint efforts will result in our students being more successful in our schools.

All of us here at school wish you and your families a safe a happy Holiday Season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

FACS of Life – November Newsletter



Jessica DeVries - Family & Consumer Sciences/FCCLA

As we move deeper into the semester, our FCS classrooms have been full of learning, hands-on experiences, creativity, and meaningful conversations. Here's a look at what our students have been busy working on across all of our FCS courses!

Leadership & Service – Professional Presentations - Our Leadership students have been sharpening their communication and presentation skills through professional presentations. They have been learning what it means to show confidence, clarity, and organization while speaking skills that will serve them not only in school, but in future careers, interviews, and community leadership roles. Students practiced giving and receiving feedback, designing slides, and learning how to present themselves with poise and purpose.

8th Grade FCS – Kitchen Skills & Eight Dimensions of Wellness - Our 8th graders have been busy in the FCS kitchen! Students practiced basic food preparation, teamwork, kitchen safety, and following recipes. In addition, students were introduced to the 8 Dimensions of Wellness, learning that wellness includes so much more than physical health. Through discussions and small activities, they explored how emotional, social, environmental, financial, spiritual, mental, and intellectual wellness all connect to creating a balanced and healthy life.

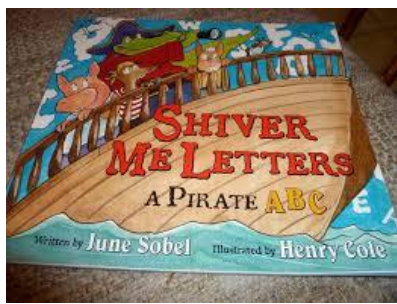
Employability – Preparing for Mock Interviews - Our Employability class is moving full steam ahead as students prepare for their upcoming mock interviews. They have been polishing and finalizing professional resumes, continuing development of their Career Portfolios, learning how to communicate strengths confidently, meeting with guest speakers who shared real-world career insights. Students are becoming more confident in their abilities and are excited to put everything together for their mock interviews.

Relationships – Midlife & the Empty Nest - In Relationships, students are wrapping up their unit on Midlife and Empty Nest Syndrome. They explored how families change over time, how parents and partners navigate transitions, and the emotional, financial, and relational challenges that may arise in midlife. Through scenarios and class discussions, students gained a deeper understanding of empathy, communication, and healthy coping strategies during this stage of life.

Nutrition & Wellness I – Fad Diets, Eating Disorders & The Eight Wellnesses - Nutrition & Wellness students have completed important units on fad diets, eating disorders, and media influences on body image. We have now shifted into a deeper study of the 8 Wellnesses of Life and how balance in each area impacts overall health. Students are in the process of creating a personal wellness booklet, which will include, self-care strategies, activities to support each dimension of wellness, personalized reminders for maintaining balance, healthy habits they can continue into adulthood. This booklet will serve as a meaningful reflection tool and a resource for their future.

American Education Week – November 17–21 - This year's American Education Week theme was "Gratitude." Throughout the week, students focused on what it means to appreciate the people who support them every day. Activities included, sharing treats with staff and students, writing thoughtful, heartfelt thank you cards, expressing gratitude to classmates, recognizing that our school community thrives because *everyone* contributes to creating a safe, positive, and supportive learning environment

It was a wonderful opportunity to step back, reflect, and show appreciation for those who make Corsica-Stickney a great place to learn.



Fall Preschool Transition Night 2025



Corsica-Stickney Elementary held their Fall Preschool Transition Night on November 17th. We invited students who will be eligible to enter Preschool the Fall of 2026 to come for a night of fun. We had 17 students and their families in attendance. There are potentially 25 students who are eligible to begin Preschool in the Fall of 2026. The theme for the evening was Pirates. We read a Pirate ABC book, made a pirate craft, and sang some pirate themed songs. Ms. Gillette gave a brief explanation of the Title I program and why we have these transition nights. We look forward to the Spring Transition Night where parents will register their students for the 2026-2027 preschool year. **If you have a child who is going to be 4 by September 1, 2026. Please call the school and get your child on our list so we can be sure to invite them in the spring.**





Football



The C/S FB boys beat Kadoka Area in Kadoka to advance in the playoffs...they then fell to the undefeated Dell Rapids St. Mary's in the quarterfinals. They end their 2025 Season 6-4.



Volleyball



The girls beat Avon in a reverse sweep, 3-2 in Bonesteel to win the Region 5 Meet. The Jags finished the year 19-15 after falling to the Chester Area Flyers in the SoDak 16 game held in Canistota on Nov. 11th. Braylee achieved her 1000 assist for her career during the match.

All-State Chorus & Orchestra

The SDHSAA 73rd Annual **All-State Chorus & Orchestra Concert** was held in Sioux Falls at the Denny Sanford Premier Center on November 1. Mrs. Ferra Kemp accompanied Jett, Graham, Lexi, & Hadynn for the two day event. All day Friday & most of Saturday was spent in rehearsals with the guest conductor, Dr. Jeffery Redding. Participants have to try-out for their chosen part of the quartet at the local level, they then join together with others from across the state along with the All-State Orchestra for spectacular joint concert. This year, the total chorus was comprised of 920 singers representing 131 schools across South Dakota. The Saturday evening concert was broadcast on SDPTV and will be re-broadcast on Thanksgiving Day.

At the same time, the **2025 SDMEA Elementary Honor Choir** was practicing with their guest conductor, Greg Gilpin. They presented their program at the SF Arena at 3:30pm. Representing C/S School were Landry, Crosby, and Grace. This event includes 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students that are selected by recorded auditions.

All-State Chorus



Dr. Jeffery Redding
University of Central Florida - Orlando, FL
Conductor Bio

All-State Orchestra



Joel Neves
Michigan Technological University - Houghton, MI
Conductor Bio

Chorus Selections

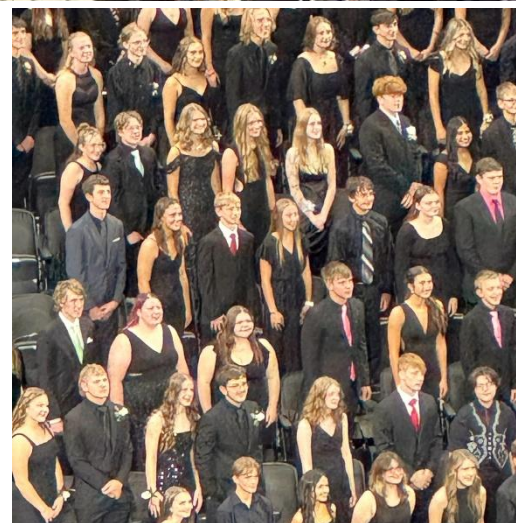
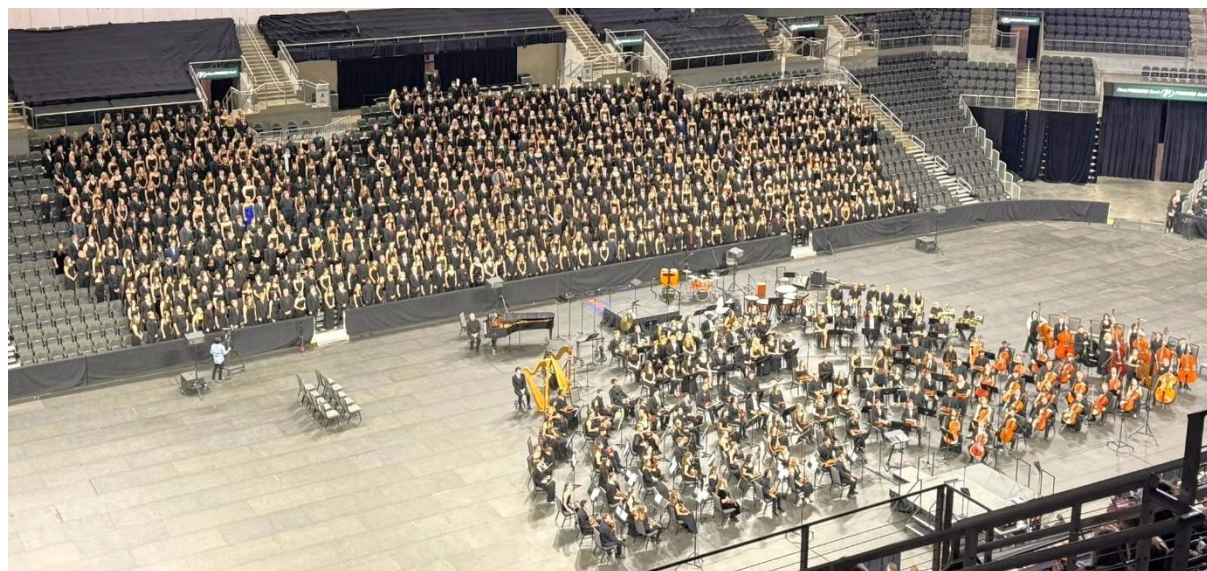
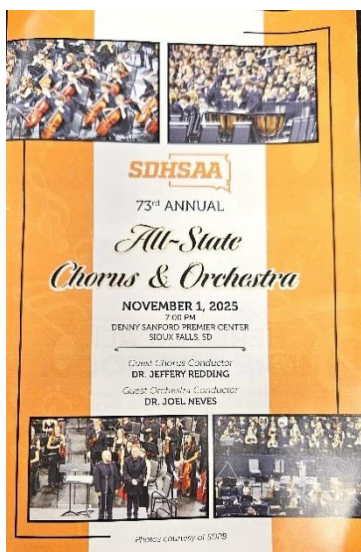
1. "It Takes A Village" – Joan Szymko
2. "Plaudite, Psallite" – Kestutis Daugirdas
3. "Measure Me, Sky!" – Elaine Hagenberg
4. "Fever Dreams" – Erich Eastman
5. "let me listen" – Dan Forrest

Orchestra Selections

1. "Overture to Ruslan and Lyudmila" – Mikhail Glinka
2. "Hungarian Rhapsody" – Franz Liszt
3. "Russian Easter Festival Overture" – Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakow

Combined Chorus & Orchestra Selections

1. "Star-Spangled Banner" – Francis Scott Key/John Stafford/arr. Dale Grotenhuis
2. "Battle Hymn of the Republic" – arr. Peter Wilhousky
3. "Until I Reach My Home" – arr. Brandon A. Boyd



Veteran's Day

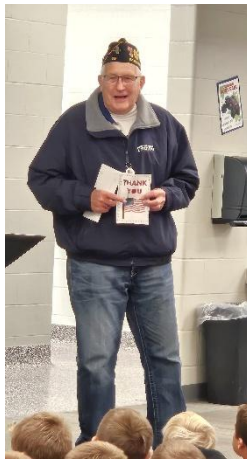
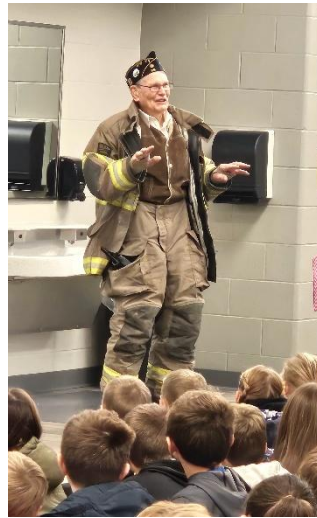


Members of the Stickney American Legion visited the C/S Elementary for Veteran's Day. The student council did a reading on how Veteran's Day came to be and following that each veteran gave a brief summary of their time in the military. Afterwards we all headed outside where the veterans proceeded to teach the students about the proper way to dispose of American flags that are too tattered and no longer fit to be flown. They conducted a "Burning Ceremony" and explained why we respect the US flag.



Veteran's that were present were:

Left: Tyler Gerlach, below: Roger Vanden Oever, across the bottom: Matt Mulder, Lyle Bruinsma, Marion Hargens, Delayne Persson, Rodney Olivier, and joining us from Corsica-Ben Lagge.





Student Of The Month

Mrs. Kemp accompanied these students to the **Jr High Music Festival** held in Platte on November 18. They joined neighboring school representatives and practiced before presenting a concert in the afternoon. Those representing C/S Jr High Vocal: Olivia, Evelyn, Olivia, Mattelynn, Brynlee, Anthony, Chase, Gage, and Kynzie. Those representing C/S Jr High Band: Remi, Tatum, Briella, Lyla, Hope, Emersyn, and Brooklyn.





Oral Interp



Corsica-Stickney's oral interpretation team attended the District Meet on Monday, November 10th at the First United Methodist Church in Mitchell.

The readers theater piece titled "Ruffled Feathers" featured Cali, Max, Reed, Wyatt, Jaxson, and Tanner placed 2nd and advanced to the Region Meet on Monday, November 24th at the same location.

The humorous duet piece titled "An End to Nucyaler Proliferation" featured Korbin and Owen placed 4th.

The humorous solo piece titled "Cemetery Vandalism and the Regular Guy" featured Lincoln placed 5th.

Looking Ahead:

6-12 Christmas Concert
December 2nd at 7pm in C

Elementary Christmas Concert
December 4th at 7pm in S

Christmas Break
December 23 (dismiss at 12:30pm)
until January 5th





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