

EAGLE GAZETTE

NOVEMBER 2023



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

BY GABBY FISHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year is just soaring along so fast. I can hardly believe we are talking about Thanksgiving and Christmas already. Before we know it, the second marking period will be over! It's been an exciting time around here lately. On October 12, Nadine Keller, an SSA at our school gave birth to a little boy named Kolson. On November 5, Raksha Authar, another SSA, had a little girl name Lalita. While we miss having these awesome ladies at school, we are so thrilled for their growing families. Ms. Isabella and our team are anxiously awaiting the arrival of another little girl in April. I guess you could call this an SHS Baby Boom!

We were thrilled with an excellent turn out for our Pancakes with Parents and Pals breakfast on November 8th. We served our kids and 24 other family members and district administrators. Everyone seemed to have a great time and our kids sure do know how to make some delicious pancakes!

We are trying some new community outreach ideas this year and our first community outreach activity just kicked off on November 9th. From now until November 20th, we are collecting canned goods and non-perishable items to donate to the Juniata Co Food Pantry. After we collect all of the items, we will have some staff and students deliver our collections to the food pantry. We want our kids to learn that it is as important to give as it is to receive. Special thanks to Ms. Isabella and her team for spearheading this initiative. Stay tuned for more activities to come!

Our program is growing! We are enrolling new students frequently so if your child mentions news friends, don't be surprised. We are always happy to welcome new friends into our SHS Community.

Ms. Gabby

IMPORTANT DATES:

Nov 21 - 12:30 dismissal
Nov 22 - 24 Fall Break
Dec 21 - 12:30 dismissal
Dec 22 - Jan 1 - Closed for Christmas break
Jan 15 - Closed for MLK
Jan 18 - End of 2nd Marking Period
Jan 19 - 12:30 dismissal
Feb 16 - 12:30 dismissal

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Be sure to check us out online at www.soaringheightsschool.com for school menu and calendar.

SHS STAFF SPOTLIGHT



This month's staff spotlight is on another new SSA at our school, Ms. Miranda. Ms. Miranda is currently working in our middle school classroom as a support to Mr. Kalen and friends. She has worked in the medical field previously as a CNA and really enjoys working at SHS in this new role. Ms. Miranda has three children of her own and they enjoy taking walks, going to playgrounds, and exploring national parks. She also enjoys watching scary movies, drinking Dunkin' coffee, and taking naps when her toddler does. Miranda's favorite part about working at SHS is being part of our fantastic team and working with others to help our students thrive and have a bigger, longer lasting impacts on our students. We are so glad to have her on our Soaring Heights Squad.

5 Facts about Veterans Day

Veterans Day does NOT have an apostrophe.

A lot of people think it's "Veteran's Day" or "Veterans' Day," but they're wrong. The holiday is not a day that "belongs" to one veteran or multiple veterans, which is what an apostrophe implies. It's a day for honoring all veterans — so no apostrophe needed.

Veterans Day is NOT the Same as Memorial Day.

A lot of Americans get this confused. Memorial Day is a time to remember those who gave their lives for our country, particularly in battle or from wounds they suffered in battle. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace — dead or alive — although it's largely intended to thank living veterans for their sacrifices.

It was originally called Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I.

World War I officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919. However, the fighting ended about seven months before that when the Allies and Germany put into effect an armistice on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, Nov. 11, 1918, was largely considered the end of "the war to end all wars" and dubbed Armistice Day. In 1926, Congress officially recognized it as the end of the war, and in 1938, it became an official holiday, primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I. But then World War II and the Korean War happened, so on June 1, 1954, at the urging of veterans service organizations, Congress amended the commemoration yet again by changing the word "armistice" to "veterans" so the day would honor American veterans of all wars.

Congress signed the Uniform Holiday Bill in 1968 to ensure that a few federal holidays — Veterans Day included — would be celebrated on a Monday. Officials hoped it would spur travel and other family activities over a long weekend, which would stimulate the economy.

For some inexplicable reason, the bill set Veterans Day commemorations for the fourth Monday of every October.

On Oct. 25, 1971, the first Veterans Day under this new bill was held. We're not sure why it took three years to implement, but not surprisingly, there was a lot of confusion about the change, and many states were unhappy, choosing to continue to recognize the day as they previously had — in November.

Within a few years, it became pretty apparent that most U.S. citizens wanted to celebrate Veterans Day on Nov. 11, since it was a matter of historic and patriotic significance. So on Sept. 20, 1975, President Gerald Ford signed another law (Public Law 94-97), which returned the annual observance to its original date starting in 1978.

Other countries celebrate it, too, in their own ways.

World War I was a multinational effort, so it makes sense that our allies also wanted to celebrate their veterans on Nov. 11. The name of the day and the types of commemorations differ, however.

Canada and Australia both call Nov. 11 "Remembrance Day." Canada's observance is pretty similar to our own, except many of its citizens wear red poppy flowers to honor their war dead. In Australia, the day is more akin to our Memorial Day.

Great Britain calls it "Remembrance Day," too, but observes it on the Sunday closest to Nov. 11 with parades, services and two minutes of silence in London to honor those who lost their lives in war.

Source: <https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/story/article/1675470/5-facts-to-know-about-veterans-day/>