

The Update

Southern Valley Unified Union School District Newsletter Halifax and Readsboro

January 4, 2019

Principal's Note

Welcome back! 2019 has begun at full speed, and I expect this year to be a busy one. This month grades 3-8 will be participating in SBAC testing. The test sessions will most likely take place during students regularly scheduled ELA and Math classes. The whole District participates in this mid year testing.

Winter sports activities will begin next week, January 8th and continue on for five weeks. See the schedules below for information. We all need to hope for some more snow, so that activities go off without a hitch!

Our first semester officially ends on January 11th. Teachers will be collaborating with each other on the 18th during our scheduled in service time and report cards will be sent home the week after.

Retirement News

Helen Fields the 5-8 English Language Arts/Social Studies teacher, at the Readsboro campus, will be retiring at the end of January due to a family health issue. We are currently interviewing for her replacement and will soon be sharing information with students and families. An evening meeting is planned for parents who have students in grades 5-8 for Thursday, January 10 at 5:00pm, in the teachers room. Please call and let us know if you will be attending.

Wellness Policy Reminders

Hand washing: We will be encouraging all students to wash their hands frequently as this time of the year viruses and germs seem to spread easily!



Recess: All students are expected to be outside for recess. Please make sure that your child brings warm clothing, and boots so that they are prepared for the cold.

Candy: Candy should not be sent in with your child for snack or lunches. We will have



treats throughout the year to celebrate birthdays and other special occasions.

Cough Drops: Many schools are now recommending cough drops to be used sparingly. Cough drops are considered a choking hazard. Often the cough can be soothed by drinking water. The school has a small stock of cough drops that can be used if your child requires them. Please do not allow your child to carry cough drops as they should be stored in the nurse's office for safety reasons of not sharing and for monitoring that they are not being used like candy. We will be encouraging students to drink water.

Halifax PTG

Parents please review the [information](#) about the annual events occurring at the Halifax Campus and the list of volunteers for each activity.

NAEP Testing

Southern Valley at Halifax and Readsboro have once again been selected to participate in NAEP testing. (The National Assessment of Educational Progress). Students in grades 4 and 8 will be testing in the coming months- January 31st in Halifax, and February in Readsboro. Letters will be sent home to parents explaining the testing process and options available. It is a computer-based test, for reading or math, and takes about 2 hours or less to complete. Check out their [website](#) for specific details.

Wish list

- The Readsboro Community Library is looking for your old wooden scrabble tiles. Please drop them off at either school location.
- Boxtops- drop at either school location.
- Wings program leaders- do you have a talent you would love to share with students? Contact Sarah Lake in Readsboro, or Merritt Youmell in Halifax with your ideas. Leaders are paid \$25.00 an hour for their time, energy and commitment.
- Winter Activity Volunteers- each campus is looking for folks who would love to take a group snowshoeing, sledding, Winter STEM projects etc. on Tuesday afternoons during January and February. If you are interested in helping, contact Jane Higley or Linda Swanson.



Skiing and Snowboarding for Halifax students

Mt Snow winter sports at Halifax starts Tuesday, January 8th. Please make sure that your child is properly dressed with a warm jacket, layers of clothes, ski pants, mittens or gloves and warm socks for being outside all day. A helmet is recommended

Mt Snow. Students will return to Halifax School on the bus anywhere from 4:30-4:45. Please do not be late picking up your child.



by

Winter Activities for Readsboro



Winter activities for Readsboro begins on January 8th and we will meet as a school to hear presentations from Mike Clough from Vermont Nature Museum and Rich Watkins, our Regional game Warden. This will be an awesome experience!

Below is a list in order:

Jan 8 - Presentation by Mike and Rich

Jan 15 - Skating(N. Adams) or Sledding at Dutch Hill

Jan 22 - Sledding or Snowshoeing (can bring own sled on bus, put name on it)

Jan 29 - Skating (N. Adams) or Sledding at Dutch Hill

Feb 5 - Sledding or Snowshoeing (can bring own sled on bus, put name on it)

A Rolling Calendar of Southern Valley Events and Dates

Halifax Campus:

January 8	Winter Sports begins
January 7	Wings Begins
January 18	No School - Inservice
January 21	No School - Martin Luther King Day
February 6	11:30 Dismissal
February 15	Wings Ends
February 18-22	February Break

Readsboro Campus:


January 14	Wings Begins
January 18	No School - Inservice
January 21	No School - Martin Luther King Day
February 6	11:30 Dismissal
February 15	Wings Ends
February 18-22	February Break

Hoot Toot and Whistle 5k Snowshoe race

See flyer attached for contact info and registration. Held in Readsboro!

1/4/2019

Hoot Toot & Whistle Snowshoe Race – The DION WMAC Snowshoe Series



Hoot Toot & Whistle 5k Snowshoe Race

WHEN: Saturday, January 19, 2018, 10:30 AM start

WHERE: Readsboro School, 301 Phelps Lane, Readsboro, VT
GPS coordinates 42.771543, 72.941125
[googlemaps link](#)

Note that the race start and finish is approximately 0.8 mi away at the trailhead to the Catamount Trail, off VT Rte 100. Participants can walk/run to and from the start/finish or ride the shuttle bus. All parking is at the Readsboro School and on Phelps Lane – there is no parking at the start/finish.

REGISTRATION: Day of only, \$15 ages 18-64yrs, over 65 & under 18 race for free. Please fill out a registration form and bring it with you to save time on race day. Proceeds go toward a donation to the E.J. Bullock Building Restoration Fund.

1/12 Churney Gurney 5k
Queensbury NY

1/13 Winter Magic 5k
Londonderry VT

1/19 Hoot Toot & Whistle
5k Readsboro VT

1/20 Cock-A-Doodle-Shoe
5k/10k Saranac NY

2/3 Saratoga Winterfest
5k Saratoga Springs NY

2/9 Camp Saratoga 8k
Wilton NY

2/16 Stone Bridge
Caveman 6k/15k
Pottersville NY

2/23 Frigus 5k/15k/26mi
Mendon VT

2/24 Brave the Blizzard
5k/5mi Guilderland NY

3/2 Garnet Hill 5k North
River NY

SNOWSHOES for providing support and prizes.

Loaner snowshoes available for a fee at all races for courtesy of Dion snowshoes. Dion Snowshoe Rental Policies

The top male and female racer will receive a complete set of Dion racing snowshoes at the conclusion of the series, and all series participants are entered in a raffle for prizes that include Dion snowshoes and gear.

POTENTIALLY USEFUL INFORMATION

New to snowshoeing?

Snowshoeing 101 by Laura Clark

(with more coming soon, we hope!)

NON SERIES RACES

<http://dionwmacsnowshoe.com/hoot-toot-whistle-snowshoe-race/>

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