

Siuslaw Schools

ARTIST OF THE MONTH Sydney Pickett — Band

BY BENJAMIN CAHOON
Siuslaw High School Student

Sydney Pickett is a senior at Siuslaw High School. She has first period Symphonic Band with Mr. Chris Rowbotham and has been in band classes for eight years.

Sydney, an amazing flutist, explains how the atmosphere of her class is “mellow and chill.” She says, “We are like family and we have grown as a class. I’ve learned how to accept people more because everyone comes from different backgrounds.”

Sydney not only plays the flute, but also enjoys strumming on her ukulele. She enjoys her math and English classes as well.

“I’ve always liked math. I find it intriguing,” she says.

Daughter to Marlene Pickett, Sydney wishes to attend Corban University and to eventually be a private practicing pediatrician.

Music is very important in one’s life. Sydney understands this, and because of that advantage, she will move forward in life supported by the music that she has been part of all her life.



PHOTO BY CAROL JOLLEY

~ A letter about safety at Siuslaw ~

Dear Siuslaw School District community,
The safety and welfare of our students and staff is one of the highest priorities in the Siuslaw School District.

We continually review our safety plan and practice safety drills throughout the year to prepare our students and staff in the event of an emergency.

As a result of these reviews, we wanted to let you know that we are updating our guidelines and procedures regarding emergency response drills.

Specifically, we have adopted new procedures for a crisis situation that we, as well as our local

and national law enforcement agencies, believe are more effective in the unlikely event of an unsafe situation in or around one of our buildings.

This program is called ALICE, which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate.

During the last several months, Siuslaw personnel received training in the ALICE protocol.

During the week of Oct. 19, teachers began age-appropriate discussions with their students about the new enhanced crisis situation techniques.

Our safety committee has put together a presentation that will help introduce the new crisis situation options.

The presentation is available for parents and community members to view on the Siuslaw School District website at www.siuslaw.k12.or.us.

In addition, parents of middle and high school students were invited to a question and answer session at Siuslaw High School on Thursday, Oct. 15.

More information will be available soon for elementary school parents.

Please know that we are doing everything we can to minimize risk and that we hold the safety of our students — your children — as the single most important responsibility bestowed on us as a school community.

In conclusion, each and every one of us bears responsibility for school and community safety.

Please report any suspicious behavior by anyone to local law enforcement agents and school administrators.

If you have any questions regarding the ALICE training please contact your child’s principal.

Working together, we can best protect your loved ones.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the principal at ktatum@siuslaw.k12.or.us

Sincerely,
Siuslaw School District Staff and Principal Kerri A. Tatum

Donations help students participate in athletics

During the school year, approximately 190 Siuslaw School District high school student athletes and 90 middle school student athletes participate in one or more sports programs.

These students not only excel on the field, trail, track or court, but also in the classroom.

Siuslaw student athletics out-perform their counterparts, often receiving better marks and higher graduation rates.

According to the latest data, Siuslaw High School student athletes’ average GPA was 2.94 while non-athletes’ GPA was 2.29, with athletes taking .5 more credits than their non-athlete counterparts.

To date, approximately 58 percent of the Siuslaw School District’s students are receiving free or reduced lunch though a government program which assists families living at or below the poverty line.

This is one of the indicators for student athletes who are applying for an athletic scholarship through the Ian Foster Scholarship Program.

The Siuslaw Athletic Booster Club donates

annually to the Ian Foster Scholarship Fund.

We have seen firsthand the positive effect athletics is having on some of our most needy families here in Florence.

In the past, student athletes could use the fund for every sport they wish to participate, but of recent years, the fund has dwindled to a point where each student athlete can use the fund only once per year.

Your donation will assist low income student athletes pay for participation fees associated with playing sports at both the middle school and high school here in Florence.

Thank you for your consideration.

If you are interested in making a donation on behalf of a Siuslaw student athlete, please send mail to the following address and write Ian Foster Fund on the memo of the check: Ian Foster Fund, P.O. Box 1972, Florence, OR 97439.

You can also go online and donate through PayPal at: www.siuslawathleticboosterclub.com/member-ship-application.

—Submitted by Gina Castro Brandt

Siuslaw Volleyball Club sets November tryout

Siuslaw Volleyball Club will hold tryouts at Siuslaw Middle School from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2, for girls ages 9 to 14, and Monday, Nov. 23, for girls ages 15 to 18.

The club, directed by Mike Rose, is open to girls who are looking to learn and improve

their volleyball skills as part of a team.

Practices are two to three times per week from mid-November through April.

This year, the club fee is \$125 per player. Athletes must preregister online with www.cevaregion.org and pay a \$10 tryout deposit.

My job in the 1800s: student essay submission

BY KEVIN HOLLOWAY
Siuslaw Elementary School

What I would do in the 1800s is: I’d be a mountain man because you’re always having a good time. And, you get to set traps for animals. You get to hunt. You get to hang around Native Americans.

You’re always making new friends.

You would set traps, go hunting, get your cash. Go to your home, get your dinner, wake up.

You would get up about five because you need to go out when it’s early. You would go out in the wilderness. You go out so early to see animals.

Your trap is set in the river, where the beavers go. The beaver will step on the trap and it will bleed out because the bear-trap will

cut off the leg. Then the beaver can’t go anywhere.

You put your beaver in your sack. You set up 8 or 3 traps, being careful when you are walking in the water. You look, because there are usually three beavers in the water.

Then you go into town and give it to the skinner. You pay the skinner to skin the beaver.

Then you give it to the man you’re working for who tries to sell it to hat-makers. He just sets up his booth and people come by and he asks if they’ll buy it. And he usually makes \$2 a day.

That’s a lot back then. Two dollars a day is like \$300 now.

Your house is a wood cabin. You get it when you make a lot of money.

Then you pay loggers to

Homecoming rivalry

Spirit Week allows classes to show skills



COURTESY PHOTOS

The classes at Siuslaw High School showed their Viking Pride during Spirit Week with posters showing the Homecoming Dance theme. —Submitted by Kerri Tatum



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