



# STRACK NEWS

Impacting futures through learning today.

October 2015

## Pentathlon Competition

Pentathlon is an academic competition new to Strack this year and we want you to be a part of it!

The Pentathlon competition is comprised of five events: math, history, science, literature and Super Quiz. The Super Quiz event is an oral relay before a large audience in which each student receives five multiple choice questions. Each year a new overlying theme or topic is selected for study in conjunction with the essential readiness skills of the STAAR tests.

Invitations will be going out soon to **7th and 8th grade** prospective students, so if interested, don't delay. If you are interested in learning about a new culture and competing academically, **please come see Ms. Etherington in room 203 or Ms. Roberts in room 228.**

Texas Academic Decathlon: Imparting Knowledge/Breaking Barriers

## Attendance Counts!

Attendance boosts student achievement, improves the quality of your child's educational experience, and it prepares them for college, good careers, and a chance for success in life.

If your child is absent from school, please remember to send a note stating why your child was absent. On your note include your child's first and last name, grade level, the date(s) of the absence, reason for absence and your signature. Turn the note into the Attendance Office within five school days of the absence. You may e-mail Mrs. Hart at [mehart@kleinisd.net](mailto:mehart@kleinisd.net)

If you take your child to the doctor, please ask for a doctor's note and return the note to Mrs. Hart in the Attendance Office as soon as your child returns to school.

Please assist us in the handling of custody related issues. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide the campus registrar a certified copy of the court order affecting any other person's right to their children. Should you have any questions, please call Lori Ferramosca at 832-249-5428

## Important Dates for 2nd Six Weeks

- October 12th– Student Holiday
- October 14th & 15th– ASPIRE testing for 7th graders
- October 14th– PSAT for 8th graders
- October 21st– Fall Orchestra Concert
- October 27-29th-- Vision and hearing screening for 7th grade during PE
- October 29th-- Progress reports sent home
- November 13th—Picture Make-Up
- November 13th—Report Cards

## Cougar Contacts

Principal, **Andrea Comer**

8th Grade: Asst. Principal,  
**Ken Wetzel, 832-249-5412**

7th Grade: Asst. Principal,  
**Susan Cole, 832-249-5413**

6th Grade: Asst. Principal  
**Karee Kelly, 832-249-5411**

### Counselors:

**A– G: Mr. Wilson -**  
**832-249-5430**

**H-P: Ms. Flynn -**  
**832-249-5435**

**Q-Z: Ms. Gutierrez -**  
**832-249-5431**

**Special Services:**  
**Ms. Brown - 832-249-5429**

### Nurse:

Ms. Pali- 832-249-5405

### Attendance:

Mrs. Hart– 832-249-5404

## Comer's Corner

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff at Strack Intermediate School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2015-2016 school year! We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience

Completes all homework assignments given by teachers

Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills

Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life

Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject

We know that this is a team effort. It takes the entire community coming together to make sure that our school is the best it can be, so we invite everyone to take part in the events and activities on campus this year. Please make sure you sign up for ParentLink and visit our website regularly to stay up-to-date on the exciting things happening at Strack.

This school year is filled with unlimited potential, and we are ready to work with you and your children to make it the best year yet!

## Express Yourself Through Art

As a new school year begins, students in the various art classes are producing beautiful artwork in a variety of mediums. The Beginning and Introduction to Art students have already begun to paint. Intermediate art students have created their Peace posters for the annual Lion's Club student art contest. The theme this year is Share Peace. Intermediate students are learning about rhythm and patterns as they create their Explosive Shape and Form. The Art I high school credit class and Advanced Art class are working on self-portraits. Crafts students have started on their Ugly Doll sewing project. We are off to a wonderful, creative start! For more information on this program contact Mrs. Jahn, Mr. Zimont or Mrs. Baust.

## Superintendent's Community Dinner

October 29, 2015

6:30-8:00 pm at Wunderlich

Parents of Klein ISD are invited to attend a community dinner hosted by Superintendent Jim Cain. A pizza and salad dinner will be provided free to parents beginning at 6:30pm. A district information update and a question and answer session will follow. Please call to reserve your seat!

Child care provided at Kids R Kids Champions, 16722 Squyres, free of cost. Call 281-379-2988 and ask for Michelle Bar.

To reserve your seat, call 832-249-4172 by October 22, 2015

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# School Cash

Did you know we are using School Cash Online at Strack?

School Cash Online has been designed to be an easy to use, efficient online payment system. We will be posting items to purchase for your student throughout the year. Be on the lookout for Spirit Shirts, Hoodies, Class Fees, Uniforms, etc. All you need to do is follow these simple steps to register, and you will start receiving email notifications as soon as the item becomes available.



Step 1: Go to

<https://kleinisd.schoolcashonline.com>

Please use either Internet Explorer version 9 or 11, Mozilla Firefox, or Google Chrome while accessing School Cash Online.

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Today" and follow the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, click the school cash link, select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

You can choose to print your receipt at check out. -OR-

A receipt will automatically be sent to your email address.

Payment history is stored in your account under the 'Payment History' tab.

Need help? Contact us...  
Parent Help Line: 1-866-961-1803  
Email: [parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com)

## College Readiness Testing:

### Wednesday, October 14, 2015

8th Grade students will be taking the PSAT Test which will assess the critical reading, mathematics and writing skills students need for college and beyond. This assessment provides detailed feedback on skills, access to scholarships and personalized online tools, along with excellent practice for the SAT.

### Wednesday, October 14, 2015 or Thursday, October 15, 2015

ACT Aspire will be administered online to all 7th grade students and your child's assessment results will help us determine how your child is progressing and their overall path toward future college and career readiness.

# Making Music

The Strack Orchestra is off to a very busy beginning this year. Many of our students participated in our summer orchestra. This got us off to a great start.

On the second day of school, many of our more advanced students took on the task of preparing for All-Region Orchestra try outs. Two preparatory workshops were offered and our students made up the majority of those participating at these workshops. The actual try outs are scheduled for Saturday, October 17 at Oak Ridge High School and we hope many of our students are selected for the prestigious All-Region Orchestras.

The following week, the Varsity and Non-Varsity students will be presenting their Fall Concert here at the Strack Gym on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7PM. This is just the first of many concerts our students will be performing this year. The first concert which will include all of our orchestra students is our Holiday Concert which is also scheduled to be in the Strack Gym on Wednesday, Dec. 9.



Unite for Understanding is a community-wide council consisting of representatives from the schools, community leaders and social service organizations and parents. Advisory council members are committed to the public schools as the common denominator in providing equal opportunity. Members offer guidance and the promise of support in the recognition of cultural diversity, equity, and mutual respect. The next meeting is November 5, 2015 at 12550 Bammel North Houston from 5:30-7:00 PM.

# Communication is the Key

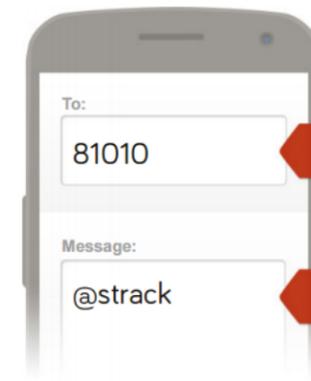
There are several ways to make sure that you stay up-to-date on what is happening on campus. In addition to our school website, [www.strack.kleinisd.net](http://www.strack.kleinisd.net), you can subscribe to our school-wide Remind account to receive text messages concerning important events and activities. Also, please make sure that your contact information is correct in Parent Connect as we will continue to use Parent Link for more detailed announcements.

Strack Admin would like you to join Strack Intermediate!



To receive messages via text, text @strack to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @strack'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting @strack to (832) 850-2534 instead.



Enter this number

Text this message

\*Standard text message rates apply.

Klein ISD has a district application called **Parent Connection**. This application allows parents to access their child's information contained in the teacher's grade book. You will be able to view your child's grades, assignments, and attendance. You will also be able to set grade and/or attendance triggers to alert you via email if a trigger is met.

Klein's number one priority is security of your child's information data. Once you have created your parent account, you will need three pieces of information on your child to gain access to their records. The data pieces are:

- Klein student ID number – see your child's schedule or prior report card
- Student date of birth
- Student social security number or the state issued number (S number) if you did not provide the SSN when

If you have any questions when creating your account or using the application, please call Sharon Merkt at 832-249-4501 or by email at [parentconnect@kleinisd.net](mailto:parentconnect@kleinisd.net). None of the above mentioned secure data will be given to you over the phone or via email.

On Monday, November 2, 2015, Klein ISD will hold a Trustee Election. Please check your local newspaper for polling locations.

