



Music, Music, Music!

It's the most wonderful and busy time of the year! JH & HS students are gearing up for our Winter Holiday Concert along with 5th and 6th grader band students. The concert will be Tuesday, Dec. 16th at 6:30pm. Admission will be a free-will donation. Please invite friends and family to our concert.

Santa Lucia! It's coming up this weekend on Sat. Dec. 13th. You won't want to miss this beautiful annual event as we have the traditional Swedish dancing by our 5th and 6th graders along with some of our 4th graders. 1st - 6th graders will be singing in Swedish costumes. Funny and hilarious skits and videos have been prepared for this years theme... The Swedish Oskars! The program concludes with the crowning of the 2025 Lucia Queen. Come and enjoy this free event at 7pm on Dec. 13th!

Kindergarten Christmas Program - Our kindergartners are preparing for their program on Friday, December 19th which will be held in the music room for parents and grandparents. That program will start at 12:30pm.

Principal Update:

The second quarter and first semester will end on Friday, December 19. Elementary students will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m., and MS/HS students will be dismissed at 1:40 p.m. that day. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 6. We want to wish all of our students, families, staff, and community a Happy Holiday!

Stanton Community Schools is offering driver's education through Drive Right for the 2025-26 school year. Please use the link below or the Driver's Education link on our school website for more details.

<https://www.driverightiowa.com/fm-312766.html>

Teammates

Teammates Mentoring of Stanton is looking for additional mentors. If you would like to apply to become a mentor, you can find application information at www.teammates.org. If you have any questions regarding mentoring, please contact either Ashley McDonald or Katie Elwood at 712-829-2162.

The Stanton community will celebrate the 74th annual Santa Lucia on Saturday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Stanton High School gym.

The evening will feature Swedish singing and dancing by the elementary students under the direction of Leland Lantz, a skit, a performance by the Skona Maj Singers, recognition of former queens, and the crowning of the new Santa Lucia Queen by last year's queen, Kyla Hart.

Voting for the 2025 Santa Lucia Queen will take place earlier that day at the Swedish Cultural Center (Old Main) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All residents of the Stanton Community School District who are school-age and older are eligible to vote, and families of open-enrolled students may participate as well. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be crowned Santa Lucia Queen during the evening ceremony.

A bake sale will be held in the concourse before and after the celebration.

Please join us for a festive and memorable evening

An Assistant Principal's Slightly Overcaffeinated Ode to the Spirit of the Holidays

Hello, wonderful school/community family!
As your assistant principal (part-time disciplinarian, full-time holiday light enthusiast), I'd like to take a moment between decorating the office ficus and taste-testing 17 different kinds of hot cocoa to celebrate what makes this season truly special.

- **It's about the small things.** Sure, grand gestures are Instagram-worthy, but the real magic lives in little acts: a kind note slipped into a locker, a student sharing a pencil, a teacher staying after to help one more child. Those tiny moments pile up and become the whole story of our community.
- **Humor keeps us human.** If you see me wearing an ugly sweater, funny tie, or reindeer antlers during morning announcements, know it's research: laughter reduces stress, increases patience, and makes the copy machine's mysterious paper jam seem less personal. Feel free to join in — antlers are available in lost-and-found (just kidding... mostly).
- **Traditions are the glue.** Whether your family's tree is brand-new, passed down, or represented by a single string of lights carefully hung over a chair, traditions anchor us. At school, our concerts, class projects, Santa Lucia and those slightly chaotic classroom cookie exchanges build memories that students will carry long after the last snowflake melts.
- **Inclusion matters.** The holiday season looks different for everyone. Our celebration of the spirit of the Holidays includes listening, learning, and making space for diverse experiences. Ask a neighbor about their favorite holiday memory; you might gain a new tradition (and possibly a cookie recipe).
- **Giving doesn't need a receipt.** Generosity shows up in volunteer time, patience on busy mornings, mentoring, and tuning in when someone needs to talk. Our community's giving spirit — whether through donated winter coats, a warm meal, or simply offering an encouraging word — is the best kind of present.
- **Expect the unexpected.** Holiday concerts may run long. Costume accessories will go missing. The microphone might squeal like a startled elf. Embrace it. These moments become the stories we laugh about for years: "Remember the time the chorus sang and the lights flickered like a disco?" (Spoiler: yes, we did.)
- **Self-care is not selfish.** If you're juggling grading, shopping, and somehow baking a pie that doesn't collapse, remember: you matter. Take five minutes to breathe, sip something warm, and celebrate one small win. The world will not end if you skip one craft project. I promise.

High School Sweetheart Dance


Sweetheart
DANCE

*This year's dance
is a girl's choice event-
who will you ask?*

January 31st
7:00-9:00pm
Stanton High School Cafeteria


Sign up you and your date in the office!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK




OWEN NELSON

"Owen is a great leader in demonstrating our Viking Pride Values."




STUDENT OF THE WEEK



CALLIE COX

"Callie enters each class period with a smile on her face and passes out everyone's journal for their Bell Ringers by placing them on the desks. She always leaves the room with a positive message. Callie brightens the classroom with her eagerness to help."



Just a reminder, we are having a food drive for the local food pantry. Please, when donating items, make sure they are not outdated! Here are some items they are in need of but not limited to: *cereal, canned fruit, tuna, toilet paper, pasta, & pasta sauce*. Feel free to send them to school with your children. Food drive ends Thursday Dec. 18th.
Thanks!

What's Cookin?

Monday, Dec 15th – NO SCHOOL
Tuesday, Dec 16th -Breakfast: Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Fiestada, Lettuce, Corn, Pears, Applesauce, Milk
Wednesday, Dec 17th -Breakfast: Donut Holes, Fruit, Juice, Milk. **Lunch:** Stadium Dog, Chili/Cheese, Potato Wedges, Baked Beans, Oranges, Peaches, Milk.
Thursday, Dec 18th- Breakfast-Oatmeal Bar, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Creamed Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Peaches, Mixed Fruit, Jello, Rye Bread, Milk.
Friday, Dec 19th- Breakfast-Bacon & Egg Pizza, Fruit, Juice, Milk. **Lunch:** Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup, Tri-Tater, Applesauce, Raisins, Milk.

Upcoming Events	
Fri., Dec 12	12:30 Girls Bowling @ CB 4:00 JH Boys BB @ EM 4:00 JV G/B BB @ EM 5:00 HS Girls Wrestling @ Riverside 6:00 V G/B BB @ EM
Sat., Dec 13	7:00 Santa Lucia
Mon., Dec 15	12:30 Girls Bowling @ Red Oak 4:00 JH Boys BB @ Stanton 6:00 HS Girls BB @ Red Oak
Tues., Dec 16	4:00 JH Boys BB @ Red Oak 6:30 JH/HS Music Concert
Wed., Dec 17	
Thur., Dec 18	6:00 V G/B BB @ Stanton
Fri., Dec 19	1:40 Early Dismissal End of 2 nd Qtr/1st Sem

Beginning Oct 28, the price of the 2026 yearbook will increase to \$60. Get yours now for the lowest price all year! By purchasing a yearbook, you get access to hundreds of digital photos as well as the hardcopy. Purchase is easy with many available options. Find a yearbook student or Mrs. Carpenter, order online through Jostens!

The Stanton Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following areas of study:
Business Education Agriculture Education Industrial Education Family and Consumer Science Education

It is the policy of the Stanton Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Mrs. Ashley McDonald, 605 Elliott St., Stanton, Iowa 51573, amcdonald@stantonschools.com, (712) 829-2162 or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Building, 1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204-3582, Telephone: (303) 844-5695 FAX: (303) 844-4303, TDD: (800) 877-8339, Email: OCR.Denver@ed.gov.

