

The Update

Southern Valley Unified Union School District Newsletter
Halifax and Readsboro

December 20, 2019



Warm Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season. We
will see all of you in the New Year!



"Thank you" to Lions Club

We would like to extend our thanks to the Local Lion Club members who came out to our schools and conducted eye screenings. This is a wonderful program that benefits our students and supports our school nurse. Thank you!

Thank you

We would like to thank all the parents who prepared and served the Holiday luncheon in Halifax. The students and staff loved being altogether to enjoy a delicious meal. It's a great way to start a Winter Break! Thanks to all who donated items, the students enjoy "shopping" for a loved one during this season of thankfulness and gift giving.

Thank you

The Readsboro PTG treated the teachers in Readsboro to a self care treat that put everyone into a relaxed mood! The teachers and staff send a huge thank you !

Thank you

Thank you to all the families that have left treats, sweets and kind words to the staff at both our campuses. We are thankful for your support, and good wishes for a peaceful Holiday break.

Thank you

The Holiday Dinner and sale is a cherished tradition of Halifax School. Every student enjoyed the opportunity of a home cooked meal and shopping for gifts for their families. The excitement emanating from the students rings throughout the halls with laughter, joy and smiles!

I would like to thank the Volunteers who helped shop, bake, cook , prepare food, clean-up and distributed gifts. All of the volunteers played such an important role. Most volunteers took on two or three tasks before the event started, all of which were critical . Cheers!!.....to Mike Drummey, Tyson Dix, Betty Roberts and Danielle Wade and Cynthia Weiss.

A very special thank you to April Dupuis who was a clutch player, providing us with last minute help and supplies.

Last but certainly not least, Thank you to Lori Worden who received several donations that contributed the most expensive components of the meal such as ham, Turkey and cheese. Lori really went above the call of duty.... Thank you from all the students at Halifax!

A very warm heartfelt Thank You to you all. Great Job, your helping hands and kind hearts made the Holiday dinner and sale not only a success, but it also made fond memories for all the students, which perhaps is the best of any gift given.

Taralee Lane

Thank you for digestive tank

Halifax school is excited to announce the arrival and installation of a food waste digestive tank. In 2012 the state of Vermont enacted the Universal Recycling Law. The Universal Recycling Law is a series of changes taking place throughout the state to reduce our impact on global warming. Most changes are to be made by July of 2020. Some of you may have noticed that plastic shopping bags are now illegal in Vermont, this is a part of the same program.

So why the digestive tank for food?! Food waste is generally thrown into the garbage and ends up in a landfill. Food accounts for a significant part of household waste and can be broken down via aerobic bacteria (bacteria that needs air to survive) when this process happens gases that are released throughout decomposition are molecules that are not starved for oxygen, so they are beneficial or non harmful to our environment. When food is put in a plastic bag and buried, the decomposition creates gas from anaerobic bacteria (doesn't need air). Molecules are starved for oxygen thus making carbon monoxide and methane. The release of these molecules that are starved of oxygen are detrimental to the ozone layer. This tank is modeled after solar cones and will receive all food scraps generated from our students. Through the powers of aerobic bacteria the food will be broken down. Ninety-eight percent of the food waste will turn to liquid and be absorbed into the ground, the rest will develop into a hard cake like organic substance that can easily be introduced back into our environment.

A very special Thank You to some very important players in this undertaking...

-First and foremost ...Thank You to Big Y who provided Halifax School with the grant last spring and Sandy Pentak, who was passionate enough to apply for the Big Y grant and gave us the motivation and momentum that made this possible!

-Lane Plumbing and Heating who designed the tank, provided materials free or at cost and retrofitted the entire tank

- Adam Buursma and Green Foam Insulation for storage of tank while it was being worked on, insulated the tank at cost, and transported it to the school

- Brad Rafus and the Halifax Town crew for finding time in a very busy schedule to dig , set, and backfill the tank.

All of you have really taken time out of your schedule to take part in something that is so important, Thank You!!

Taralee Lane

Thank You

The students and staff would like to thank Tara Lane for all the time and work *she* has put into this project. Managing a project like this is not easy and she persevered! She demonstrated our years theme of “Rising to the Challenge like an Olympian!” We will now work on developing a system to recycle our food waste daily and to educate our students about the importance of doing so. We will be looking into classroom waste containers, as well as lunch room containers so that student will be able to help with the task of recycling. If anyone has some thoughts or ideas please share them with us.

Nurses Reminder:

It is that time of the year when colds, flu and stomach bugs abound, so please read over the following guidelines on when to have your child remain at home.

GUIDELINES OF WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME- DUE TO ILLNESS

- **Fever of 100 or above**- children need to be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication before returning to school
- If the student has been on **antibiotics for less than 24 hours**- requires to be on an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school
- **Diarrhea or Vomiting in the last 24 hours**
- **Fever with a rash**
- **Eye Discharge/Pink Eye/Bacterial Conjunctivitis**- thick green/yellow eye drainage may be contagious, if diagnosed as Pink Eye-requires to be on an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school
- **Strep throat**- requires to be on an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school
- **Sore Throat/Swollen Glands in Neck**- especially with fever (may be strep throat and should be seen by a healthcare provider)
- **Chickenpox**- child must stay out of school until all lesions have crusted over
- **Frequent or persistent cough**
- **Frequent or persistent complaints of pain**-child should be seen by healthcare provider
- **Green nasal discharge**- child should be seen by a healthcare provider as this condition is sometimes contagious and may require treatment

Readsboro Campus Reminders:

- **Drop off** for children is between 7:45-8:15. We ask that drop off of students **does not** happen before 7:45. Thank You!
- **Bus Stop!** - When the buses are parked and their lights are flashing, it is against the law to pass the bus, even if they are parked. The State Law for Vermont says, “Once the Red warning lights have been activated, you must stop your vehicle. Remember, even in a school yard, you must not pass a stopped school bus with its alternately flashing red warning lights activated”. This is to help protect our children and parents from any accidents. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

SVUUSD School Board Meeting- Change in Schedule and time:

The next work session will take place on January 2, 2020. The meeting will be held at TVMHS, at 6:00pm. All are welcome.

A Rolling Calendar of Southern Valley School Events and Dates

<u>Halifax</u>		<u>Readsboro</u>		January
January 1	New Year's Day - No School	1	New Year's Day - No School	January
January 13	Wings Session III Begins	13	Wings Session III Begins	January 14
January 14	Winter Sports Begins	Winter Sports Begins	January 17	
January 17	Inservice Day - No School	Inservice Day - No School	January 20	
January 20	MLK Day - No School	MLK Day - No School	January 21	
January 21	Winter Sports	Winter Sports	January 28	
January 28	Winter Sports	Winter Sports	February 4	
February 4	Winter Sports	Winter Sports	February 5	11:30
February 11	Winter Sports	Dismissal	February 11	Winter
February 5	11:30 Dismissal	Sports	February 17-21	Winter Break
February 17-21	Winter Break	February 25	Winter Sports	
February 25	Winter Sports			

Local Events and Information:

Violin Lessons- [for more information](#)

Whitingham Library - <http://www.townofwhitingham-vt.org/library/events> -Kids Club

Halifax 5th and 6th graders School Store [for more information](#)

Halifax Book Swap [for more information](#)

Lunch Program - [January Menu](#)

Dover Library Events - [for more information](#)