

SLIGO We Expect the Best! STAMPED



Science | Technology | Engineering | Arts | Mathematics

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By Dagem Legesse & Mekdem Legesse

Sligo's S'team 2nd Annual Community Day was held Saturday, October 1st at Sligo Middle School between 12-3pm. There was free food, performances and projects presented by Sligo S'team students. There were many visitors and a variety of parents attended the event. A newscast team came and interviewed the principal and many other individuals. There was a performance by Christylez Bacon who is a Grammy nominated musician. Also all of our S'team students performed a song originally created by themselves live in the gym. The event was hosted by Ms. Campo-Abdoun, a computer instructor, who teaches at Sligo. It was a beautiful showcase event and we got to see the work of art that our students worked hard on for the entire school year and part of the summer. There was many stations with constructions of mini houses, murals, real life models and projects that the students worked on. It was an amazing event and I look forward to going to the 3rd annual Sligo Steam Community Day.

Sligo Welcomes New AP Ms. Shauna-Kay J. Jorandby



By Zoe Friedman, 7th Grader

Many of you know that Sligo has a new assistant principal this year, Ms. Jorandby. If you've seen her in the hallway, you know she is a fun, creative, and caring person. But there is also a lot you don't know about Ms. Jorandby, like how she is actually from a different galaxy and is here to research our primitive ways! I'm just joking, of course. But still, you probably don't know where she taught before Sligo, her values, and what she did before becoming an assistant principal. I was given the opportunity to interview our assistant principal. These are the answers to those questions. (to be continue on page 6)

2016 Fall Edition Happy Thanksgiving!

- Mr. Cary D. Dimmick,
Principal
- Mr. Graham Lear
Assistant Principal
- Ms. Shauna-Kay J. Jorandby
Assistant Principal
- Mr. Vannest G. E. Wilkins
Newspaper Advisor
- Editing Team: Mrs. Pat Price (former SMS
NAACP Parent Rep)
- Reporters
- Zoe Friedman, Mekdem Legesse,
Dagem Legesse, Yasmien Yussuf
Takisha Ago

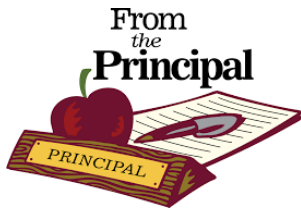
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Special points of interest at Sligo!

- WSLI returned to the Airways via in house TV Programming Channel 19
- 2016 Fitness Fun Day—11.18.16





Stallion family–

We are off to a great start to this 2016-2017 school year. We are seeing some amazing teaching and learning happening each and every day at Sligo MS. This is a direct result of your efforts – as well as your amazing teachers – as you take pride in your learning. We are also seeing some incredible school spirit this year as we hold our Friday “spirit days,” as well as

student enthusiasm at our sporting events and music concerts; we also had an amazing turnout at our 2nd annual *Sligo S’TEAM Community Day* in October.

Our objective at Sligo MS is to carry out the mission of Montgomery County Public Schools- which is to inspire learning by providing the greatest public education to each and every student. Our core purpose is to prepare ALL students to thrive in the future. At Sligo, we will do this by valuing (1) learning, (2) relationships, (3) respect, (4) excellence and (5) equity.

Last year, we had an amazing year, which saw a dramatic increase in our academic performance of all of our students. As we continue to improve this school year, we still see a need for equitable teaching and learning, because ALL our students need the opportunity to learn to the best of his/her ability. At Sligo, our school vision is to sustain a professional learning community who believes in academic excellence for all students. Through a collaborative, rigorous instructional program, we will provide a positive, safe, supportive learning environment where students become skilled, productive members of a global society. Our mission is to increase the rigor of our educational programs, increase student achievement, and eliminate the achievement gap through collaborative, data-driven, differentiated academic programs and varied social opportunities. Our wonderful staff values that every child can learn, that every teacher cares about his or her students’ well-being and educational success, that every individual in the building is respected and that Sligo MS is a safe place for learning to occur.

It is my personal vision is that our unremitting work will enable all of our students to leave Sligo Middle School armed with skills to be inquisitive, to think critically, to be able to communicate effectively and to take ownership in one’s education. We want all of our students to be in a position when they get to high school to continue down a successful path to be prepared to attend college or begin a career.

This year, our instructional focus is a result of your student feedback – that all students need for all of our teachers to check for understanding of students’ progress towards mastering the objective (or learning goal), in multiple, varied and equitable ways throughout each lesson. You also communicated to us that you need for all teachers to build and facilitate a warm, safe, supportive and engaging environment where students are able to grow independently and collaboratively.

Last year we also had a number of items to highlight– and celebrate – as we continue to make Sligo MS a great place to go to school. Some of our amazing accomplishments from last school year are:

- ◆ As mentioned previously, we saw significant increases in our academic achievement of our students
- ◆ Amazing performances by our band, orchestra, chorus and drama programs
- ◆ A successful year for all of our athletic teams
- ◆ 1st annual *S’TEAM Sligo* Program (Trawick Team-Up STEM Grant)
- ◆ 1st annual *PTSA Fitness Fun Day*
- ◆ *History Alive* Cultural Arts Program in social studies classes
- ◆ *Shakespeare Alive* Cultural Arts Program in English classes
- ◆ A restoration of our gym floor and stage, as well as the installation of new gym lights
- ◆ Installation of solar panels to off-set our electric costs
- ◆ ...and 2016 U.S. Department of Education National Green Ribbon Schools Award winner!

We are going to have great year Stallions. I am SO excited to be able to see all your talents each and every day – and am proud to be the principal of such an amazing school of incredible students and staff. Have a great fall season!

Mr. Cary Demmick

Principal

Sligo Middle School Nominated for 2016 Green Ribbon Award

The Green Ribbon Schools Award program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and recognizes schools that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education to boost academic achievement and community engagement. From the Desk of Ms. Taylor-Rubin: Here are a few SERT Club Tips:

- ◆ Every ton of paper that is recycled saves 17 trees, 463 gallons of oil, and saves 5 yards of landfill space.

www.recyclingfactsforkids.com

- ◆ In the United States, there are 4 million plastic bottles used every hour, and roughly 25 percent of them get recycled

www.recyclingfactsforkids.com

- ◆ Americans throw away about 28 billion bottles and jars a year. <https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-recycling>

- ◆ A glass container can go from a recycling bin to a store shelf in as few as 30 days.

<https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-recycling>

- ◆ An average person has the opportunity to recycle more than 25,00 cans in a lifetime.

www.recycleacrossamerica.org/recycling-facts



The Traditions of Thanksgiving

Zoe Friedman, Stampede Journalist

November is a month with much to think about. Elections, the coming of winter, and Thanksgiving are all things to think about in November. On the topic of Thanksgiving, it is a holiday with a long admired story about standing for your beliefs and friendship. For me, it is a time for uncles, aunts, first and second cousins, wasabi mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, and playing football while dinner is cooking. But this is just what Thanksgiving means to me, some people don't play football, some people have a vegetarian Thanksgiving, and some people help with the preparation. Sligo Middle School is a school that prides itself in diversity, and in our rainbow of students and staff are many ways to celebrate Thanksgiving. Here are a few ways Stallions celebrate.

Visiting family is probably the most diverse way people celebrate Thanksgiving. Some people stay home and celebrate with their household family and friends. Other people have family come from all over the state, maybe even the country to celebrate. And some people are the ones doing the travelling. And others celebrate with their parent's boyfriend or girlfriend. Mr. Brewer says that he celebrates Thanksgiving with his in-laws. Overlord X (Abbey Gleason) says she actually has two Thanksgivings, one with her mom's family and one with her dad's family.

Food also plays a very important role. Most people see the Thanksgiving feast as mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, and a turkey, the staple of Thanksgiving. While it may be true these foods appear at most Thanksgivings, others may have more dishes or replacements. Some Stallions, like Andrew Wilhelm, are vegetarian, and don't have a turkey. Some people have Apple pie instead of Pumpkin Pie, or both! Some people even use the feast to celebrate multiple events. An example being Chloe Richard, who celebrates her sister's birthday with the biggest turkey they can get.

Beside food and family there are other Thanksgiving traditions. Some people travel to a certain place for Thanksgiving. Some people watch football together. And some people even have a full family nap. Another tradition is watching a movie together with your friends and family. Some people even share what they're thankful for before eating.

Thanksgiving is full of staple traditions, but this holiday has a different personal meaning for everyone. Sligo is a school full of amazing students and staff, each with our own unique heritage, personality, and beliefs. Special thanks to the students and staff who lent their traditions to this article, and Happy Thanksgiving Sligo!

Stampede Reporters Yasmeeen Yussuf and Takisha Ago traveled throughout the school interviewing staff (Ms. Monroe and Ms. Heller) and students (Asia, Andrew, Kendra, Cloe, David, Sasha, Mary and Jazmine) with the following questions as it relates to the Thanksgiving Season: (1) What are you thankful for? (2) What are your favorite things about thanksgiving? (3) When you hear the word "thanksgiving", what do you automatically think of? And, (4) What are some of your family traditions at this season? **What are you thankful for:** Responses: I'm thankful for my job here at SMS; I'm thankful for life; I'm thankful for food on a plate' I'm thankful for my mom; I'm thankful for family, food and life; I'm thankful for my friends and family and I'm thankful for food, animals and family.

What are your favorite things about Thanksgiving: Responses: I like spending time with my family; well being able to spend time with my family; my family; the food; candied yams; turkey; eating plenty food and sharing memories with family; **When you hear the word thanksgiving, what do you automatically think of:**



What I did on my Summer Vacation

By Rising 8th Grader — Dagem Legesse & Mekdem Legesse

We had an amazing summer before the seasons progressed towards fall and winter. Leaving Summer 2016 behind can be tough for many, but we still have our exciting memories of our fun summer days that we wish to share with all of our peers. During our summer, we did many things. Our aunt gave birth to a new baby, and we got to see our little cousin. We went outside with our friends to do multiple fun activities, including soccer and tag. For our vacation, we went to Connecticut. There we were able to see Yale University. It was beautiful. We saw huge black gargoyles staring at us. Later, we had a picnic and went sightseeing for a while before we returned to our hotel. We also went to the beach. The water was too murky for us to play tag underwater, so we raced back and forth bumping into each other. We had a lot of fun in Connecticut. Yes, we had an amazing summer. We can't wait for the next summer 2017!



Ms. Yolanda Alston
at the White House
7.16.16



Sligo Middle School Host S'TEAM Community Day to Teach Residents about Renewable Energy



S'team Sligo media of

October 1st Community Day Festival:
2016:

[http://
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/
mainstory/story.aspx?id=505854](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=505854)

[http://www.mymcmedia.org/sligo-
middle-school-host-steam-
community-day-to-teach-residents-
about-renewable-energy-in-silver-
spring/](http://www.mymcmedia.org/sligo-middle-school-host-steam-community-day-to-teach-residents-about-renewable-energy-in-silver-spring/)

<https://twitter.com/SligoMS Pride>

<https://twitter.com/MittiMegan>



Fitness Fun Day was a school-wide event on Friday, November 18 -- Students will compete by grade and as individuals in running, soccer, basketball, and dance for gift cards and other prizes.



Thanks for Helping Out

Thanks to the nearly 80 volunteers who helped at Fitness Fun Day today, thanks to you the day was a huge success! We all pull off something pretty special today. The Sligo community came together to celebrate and enjoy a day of fitness, fun and lots of

smiles and laughter! The students had a wonderful time and we could not have asked for better weather! Thank you again for all you do for Sligo.

Jeannette O'Connor, Eve Zimmerman and Marge Giebel



Sligo MS partners with A organization. A is for Africa helps the Matim school located in the Arusha area

of Tanzania, where some of the Masai live. The students attending the school are poor, so without this school they would not be able to get an education. The 1,050 students there are fed lunch for free because of the generous contributions of donors (10 cents per meal). The students also have access to a well, a library, and a computer lab that was built there.

With permission from Principal Dimmick, Seventh Grader Mira Cohens with the endearing support of her parents launched a very successful Shoe Drive in support of the above mentioned fundraising project. Sligo was able to collect a very overwhelming amount of shoes. Thanks Stallions and staff for your generosity and kind support to this effort.



(SMS welcome the new AP—continuing from page 1)

Before coming to Sligo, Ms. Jorandby taught at Stone Gate Elementary, Cannon Road Elementary, and Lee Middle School. Lee was her most recent school, where she spent six years teaching. Three of those years she was an administrator, the other three she was a Staff Development Teacher and an ESOL teacher.

Ms. Jorandby has been assigned many different roles before becoming an assistant principal. Aside from the already stated jobs, she was also a Gifted and Talented (GT) teacher, a Team Leader, an elementary school teacher, and a staff administrator. She believes that an important key to her success was that she prioritized doing a good job for kids wherever and in whatever position she's in.

Ms. Jorandby also values the effort students put forward in school, and wishes they'd show it everyday. She says she also wants students to achieve their dreams by using education and remembering the goals of school.

Ms. Jorandby is an amazing teacher and human being. I believe she will do Sligo well, and in turn, I hope we do *her* well. Welcome to the Stallion family Ms. Jorandby, I hope this is a great experience for you.



Congratulations!

President- Ava Bamji

Vice President- Joseph Ruedi

Secretary- Sarah Arias

Treasurer- Lucus Keenan

SGA as representatives- Ila Raso and Ruby Hoben



this is a photo opportunity



2015 Read 180



Students preparing for TV Production and the Morning Announcements. These are the Future Worldwide Communicators.

WSLI is on the Air!



Science is Fun and Interesting



Growing Basil Plants

Cow Eye Dissection

Sligo Middle School

2016-17 School Activities Calendar

September 2016

- Wednesday, September 7th, Boys/Girls Softball Tryouts (3:15 pm)
Thursday, September 8th, Boys/Girls Softball Tryouts (3:15 pm)
Wednesday, September 14th, Einstein High School Back-To-School Night (7:00-9:00 pm)
Tuesday, September 20th, Monthly PTSA Meeting (7PM)
Wednesday, September 21st, DCC/NEC High School "Options Fair" for Grade 8 students/parents at Albert Einstein HS (7-9 pm)
Thursday, September 27th, DCC/NEC High School "Options Fair" for Grade 8 parents/students at Blake HS (7-9 pm)
Tuesday, September 27th, Girls Softball vs. Takoma Park MS (3:30 pm)
Thursday, September 29th, Boys Softball vs. White Oak MS (3:30 pm)
Thursday, September 29th, Cross Country vs. White Oak MS (3:30 pm)
Thursday, September 29th, DCC Open House at Einstein HS for Gr 8 parents/students (7 p)
Thursday, September 29th PTSA Sligo Middle School "Math Night" (6:30-8:00 pm)

October 2016

- Saturday, October 1st, S'TEAM Community Day (12:00 pm to 4:00 pm)
Wednesday, October 5th, Girls Softball vs. Eastern MS (3:30 pm)
Wednesday, October 5th, Cross Country vs. Eastern MS @ Eastern MS (3:30 pm)
Wednesday, October 5th, Poolesville HS Whole School Magnet Parent Information Mtg. (5 & 7 pm)
Wednesday, October 5th, DCC Open House at Kennedy HS for Grade 8 parents/students (7 pm)
Leadership Training Institute (LTI) Parent Information Meeting at Kennedy HS (LTI available only to DCC residents and Gr 8 students who attend DCC middle schools on transfer) (7 pm)
Monday, October, 10th, DCC Open House at Blair HS for Gr 8 parents/students (7 p)
Thursday, October 13th, Biomedical & Engineering Application Only Program Information Meeting at Wheaton HS, 6:30 p.m. (available only to DCC residents and Gr 8 students who attend DCC middle schools on transfer)
Thursday, October 13th, DCC Open House at Wheaton HS for Gr. 8 parents/student (7 p)
Tuesday, October 18th, Boys Softball vs. Key MS
Tuesday, October 18th, Cross Country vs. Key MS
Tuesday, October 18th, Monthly PTSA Meeting (7PM)
Wednesday, October 19th, International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB) at Richard Montgomery HS; Parent Information Meeting (Room 17 - 7 pm)
Thursday, October 20th, Science, Mathematics, Computer Science Magnet Parent Information Meeting at Blair HS (7 pm- Auditorium)
Thursday, October 20th Fall Music Concert (7:00-8:00 pm in Gym)
Tuesday, October 25th, DCC Open House at Northwood HS for Gr 8 parents/students (7 pm)
Norwood's Montgomery College Middle College Program (MC2@N)
Parent Information Meeting at Northwood HS (7 pm)
Tuesday, October 25th, Girls Softball vs. Lee MS (3:30 pm)
Tuesday, October 25th, Cross Country vs. Lee MS @ Lee MS (3:30 pm)
Wednesday, October 26th, CAP Parent Meeting at Blair HS for Grade 9 parents/students (7 pm) (available to DCC residents and Gr 8 students who attend DCC middle schools on transfer)
Thursday, October 27th, Application workshop at Parkland MS for those applying to ES, MS, HS magnet programs (7 pm)

November 2016

- Friday, November 4th, Round 1 "Choice Form" Deadline- Completed forms due to Sligo Counseling Office by 3:00 pm
Friday, November 4th, Application Deadline for All Secondary Magnet and Application Only Programs to the respective High School
Friday, November 4th, Sligo MS Talent Show (7:00 pm in Gym)
Wednesday, November 9th, PTSA Mom's Night Out
Thursday, November 10th Parent Conferences (3:00-8:00 pm in Gym)
Tuesday, November 15th Boys/Girls Basketball Tryouts (3:30 pm)
Wednesday, November 16th Boys/Girls Basketball Tryouts (3:30 pm)
Thursday, November 17th Boys/Girls Basketball Tryouts (3:30 pm) (if needed)
Friday, November 18th PTSA Fitness Fun Day (all day in PE classes)
Monday, November 21st PTSA Fitness Fun Day (rain date)