

Sterling KnightLine



Changing of the Guard

By Jenna Grace – 11th Grade

Last month, Sterling High School said goodbye to the beloved Officer George Badey. A few days before winter break, Officer Badey went on Sterling's morning news and announced that he was leaving. Many were saddened by this, for Badey has been at Sterling High School for our entire time in high school. The students and faculty celebrated his 17 years at Sterling with a surprise pep rally a few days before winter break began.

The students and faculty of Sterling were all called into the new gym after fifth block ended early the Thursday before winter break and took to their usual spots for a pep rally. Many knew that there would be a pep rally that day, but few students knew what it would be for in order to keep it a secret. Many of us already knew that Officer Badey was leaving Sterling, and the students that didn't know were informed as all of the students, faculty, and members of Officer Badey's family crowded into the gymnasium. The gymnasium was decorated for a pep rally with streamers and other decorations, and there was a chair on one side of the gym for Officer Badey to sit in with his family next to him. After everyone arrived to his or her spot, the entire gym was quiet for a few minutes as everyone anxiously waited for Badey to enter the gym.

Just a few minutes later, Mr. Sheehan, our principal, led Officer Badey into the gym, where he was greeted by all of Sterling's students, his co-workers, and his family. Obviously surprised, Badey took in the heartwarming scene and took his place in his

chair next to his family. Officer Badey gave a speech, and thanked everyone at Sterling High School who organized the pep rally, and all of the students. The next day, which was the day before winter break began, was Officer Badey's last day at Sterling. We will miss you, Badey!

Sterling High School now welcomes a new officer, Kevin Smith. He has deep roots in the community, for he was born and raised in Somerdale, a police officer in Somerdale for 15 years, and was a member of the Sterling Board of Education (BOE) for four years. Smith also graduated from Sterling High School himself in 1998. Being on the Sterling BOE and a former alumnus has helped his transition, and he looks forward to getting to know all of the students. After the chief of police saw him as the best fit for our school, Officer Smith joined the Sterling family.

Welcome to Sterling, Officer Smith.



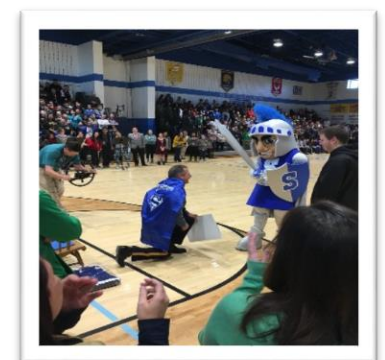
Officer Badey addresses the students and staff as Sterling wished him "luck".



Class of '81 and Class of '18.



Somerdale Police Officer Kevin Smith





Creative Writing Piece

High School is one of the most memorable periods of your lifetime. In this piece, Arianna Campanella, a 9th Grader documents the first steps in her journey.

Student Perspective:

Through the eyes of a freshman

On my journey to high school, there had been a lot of emotions. I had been anxious and worried but as soon as I got there, I realized it was not bad at all. At first, I received the electives paper, and that was when my worries began to erupt. I did not know there were so many options. When I had figured out that there was that many I knew I was not going to get the classes that I had wanted to pursue. Either way that would have been okay because learning new things is what helps us figure out what we want to do, as we get closer and closer to graduation. I also realized that if you did not like the elective assigned to you, your guidance counselor can help you choose one that is available and interesting to you. I did not have to go to my counselor but they are always on top of your grades and make sure you are doing your best. The guidance office is a great safe environment to visit when you need a little help with things.

As I began high school, we received these IDs. We had IDs back in my old school but we were not required to use them at all. They were

there for decoration. I was afraid of losing mine or forgetting to bring it to school. Once I constantly brought it to school, I got into a system. The IDs are actually easy to keep track of. I would make a plan for myself to keep my ID in my bag when I had not been using it. So that before school I was able to grab it and put it on to get into the school. You are required to wear it around your neck at all times during school. You need it to get into school and if you do not have one for the day, you will get a temporary ID. There are consequences for not having your ID though.

When I walked through the hallways, it was very confusing at first. I was not sure which hallway was which so every time I went down a hallway I would wish that it would lead me to lunch. With a few turns and changing lanes, it became easier. I went to each classroom without thought. The hallways were not so complicated after all. I can remember it was about the second to third week of school and I had to ask the principal where the office was because I still did not know where things were. Note to self: make sure you find out where your classes are and ask questions your first day.

There are plenty of activities at Sterling High School and plenty of classes. Some electives you could pick include Science History, Culinary Arts, Photography, Creative Writing classes, Reading Classes, Marketing, Music, and way more. These electives are there to help you chose a path. The athletic activities like Soccer, Softball, Football and Cheerleading are endless. My advice is to get involved, but isn't that everyone's. Even if you have not played a certain sport before try it, maybe you will love it and it is an easier way to meet people. If you are not interested in sports, then there are plenty of other activities listed on the Sterling High School website.

The cafeteria is five times bigger than the one in my old school. There are plenty of options such as pizza, nachos, pizza crunchers, fries, tater tots, chicken sandwich, hamburgers and more. Lunch is held in 40-minute blocks. There is an option to eat in the cafeteria or in the gym. There are about eight chairs at a table. Lunch is a way to talk and eat with your friends and it is good because even if you do not have classes with someone you will still be able to see them. If you are in choir or are interested, your lunch schedule could change depending on when you have choir.

Homecoming was a lot of fun and I am glad I decided to go. I've been told you only get to experience these milestones once, so enjoy them. At homecoming, everyone was dressed his or her best and you could see everyone dancing and laughing. The decorations added to the atmosphere. The best part of homecoming was dancing with my friends. It felt good to take time off from homework to laugh with my friends. The homecoming game was great because I got to cheer on the team and hang out with friends. It was fun to see the girls all escorted by their fathers and unboxing their roses.

High school so far is such an amazing experience. There are so many people here to help you and guide you around when you need it. There are so many things to do and so many people to hang out with. The good part about Sterling is there is always going to be someone to guide you and there is always going to be a safe feeling when I walk in the doors. It is not like how it is in the movies, but Sterling High School is like its own movie full of endless possibilities. It would be extremely amazing if you decided to join the story.

By Arianna Campanella

Sterling Returns State-Aid to Taxpayers

By Nicole Carney – 12th Grade



Taxpayers in the Sterling High School District will be quite happy to hear the decision reached by the Sterling High School Board of Education on the twentieth of July 2017. Early that month, the state released \$133,954 in state aid, for which the Board organized a special meeting to discuss its distribution. It was unanimously agreed that the funds should be returned to the local taxpayers. Of this, Superintendent Mr. Napoleon had to say, "The Sterling High School Board of

Education has always been mindful of the burden placed on local taxpayers. This is just another responsible decision made by the board." The Administration and Board of Education will continue to serve the community and make decisions that are best for the community and its students. Any questions regarding this should be directed to Mr. Napoleon at 856-784-1287.

Superintendent's Message

By Mr. Mark Napoleon, Superintendent



Welcome to Sterling High School District's first edition of **The Sterling KnightLine**! I am pleased to contribute so the community can continue to be informed of the latest happenings taking place in the Sterling High School District. KnightLine is created by students, staff and administration and will be published tri-annually.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Sterling High School District has successfully completed Phase I of major construction projects that addressed much needed system improvements. These completed projects have and will continue to impact student success.

Phase I projects consisted of but not limited to roof replacement, new HVAC system, chiller replacement, extensive upgrades in the auditorium and old gymnasium, ADA compliant bathrooms, new tennis courts, new softball fields, and front drainage construction. Recently, a new marquee was installed that provides the community with updated information.

After July 1, 2018, Sterling High School District will begin Phase II Construction with replacement of a new water main, upgrades in the Foods Classroom, and New Security Doors. Additional projects include relocation of soccer, sub varsity baseball and practice football fields.

We are proud of our students and staff members that contributed to our great achievements over the last several months.

AP SUCCESS!

Our Summer 2017 Advanced Placement result indicated that 78% of all students taking an AP exam passed with a score of 3, 4, or 5. Three years ago, 44% of the students passed. The 2017 results put Sterling High School exceeding the state and global averages for the first time. In 2016-2017, Sterling students also increased the average SAT score 57 points over the previous year. Our PARCC results continue to increase and the district continues to implement strategies that will improve scores in the future.

HOME OF CAMDEN COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Mimma Cammarata has been named the 2017-2018 Camden County Teacher of the Year and became a finalist for State Teacher of the Year! The honor is not only great for Ms. Cammarata but represents the quality staff we have at Sterling High School. Way to go Ms. C!



Ms. Cammarata (pictured above) instructing class.

CLASS OF 2017 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Class of 2017 was offered \$8,215,427 in scholarships. This is over a \$4,500,000 increase from the previous year. Congratulations to the Class of 2017, their parents and our supporting staff!



\$133,954 RETURNED TO TAXPAYERS

During a special Board Meeting in July 2017, The Sterling High School Board of Education unanimously approved the return of state aid to the Taxpayers of Magnolia, Somerdale and Stratford. Returning the state aid back to the stakeholders is one of many ways the Board of Education continues to be fiscally responsible.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Sterling High School Strategic Planning Committee is in its second year of a 5-year plan to build on our strengths and prepare our students and community for the challenges of modern education. We feel that this committee will make a difference in preparing our graduates to become successful, independent thinkers. Strategies implemented by this committee, have and will continue to support an educational environment that is robust. The Strategic Planning Committee is comprised of students, staff and community members. If you have an interest in joining our committee, please contact my office.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Sterling High School will offer continuing education to our community members. Continuing education will allow adults within the community to become lifelong learners. These mini-workshops will be offered free to all adult community members. Please download our app or visit our website for continuing education updates.

I would encourage everyone to visit our website and download our mobile app. The mobile app push notifications are one of the primary ways the district communicates with students, parents and community members.

I wish everyone the best in 2018 and we look forward to working with you the stakeholder.



Principal's Desk

By Mr. Matt Sheehan, Principal

Greetings,

The goal of our newsletter is to continue to find ways to better communicate with our community members to support all students on their paths towards a successful high school experience. Please help spread the word about this publication to Silver Knights everywhere.

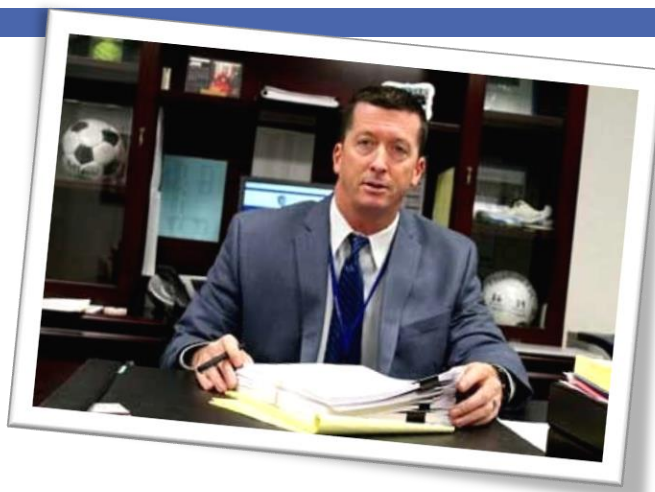
Excitement has grown since the start of the school year due to a variety of happenings. First, we hired six full-time teachers. Ms. Sierra Jordan (English), Mrs. Helena Walsh (Science), Mr. Kevin Stewart (Science), Ms. Maria Petosa (World Languages), Ms. Shehnaz Petal (Art), and Ms. Francine Faltz (Individual Education). We look forward to having them on staff and on having a positive impact on their students both in and out of the classroom.

Next, our fall athletic teams experienced much success. Teams improved upon participation numbers, win totals, and gained valuable playoff experiences. We had an outstanding Spirit Week, which was won by the Seniors and we crowned a new Mr.

Sterling. Good Day Philadelphia visited our school on Nov 2nd and broadcast live from Sterling to promote our athletics, band, cheer team, and overall school spirit. Good Day Philadelphia was so impressed with Sterling that they also visited our school in December for our Toys for Tots Drive.

Finally, we welcomed the Class of '21 to the Castle, hosted the Camden County Addiction Awareness Task Force program in October, and we are in year two of our tablet initiative. Our students have shown a tremendous amount of responsibility in handling these devices. We continue to look to improve our facilities, both inside and out, to enhance the educational experiences of our students. We are looking forward to our Spring Musical "Bring It On". The cast is hard at work preparing for the April 12th-14th shows. The administration and staff are committed to excellence and will strive to find the most effective ways to deliver instruction and to meet the needs of our students.

We encourage everyone to visit our website, download our Mobile App, and to follow Sterling High School on Twitter



@knightprincipal. We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and ask for your continued support of our student groups in athletics, performing arts, and activities.

GOOD DAY PHILADELPHIA



Highlight Video can be found at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKepq-ia1BM

Interact continues to make a difference in the community

By Jocelyn Shinseki 12th Grade

We are the Interact Club, dedicating our time to help better the Sterling Community. We see it as necessary, through our close-knit club, that we spread this feeling of togetherness throughout the year. Whether it be the Evening with Santa, the Senior Citizens' Prom and Senior Citizens' Tea, our canned food drive, or wrapping presents donated to us from the Toys for Tots Drive, we make sure to maintain a festive spirit through highly anticipated events. We also reach out to other communities by participating in monthly Food Banks at the Lindenwold Train Station and sending Valentines to soldiers overseas and those living at the Laurel Manor.

The Interact Club is full of people who desire positive change in their community and demonstrates this through the countless hours dedicated to their studies in addition to planning annual events for all to enjoy. We retain a friendly atmosphere through our advisor, Mrs. Stepash, who has inspired us to give our time to assist in bettering our community in the years to come. At our monthly meetings, she makes sure to congratulate us all on our achievements, whether they be academic or service-related, aspiring us to accomplish more. If it were not for her guidance, these events would be less lively, less festive.

The annual events we hold are aimed towards bringing our community closer and



welcoming for all, even the members of the Interact Club. There is no better satisfaction than seeing the time and effort we place into these events truly pay off. Our club also reaches out to other organizations within the school, bringing our school environment closer. Without volunteers helping us wrap presents collected from the Toy Drive, or offering to sing and attend other events, we would not be able to uphold a lively spirit. As a club, we reach out to our community, lending a helping hand wherever needed.

CHICK-FIL-A LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Chick-Fil-A's Leadership Academy

By Mrs. Carrin Bachowski

This year, Sterling High School partnered with Chick-fil-A Voorhees to focus on student leadership development. Over thirty students were selected to participate in the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy, a three-year program that incorporates lessons that help students gain insight into leadership principles, with the goal of teaching IMPACT through ACTION.

The Sterling students are joined on this journey by faculty facilitators, Kelly Johnson and Carrin Bachowski, and staff from Chick-fil-A Voorhees, including owner-operator Matt Williams and HR Director Lauren Loman. The Chick-fil-A Leader Academy meets for monthly Leader Labs, which convey different leadership principles with the ultimate goal of applying the leadership lessons they have learned to create and execute a final service project.

Recently, Sterling's Leaders were challenged to "Do Good December." This is a service project that emphasizes teamwork by asking students to "Drive, Do, and Deliver" during the holiday season. For this project, the students decided to visit the nearby Laurel Manor and spend time with the residents, decorating cookies, singing holiday songs, and making crafts.

The Chick-fil-A Leader Academy is currently working on developing plans for the year-end impact project.



SPOTLIGHTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENT & STAFF MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

September 2017

9th Cassandra Baldino
10th Brandon Grace
11th Michael Johnston
12th Rebecca Krause
Faculty Member: Kelly Johnson

October 2017

9th Collin Chestnut
10th Sophie Flores
11th Maxwell Klenk
12th Amber Pearson
Faculty Member: Judy Birchall-Lare

November 2017

9th Adrianna Jones
10th Jacob Michael Klehamer
11th Kassandra Garcia Giron
12th Matthew Mayer
12th Lori Stratton
Faculty Member: Daniel Stuart

December 2017

9th Antonio Kline
10th Trinity Star
11th Steven Kenner
12th Colleen Green
12th Bailey Concepcion
Faculty Member: Officer George Badey

OVER 1,000
TOYS!!!



CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST

PAINTING WINNER:

Milena Gasanova – 12th Grade



Pictured: **Milena Gasanova 12th Grade**



THANK YOU Sterling Community and Sterling
Radio for collecting MORE THAN 1,000 Toys at
our Annual Drive!

CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST

POEM WINNER:

"Breaking Through the Ice"

by: Kaylee LeMasney

We are all bounded to gravity
When the thin ice
I stood upon
Cracked beneath my feet
I was doomed
It was my fate
To fall through

The brutal cold
Cuts into my skin
Stinging like
A frozen knife
Stabbed into my heart
I wonder...
When does it end?
How did it start?

No way out
I was trapped
A prisoner of time
Cursed with
A big heart
In a world
Where no one cares

.....Nothing can compare

To the pain
I felt
Falling deep
Into the ice
Unrelentless
Bitter
Cruel

Did I fall because of me?
Or did I fall
Because of you?

