

# The Ol' Steller Yeller



## Souper Steller

Thank you to all the awesome parent and student volunteers who have helped us pull off two very successful Souper Stellers!

We have two more scheduled for the rest of the semester on November 1st and November 22nd. After school on Thursdays are prep days from 2pm to 4pm. Fridays are usually the day we need the most parent volunteers as most of the students have class. Parent volunteers will be needed from 9am to 1pm to help put the finishing touches on the soups, baking bread, and setting up for service.

If you have never participated, Souper Steller is where *community* really shines bright. All members of the Steller community congregate in the kitchen where we bond over soup and song. We give back to our community by serving our students, parents, and faculty, while also giving back to the greater community by donating soup to the Covenant House.

If you have further questions please feel free to contact me! Remember the more the merrier, regardless of the time of year!  
- Shanone Tejada, Souper Steller Student Lead, tejada.shanone@gmail.com

All photos courtesy of the Yearbook Staff

## A Glance in the Classroom

### Lit. classes and Essay Comp.

Ask your children to describe their favorite place to visit, or ask them about their new readings in Bob's classes.



### Biology

Look for ninth graders to begin their Big Cell Projects. This is an opportunity for students to show off their scientific, as well as, creative skills.

### Seminar

Eighth graders have just finished their unit on human rights and will begin a short stories unit with a tale by Edgar Allan Poe.

## National Honor Society

I am pleased to inform the Steller community that with the help of some wonderful students, parents and teachers, we are in the process of founding our very own National Honor Society (NHS) chapter here at Steller. For those who are unfamiliar with NHS, it is a program created to honor and acknowledge students who demonstrate excellence in their character, scholarship, leadership and service. Founding this chapter at our school will give us an even greater reputation and further reinforce our philosophy of fostering creative independence and leadership. Their official website includes information about how NHS benefits schools stating, "Based on reporting by affiliated schools... chapters individually have contributed on average 1,161 hours to school and community service; \$26,000 in charitable donations; and 1,100 pounds of food to local, state, and national causes." Please reference [www.nhs.us](http://www.nhs.us) for information about how your student can become a member of the NHS. A huge thanks to Jonathan Halpern, Brian Gehring and all of the amazing Steller students involved in making this happen. - Katie Scoggin, [katie.scoggs@gmail.com](mailto:katie.scoggs@gmail.com), Co-founder of NHS Chapter at SSS



## Calligraphy lessons

In an after school event, three Japanese women taught a roomful of Steller students to use traditional Japanese ink and paper on a weighted frame to make characters. They danced with extra large paint brushes to demonstrate the stroke order for the words for peace and love. Participants had to communicate through Livia Branchaud, as she was the only one in the room fluent in both Japanese and English. Our Japanese guests told us this could become an annual event, which Steller would be eager to host.

## HOMECOMING DANCE

Steller's first dance of the year was a success. The Homecoming Dance was held on Friday, September 27th with an estimated 150 students in attendance. Students commented on the very danceable music played by the DJ, the pizza, and the great Glow-in-the-Dark decorations. Generally, students host one dance a month at Steller for grades 7-12. The dances are planned and hosted by committees of students. Parents can contribute by bringing snacks, and, most importantly, by chaperoning. The Halloween dance will be hosted by the yearbook class on Thursday, October 24th. Chaperones are still needed, so please contact the office if you can help out.



## Passages Highlights

High school students are hard at work on their passages this semester. We have a wide range of passages, from students exploring careers in the medical field, to students learning wood-working, to students reopening the Temple of the Bean Cafe here at Steller. Students work with their advisor for a semester or longer self-designed class to pursue their interests and passions. They create a proposal, find a mentor, and document their growth and learning while collaborating with classmates and their advisor. Students must complete a minimum of three passages to graduate from Steller, including at least one that includes community service. The other categories for passages are: adventure, career exploration, creativity, logical inquiry, and practical skills. Students, whether in middle school or high school, should always be thinking about what interests and questions they could explore in a passages format for the future. Here are a few highlights of current passages in students' own words:

*I'm doing my passage on working with energetic 7th - 9th graders in 3rd period Mythology and 4th period Alaska Studies. Making students engage in academic activities and forming bonds with the students is extremely fun and provides experience for the future.* - Jason Custer, 12th grade

*For my passage I am working with members of Maker Space to assemble hardware and write code. Currently, I am programming in C++ and using arduinos to create lights that can be programed to the beat of music. I am also exploring the realm of creating an artificial intelligence which would learn and make a decision based on the available information such as a photo or video.* - Michael Halpern, 10th grade

*My passage is working with students at Chugach Elementary School to inspire them to change the world in the areas of science and technology. To lead them in recognizing the problems of today and the outlook of our future. To teach them the value of cooperation, teamwork, and communication.* - Rolan Baguyos, 11th grade

*My passage is a co-teaching passage with my friend Jason in Becky's Mythology class. I help teach the students and run special activities. One of my favorite things to do is help the students with our special activities, like the mock Olympics we held.* -Sebastien Libbrecht, 12th grade

**Come learn from our students' passages and celebrate their successes on Thursday, December 5th at 6pm for our All Community Meeting. Also add to your calendar Steller's Band and Orchestra Winter Concert on Friday, December 6th at 6pm in the MPR.**

### Steller clubs

Steller is a bustling place during lunch and after school where students can join a variety of clubs. Here's what's currently on offer.

Model United Nations (MUN) -  
Mon. at lunch

Temple of the Bean (TOB) - every day before school and at lunch

Technical Production Company (TPC) -  
Tues. at lunch

LGBTQ+ Club -  
Wed. at lunch

Gym Hockey - Wed. and Fri. at lunch

Smash club - Wed. at lunch

Dungeons and Dragons Club (D&D) - Wed. after school

National Honor Society (NHS) -  
Thurs. after school

Volunteer Club -  
Thur. after school