

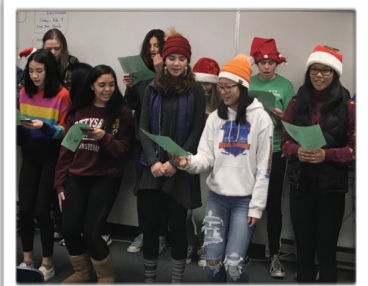
The Ol' Steller Yeller

Home Economics is Full of Creations

A Glance in the Classroom



Thomas Cole is a student in Rosa's Home Economics Class. He describes many of the fun projects they've completed this semester.



We began this semester by working in groups in the kitchen.

Each group was assigned a type of food or specific piece of cooking equipment, but before we could begin we all had to study for and get a food handlers' permit. The groups alternated with equipment and type of food we prepared. All the food we made was consumed by the group that made it! Some examples of our creations were: stir fry, pie, fruit leather, pancakes and banana bread. We all collected our recipes and used them to create a cookbook at the end of the quarter.

We started off the second quarter by practicing yoga. After that, we moved on to needle felting where we were instructed in making an animal mask and a three dimensional animal. Next, we made scented candles from scents we brought in, and carved soap. Then we made Eskimo Yo-Yos and and tried to use them. We also learned to finger weave and made woven bracelets. Finally, we have been practicing some of the games competed in at the Native Youth Olympics.



Spanish Classes

Steller students in World Language classes have been caroling around the halls of Steller for the past 8 years. They learn traditional Christmas songs from the predominantly Catholic Spanish-speaking countries, as well as classic American holiday songs translated into Spanish. Students also learn a Hanukah song in Ladino. Students had fun keeping the tradition alive this year as they caroled in classes the week of Thanksgiving.

Photos courtesy of the Yearbook Staff, Rosa, and Ashley.

Health Class - Sugar Babies

Math classes



In a traditional geometry class, students learned how to make formal constructions with a compass and straightedge. While Jason's geometry students do still learn these skills, they have also been learning how to do formal constructions on computer programs like Geogebra to study circumscribed and inscribed triangles and also where Euler's line comes from.



Svetlana's 8th grade Health class did a unit on childcare and parenting. They learned about the responsibilities of parenthood, and in a culminating project, they got to experience parenthood first hand (even if their "children" were bags of flour).

They named their "babies" and spent 24 hours doing night feedings every 5 hours, changing diapers every three hours, reading to their "babies", and finding babysitters when they were otherwise occupied.

Students were seen around the school cradling, changing, and

evening burping their "babies." One student even decided to have twins! Although the students enjoyed the hands-on learning opportunity, they all decided that they weren't ready for long-term parenthood just yet.

FIELD TRIP TO SEEDS OF CHANGE

Ashley's PE class took a field trip to Seeds of Change, an indoor hydroponic garden that is run by Anchorage Community Mental Health Services. Students learned about the hydroponic growing process, as well as the many opportunities to volunteer, do a passage, and even work at Seeds of Change. The "farm" is in a warehouse within 10 minutes walking of Steller. The field trip was hands-on, informative, and fun. Teachers are in the process of working with Seeds of Change to make better use of our Steller garden space throughout the summer months.



Advisory, Club, & Grade Level Activities

Dungeons and Dragons Club (D&D)

The D&D club is off to a strong start this school year. There is an average of 20 students participating every Wednesday after school in Bob's room. The club offers space for students to make a campaign, join a campaign, or just ask questions and learn more about D&D. Every week there is a "spell of the week." This week's spell is: Healing Spirit. All campaigns are currently full, so the club is seeking new members who want to start a campaign - come Wednesday after school to check it out and join in the fun!

Coffee and Hot Chocolate Brighten the Day

The Sophomore Class ran a fundraiser through the month of November to brighten people's mornings and raise money for Op Group projects. Students handed out coffee and hot chocolate for donations on Wednesday mornings in the drop off lane at Steller. The students expressed gratitude for the generous donations they received, but what they enjoyed the most were positive interactions with community members to start their days off on the right foot.

Passages Highlights

Passages are an essential part of the Steller Philosophy. What passages are your children considering for next semester? Talk to them about ideas they have, and start brainstorming ways to approach the topics they're interested in and avenues for finding a mentor. There is so much out there to learn! Choosing topics and aiming at a level of knowledge/ability to share with others is empowering and life changing.

Gifted Mentorship Program

The following Steller students have been awarded a mentorship through ASD's competitive Gifted Mentorship Program. They will be working with the businesses and organizations to complete intensive on-the-job learning experiences. Congratulations!

- ◆ **Megan Bonney** – Re-purposed design at ReMade
- ◆ **Reagan Gills** – Social Work at Seeds of Change & AK Youth Advocates
- ◆ **Benjamin Benson** – Civil Engineering at Coffman Engineers

My Passage is on Arabic (العربية). I'm learning the language, culture, customs, and reasons. I write Arabic words every day on part of the board near Marla's desk, so you should look there, and feel free to ask me questions (الأسئلة) that you have, I love talking about it! Welcome (أهلاً وسهلاً)!

-Rose Kuiper (وردة), 9th grade

For my passage I am teaching a peer-taught class and producing the Steller Yearbook. Since there has not been a teacher available to teach Yearbook for the past two years, students have taken it upon themselves to create the yearbook. Last year, I and three other students produced the yearbook. This year I have 11 students in my class working hard to make the 2019-2020 Steller Yearbook. -Bonnie Woods, 12th grade

From the principal's desk

We have had a wonderful year so far. Coming to Steller and interacting with the students and staff always invigorates and widens my perspective. Being in and out of classrooms I witness learning and collegiality daily. It is a pleasure to see your children interact, work together, and be excited about classroom topics and activities. Steller is a positive and vibrant community.

Steller has the flexibility of 7th hour from 2:10-3:00 when no formal classes are scheduled. We do expect students that choose this time at Steller to exercise Responsible Freedom: joining clubs, meeting with advisors about Passages, getting teacher and peer assistance, or using the time to complete work. Please remind your Stellerite that this is to be a fun, yet productive opportunity.

We are on the countdown to Intensives. Twenty students are packing their bags for Europe, while the rest look forward to a variety of theme-based learning. We are looking into a STEM grant that will affect the math and science experience. The 3D printer is often in use, and partnerships and volunteer opportunities are being fostered within the school and out to the broader community.

For those of you who have not been into the front office this year, Tami Stoutenburgh and Jamie Bjork have joined our community and are doing a fantastic job! Stop in to say hello.

Lastly, if you would like to share your inspiration and energy, our Parent Group is active and always looking for participation. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the Steller community, and keep up the good work.

Happy Holidays,
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Events to put on your calendar

- Friday, December 6th - 2nd semester registration, Band and Orchestra Concert 6-8pm
- Monday, December 9th - First day of winter intensives
- Tuesday, December 10th - Parent Group meeting 6pm
- Thursday, December 19th - Last day of winter intensives
- Friday, December 20th - No school, inservice day
- Monday, December 23rd - Friday, January 3rd - No school, Winter Break.



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