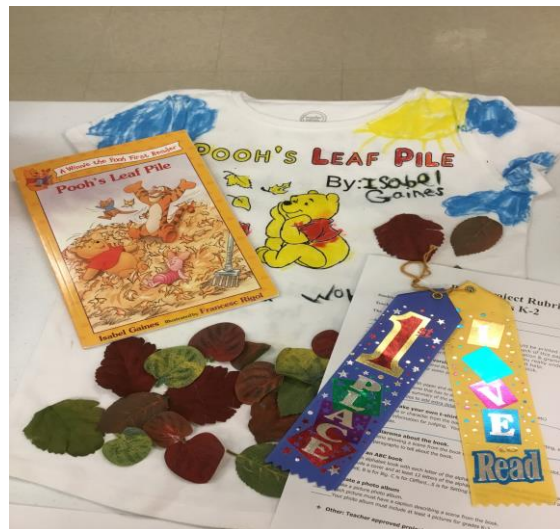


Sand Creek Elementary Panther Pluses

Family Involvement Reinvented

It has been a year to remember. At Sand Creek Elementary, we found many ways to reinvent our family involvement activities to provide socially distanced and virtual options. Our annual parent meeting was provided through a virtual slide show with a Google form survey for family responses. One of the favorite traditions at Sand Creek is our Christmas Make-It Take-It. We still had this family favorite event by having a drive through event. Families stayed in their cars and drove through to see many Christmas lights and inflatables while also picking up a bag of Christmas crafts, books and cookies. Then families were able to drop off letters and wave to Santa. March brought a new family activity to Sand Creek. Families read a book together then worked at home to create a project to display the important parts of the book. Projects included dioramas, decorated t-shirts, poster board reports and cereal box reports. Following all guidelines, families were able to visit our spring book fair one evening and see all the projects. In April, we had a SCE Masked Reader competition. Families watched a slide show that included Snap Camera videos that disguised the readers. Students filled out an online form to guess our mystery masked readers to earn prizes. Our family events concluded in May with seeing our families in Sand Creek Elementary. One spring evening, approximately 65 people came to Sand Creek during 2 sessions following current guidelines to play BINGO to win books and other prizes. This year was full of challenges including reimagining our activities and creating new ones to keep Sand Creek Cyclone families involved.



Keeping it “Normal” with our Annual Fundraising

In the midst of a global pandemic, creating a sense of ‘normalcy’ was something many schools strived to do this year. At Sand Creek, one of the events that we did not want to leave out of our year, was our annual American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge, formerly known to many as “Jump Rope for Heart” or “Hoops for Heart”.

Although SCE has been participating in American Heart Association’s annual student fundraiser, Kate Gray (Coach Gray), has been leading the charge for over a decade with our Cyclones. In that time they have raised close to \$50,000. Coach Gray always keeps the fundraising efforts fun and exciting for all. Some of the most popular walls are stuck for a buck, slime or pie the coach, candy grams, jolly rancher sales and the most favorite Penny War. Our older Cyclones take great ownership in helping organize and run these various fundraisers over the year.

Kids Heart Challenge runs in conjunction with our educational curriculum, learning healthy habits and of course physical skills like jumping rope in fun unique ways. It is an event that is a Time honored tradition at SCE. It is a Cyclone thing and everyone from our entire school gets involved.

Cyclone Basketball

The Sand Creek Elementary basketball program was designed by coaches Elizabeth Lane, Sam Low, and Shannan Matern to train student athletes on the fundamentals of the game as well as sportsmanship, teamwork, physical activity, personal pride, and the love for team sports. The 2020-2021 season was played under the direction and protection of the Panther Prepare and Care COVID plan. Coaches and athletes practiced and played safely.

The boys’ team, coached by Elizabeth Lane and Sam Low, finished the season undefeated while competing against other teams in the county. The team was composed of 5th and 6th grade students. The boys’ team won the district championship. The girls’ team, coached by Shannan Matern, was also made of players from 5th and 6th grades. The girls’ team ended their season 3-6. Players executed game plans very well and each person made personal improvements which added to the team dynamics. We are proud of our Cyclones!