

# Panther Paws

## A Word from the Editor:

**"Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what your gonna get."**

**-Forrest Gump**



Issue No. 1

## Staff

Editor	Joshua Hamlin
Layout Editor/ Reporter	Sadie Hicks
Reporters/ Interns	Snaider Allen
	Madisyn Ausland
	Jaci Johnson
	Maci Kopp
	Carmen Martinez
	Savannah Metzger
	Savannah Halligan
	Dylan Halligan
	Rawley Johnson
	Sadie Pruett
	Kenedie Scholes
	Chance Vias
	Cally Walker
	Josalyn Walker

## Who's the Editor?

Hello! I'm Josh Hamlin and this year's *awesome* newspaper editor. I am in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and like hunting, racing, and getting into trouble. I don't like reading, Justin Bieber, or Pop music; I'm an oldies fan—Chuck Berry, Led Zeppelin, and CCR all the way!

I am so excited about the newspaper staff this year. It's bigger and younger than ever. We recently started letting the fourth and fifth graders join the staff, but they can sure write!

I am also looking for new stories to write about, so if you have any ideas don't be scared to let me know. I am located in Ms. Ozburn's room on the north side of the building. My email address is [joshuahamlin@sveidaho.com](mailto:joshuahamlin@sveidaho.com) and my co-editor's email is [sadiehicks@sveidaho.com](mailto:sadiehicks@sveidaho.com). Email us anytime!

## Guest Supervisor: Ms. Jen Ozburn

Ms. Ozburn is eager to assist this year's editor, reporters, and writers in assembling this edition of the Panther Paws.



# Meet Some of the Staff!

## Sadie Hicks:

Hi, I'm this year's senior reporter and the layout editor! We are having fun this year with newspaper and class. I play the violin and I love to read and hunt!

## Snaider Allen:

My full name is Chrisnaider but I go by Snaider. I like to play basketball and football. I've never been hunting, but I really want to try.

## Savannah Halligan:

Hi! I am Savannah and I am an intern for the newspaper. I love animals, music, and pink. I like to read and write. My favorite subjects are English and Art.

## Savannah Metzger:

I love all kinds of animals, I have a sweet tooth, and I like to make friends with everyone. I like to and try to be a happy person.

## Chance Vias:

My name is Chance and this is my first year in the newspaper. I like hunting, fishing, tractors, and John Deere. I also just got a bearded dragon named Dave.

## Carmen Martinez:

I am a newspaper intern this year. My favorite things to do are ride horses and play sports like volleyball, basketball, and football. I also like to ski and snowboard.

## Kenedie Scholes:

Hi! My name is Kenedie and I am writing for the newspaper this year. I enjoy riding horses, reading, sports, and rodeo.

## Cally Walker:

Hi it's Cally, and here are some things I like to do. I like to climb trees, swim, play the violin, draw, write books, and sing. I just moved to Swan Valley this year from Idaho Falls.

## Rawley Johnson:

My name is Rawley, I am helping with the newspaper this year. I am in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I like to hunt, fish, wrestle, play football and basketball, and ride bulls.

## Dylan Halligan:

I'm Dylan and I'm helping with the newspaper, and I like playing video games, shooting, reading, and spending time with my dog.

## Maci Kopp:

My name is Maci, and I am a greenie this year. I like that they are letting the younger kids do newspaper, so I get to write articles and conduct interviews.

## Madisyn Ausland:

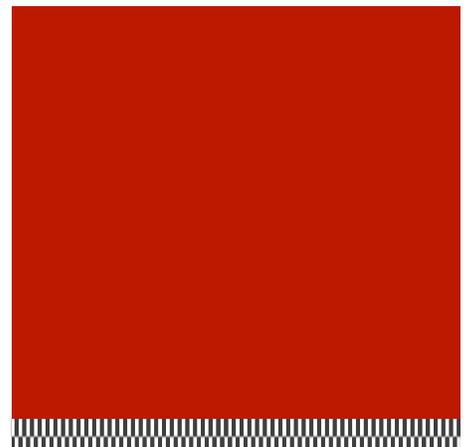
This year I am in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I like to play volleyball and do lots of sports. When I am home, I like to ride my bike and play the viola.

## Sadie Pruett:

My name is Sadie Pruett and I'm in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I'm writing for the newspaper this year. I enjoy playing sports, hunting, fishing, and going snowmobiling.

## Josalyn Walker

Hello, I am Josalyn Walker. I just moved here from Idaho Falls. I enjoy hot chocolate and horses. My hobbies are boating, cooking, and playing with my dog.





# Class Progress

## What Have They Been Doing?

### Pre-School

By: Kenedie S. & Josalyn W.

Rayni Kopp is the PreK teacher at SVE for the sixth year. These students are 3-5 years old. Right now, Ms. Kopp's class is learning how to mix sounds and how to count money. Their favorite things to do in school are rhymes and setting the calendar for the day. These students are also studying English and math. At the end of the day, they also get to do arts and crafts.

### Kindergarten and First

By: Savannah H & Sadie P.

Mr. Zwagerman is the Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher. In math, the kindergarten & first graders have been studying lines of symmetry and the Pythagorean theorem. They are also working on spelling words, science, and keyboarding in technology. Their favorite subjects are social studies, singing, and dancing.

### Second and Third

By: Josh H. and Ms. Hammon

This year, Ms. Hammon loves her students and enjoys seeing them become better readers. The class has studied Geography and Immigration and have learned where their ancestors lived before coming to America. In math, the second graders are part of a nation-wide study using the Personal Math Trainer component of the new GoMath curriculum. The third graders are memorizing multiplication facts and learning how to do division! The entire class does lots and lots of math every week.

### Fourth and Fifth

By: Madisyn A. & Snaider A.

This year the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are focusing on the skills in the Common Core by learning new ways to learn things. They are practicing their math facts in

multiplication and division. Their teacher, Ms. Sailer, is also working on helping her students communicate better through improving their vocabulary skills and writing paragraphs with at least 8 sentences. In social studies, they are studying explorers. The books that they are reading are *Morning Girl*, *Pedro's Journal* and *Encounter*.

### Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth

By: Jaci J.

This year the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>, grade, students are focusing their study on American history. The entire class also read survival books during first quarter and are now reading books centered on the Revolutionary War. In math they are learning how to work with integers and fractions.



## Art and Music

### Ms. Stanger-Art

By: Maci K.

This year in art the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been doing sketch portfolios, upside-down drawings, and recreating art by famous artists. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders have been working on portfolio sketches and texture art. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders have been creating observational and self-portraits using mirrors, and to top it off they have been drawing bats and learning printmaking. The 1<sup>st</sup> graders have been doing shapes, color graphs, and printing plates.

Finally, the kindergarten class has been studying color theory.

Ms. Stanger said that it is special having one room just for art this year. Also she said that all of the classes are doing really well and the students have been well behaved and attentive in class.

This is Ms. Stanger's 11<sup>th</sup> year at Swan Valley Elementary. She started in the lunchroom and then shared a room with the music program. We are very lucky to have her teach here. Thanks!

### Ms. Allison- Music

By: Dylan H. & Savannah H.

The first semester in music was focused on preparing for the Christmas program. At the performance, the kindergarten class sang "Do You Want to Build and Snowman?", which Maci Kopp then played on her fiddle. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class sang "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella". The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade sang a fun version of "Nuttin for Christmas", and the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> both played in the orchestra and sang "Jingle Bell Rock". The entire school also sang several songs with every grade participating. Thank you Ms. Allison.

# National School Lunch Week And Fuel Up to Play 60

**By: Snaider A. and Madisyn A.**



## Fuel Up to Play 60

This year we are working to continue the Fuel Up challenge by playing and exercising for at least 60 minutes a day. This year our kick off will be Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. For last year's kick off, we did yoga, line dancing, jump roping, and an obstacle course, and this year looks to be similar.

This school year, SVE received another grant from Fuel Up, which was used to purchase a new garbage can and cooler for the lunchroom as well as new P.E. equipment.

Last school year, SVE alumni, Tayann, was chosen as an Idaho ambassador and went with Joanne Hincks to Texas where they met five NFL teams.

## National School Lunch Week

National School Lunch Week took place on October 13-17. During this week, students wore blue, orange, green, white and yellow on different days to represent healthy foods. At lunchtime, classes put on skits to share with the whole school that celebrated healthy eating and healthy lifestyles. Some kids don't eat lots of veggies and fruit, but this is a week that can motivate us to eat better.

## Jump Rope

By: Kenedie S. and Rawley J.

Swan Valley Elementary students were extremely happy when the Pro Form Airborne jump rope team came to our school and showed us how to jump rope like a pro. When they came in November we had watched a couple of performances.

Each student was given a jump rope and taught a few tricks like jumping on our bums and touching the floor in between jumps. This group from Ammon taught us to jump rope with style, and we can't wait to do it again.

## Puzzle Plaza

What do you call a fake noodle?

An *impasta!*

-Sadie H.

How do you know if the chef is a clown?

The food tastes funny!

-Kenedie S.

Do you want to hear a joke about Ebola?

You probably won't get it!

-Dylan H.



## Volleyball

By: Savannah M.

The girl's volleyball team this year included Sadie Hicks, Sadie Pruett, Madison Ausland, Kenedie Scholes, Savannah Halligan, Carmen Martinez, Savannah Metzger, Djoulisa Allen, Jaci Johnson, Maci Kopp, Emilie Plocher, and Ireland Weeks. Our season consisted of home and away games. The home games were against Teton on September 18th with no win; Clark County on September 24th with no win; and Ririe on October 6th with a win! Our away games were against Teton on September 25th with a loss and Clark County on October 9th also with a loss. The girls would like to offer their thanks to Joanne Hincks and the PTO for their support.



## Basketball

By: Rawley J. and Chance V.

The boy's basketball season has just started. The team has just recently allowed 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to play. We have a unique team with Josh Hamlin as the captain. So far they have played three games.

By: Savannah M.

This season, the girl's basketball captain was Sadie Hicks. We played away at Teton Valley on November 12<sup>th</sup> with a loss; Teton at home on November 19<sup>th</sup> with a good game but no win; Clark away on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ririe at home on December 3<sup>th</sup>; and Clark at home on December 12<sup>th</sup>. All in all it was great year. We didn't win but it was really fun.

## Word of the Wise

Teacher Edition:

“No one is you and that is your power.”  
(Dave Grohl)

-Submitted by Ms. Sailer

“Teamwork doesn't seem work.”

-Ms. Ozburn

“Shortcuts make long delays.”

-Mr. Zwagerman

## Advice

By: Sadie H.

### How to: be a good student.

**Be organized.** You need to be organized to know what your doing If you can't find your homework you can't turn it in! I suggest you use folders, labels, and separate your papers before you leave school so you know you have everything. Write notes for yourself.

**Pay attention.** If you don't listen during class you could do the wrong assignment at home. If you do the wrong assignment you get behind because everyone else finished it.

**Do your homework nice, not twice.** If you are at home and you want to watch TV or go to a friend's house but you have to finish your homework first, don't rush. If your teacher can't read your handwriting they'll make you redo it. If you rush you can also get questions wrong. Make sure you read the problem a few times so you know what you have to answer.

## New Teacher

By: Savannah H. and Sadie P

Mr. Zwagerman has been teaching since 1989 that means that he has been teaching for 26 years. He is 55 years old. The last school he worked at was Grand Canyon Elementary School in Arizona. He taught 5th grade for 9 years. Mr. Z was inspired to be a teacher because he could not help but to teach. His favorite sport is volleyball. In school, Mr. Z played football and he was a wrestler. Mr. Z's favorite food is cream chicken buns. His favorite foods at school are turkey dressing with that amazing apple crisp. “Sprit in the Sky” is his favorite song. These are some interesting facts about Mr. Z.

## New Students

By : Dylan H.

**Saige:** She is 7 years old. Her favorite color is blue, and her favorite animals are horses. She likes strawberries. She also loves school, reading, and playing in the gym.

**Cally:** She is 14, the oldest student in the school. Her favorite animal is a timber wolf; her favorite color is light grey. Her favorite food is shrimp alfredo. She moved from Idaho Falls. She likes this school better than her last one. She likes to climb trees and swim. She also has a dog named Maggie.

**Josalyn:** She is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and likes the color red. Her favorite animal is the zebra and her favorite food is steak. She moved here from Idaho Falls. She says this school is awesome compared to her last one. She likes to play with her dog and family. Her favorite subject is English.

# The Fall Festival

By: Sadie H.

The Fall Festival this year turned out great! The pumpkin auction raised \$1,110 for the yearbook. Bingo also raised a lot of money for the school.

The night included a dance, dinner, bake sale, and the movie *How to Train Your Dragon 2*. This year Ms. Ozburn's class ran the carnival, and the younger kids had fun playing games such as beanbag toss, Plinko, pop rings, cakewalk and, fish pond. The Fall Festival resulted in both a fun night for the community and a successful fundraiser.

*See you next year!*

**Thanks PTO!!!**



## The Great State Race

By: Josh H.

During the first semester the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> classrooms had a competition. Each class was racing to receive a postcard from every state in the U.S.A. Ms. Sailer's class won with their last postcard coming from Mississippi. Ms. Ozburn's class received a postcard from every state but Delaware. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders had a party and invited the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders if they completed the challenge from all of the states. They worked hard to get them all, but fell short by only one! Don't miss the results displayed on the upper hall bulletin board!

## New Math Program

By: Madisyn A. & Snaider A.

This year we are starting a new math program called Go Math. This new math program goes from Kindergarten all the way to 6th grade. Every student that is doing Go Math has an online account at [my.hrw.com](http://my.hrw.com), and there they can access their online textbook. Go Math is different from our old math program because when you are doing a problem you have to know how to show your work. It is more difficult because you might know the answer, but do you know how to explain how to solve it?

## IDLA

By: Josh H.

This is the first year running a new math program for the 7th and 8th grade class called IDLA. IDLA stands for Idaho Digital Learning Academy. The math program is accessed via online with instructors that students can call, text, or email. According to a student on IDLA, "The new math program really challenges us since we have to do two sections a year". Overall the new math program has been a great addition to the instruction students receive at Swan Valley Elementary.

## Who's Your Favorite Author?

Ian Metzger's favorite author is Rick Riordan.

Maci Kopp and Savannah Metzger's favorite author is Veronica Roth.

Fran Howell's favorite author is Christopher Moore.



Sadie Pruettt's favorite is Dr. Suess.

Kenedie Scholes's favorite author is John Green.

Josh Hamlin's favorite author is Shel Silverstein.

Sadie Hicks's favorite author is James Dashner.

Snaider Allen and Madisyn Ausland's favorite author is Gary Paulsen.

Savannah Halligan's favorite is Rachel Renee Russell.

Carmen Martinez's favorite author is John Erickson.

## Veteran's Day Program

By: Rawley J. & Chance V.

This year's Veteran's Day program was one of the best we've had at Swan Valley. We celebrate Veteran's Day every year and invite local veterans to come and watch. Ms. Allison did a great job conducting the music. Also, the school orchestra played "Allegro". Swan Valley veterans were honored individually and given cookies. Hopefully we will see the entire community here next year!



## Panther Pride Rotations

By: Sadie H.

You might have heard that we are doing rotations this year. It's true; this activity takes place after lunch.

The classes go to computers, specials with Kelly and Ms. Thomas, or P.E. with Rayni. In computers, we mainly work on typing. Some programs we use are Typing Web and ABCya. Also, the 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders have started an interesting animal project using Microsoft PowerPoint. Recently in specials we have started a health program. We've been studying the benefits of healthy eating and exercise. With Rayni in PE, we have been playing kickball, volleyball, and other fun games.

Each class gets to go to each activity twice a week. It's new and it sometimes can be confusing, but we are getting the hang of things.

## iPad Update

By: Josh H.

This is the second year with the amazing iPads, and they have definitely shown their worth. We have been using them for just over a year now, so they are still pretty new. Some new apps have been downloaded, and they have been put to use. We originally got the iPads to help with learning and cut back on paper use, and if you ask me they do just that. We also have the Macs in the computer lab, which are used by all classes each school day. Ms. Ozburn and Jamie have been a huge help in configuring the computers and iPads.

## Library Update

By: Josh H.

The library has recently been turned into a public library, which is run by our beloved Lanae, who we only get to see after school now. We also have the bookshelves that are awesome and look really nice. We do not miss the old hang-up ones at all. If you don't have a library card, stop by. The library is open from 3:30-6:30pm Monday through Thursday and on Saturday from 9:00am to noon.

### School or Ski School?

By: Sadie Hicks

Would you rather be shredding the slopes at Targhee, or stuck in a desk at school? It has been a big debate in Swan Valley to continue 4-day weeks for ski school in January and February because of educational concerns. Some people think that the school year is too short, and we could add days on the calendar in the winter. Swan Valley Elementary should continue a four-day week in January and February because it's a safe hobby; it is a unique opportunity, and the school benefits financially.

We should continue to have ski school in the winter because studies show that having a hobby keeps teens away from drugs and violence. In 2009, there was a study that showed that if teens have a hobby, they were more likely to stay away from drugs and alcohol. It also showed that one third of the teens they interviewed were unable to identify a hobby or talent. If a Swan Valley Elementary child skis, there is one hobby they would be able to pinpoint.

We should keep going to ski school because it is a unique opportunity for Swan Valley students. In other schools, they don't have ten people to a classroom. We live in a unique place with unique prospects. If we live in such a great place, why not take advantage of the opportunity? My family and I go every year and we wouldn't have time otherwise if it were not for the 4-day weeks.

Some people may say that we need to have school on these days but not coming to school saves the school money. By not coming to school a day every week in January and February it saves the school money. It would save the school money on lunch, water, electricity, and heat that they could be spending on other things like learning and fieldtrips. Overall, the school benefits financially by having 4-day weeks.

Swan Valley Elementary should continue the tradition of ski school in the winter. Although pressure for school achievement is very real, ski school helps the school save money, it's a special opportunity, and it is a safe hobby. So, next time you vote to keep ski school or not, remember that it helps the school AND the kids. Do it for the kids.

## Editorials

### My Yearly Goals

By: Cally Walker

Do you start yearly goals? Well if you don't, this is the year to start. I am a fourteen-year-old, 8th grader who has never completed yearly goals or set any. So I am going to do both this year. I think it is a good idea to set yearly goals because, if you finish them, by the end of the year you will feel a sense of accomplishment. The yearly goals I have set for myself is to run every day, write every day, and get good grades.

I have set a goal for myself to run every day for at least twenty minutes. As long as the weather is reasonable that is. If I run every day, I will get faster the more I run. It will also give me the exercise I need. On top of that it will also prepare me for running track, which I have always wanted to do because I like to run and both of my older siblings have run track in high school.

I also made it a yearly goal to write for an hour or more every day. If I write every day it will improve my spelling and handwriting. Which really needs improving because I'm an awful speller. It would also improve my grammar skills, which again, are horrible. Also I could write a couple of books, which would be great practice because I want to be a writer when I grow up.

I have also set the goal to get good grades; which is more of a lifelong goal than a yearly one. If I stay at an A to B average, I could get into some pretty ok colleges. Also I would know more things about math, language arts, and science, which are good skills for the real world. Another thing that comes with good grades is that if we get good grades in our house we are rewarded.

In my opinion you should set yearly goals because, if you complete them, you feel like you have accomplished something. So for my New Year's resolution, I choose to run every day, write every day, and get good grades every year. These are my yearly goals for my New Year's resolutions right now, and I will complete them. Have you set your New Year's resolutions yet? If not, make a plan to live a better, healthy year!