



# 439 INFORMER

*Produced for the Parents and Patrons of  
Sedgwick Public Schools, USD 439*

*Students, Staff, and Cardinal Family,*

As we begin this holiday season and last month 2020, I am reflecting on the journey we have traveled together this year. I am not going to focus on words like *unprecedented*, or *quarantine*, or even *masks*. We have heard and will continue to hear these words enough to last a lifetime.

Instead, I would like to focus on one word: *perseverance*. It is no secret that 2020 is going to go down in history books as a year no one wants to repeat. It seems disparaging circumstances came from every direction. It's true our nation and world have seen tougher times. However, born roughly 2002 and later, our students have not experienced a year like 2020. That likely goes for nearly all of us as well.

Despite all of the disheartening challenges of 2020, one of the things I have been so impressed with is level perseverance our students and faculty have tackled so many things since March. Despite all of the challenges, students and staff have come to school when they could, adjusted to changes when they had to, and hung together through many disappointments. From my viewpoint, they have done so with dignity and genuine concern for one another. Want an example? Ask any principal about office referral this semester. "Normal year" issues have been nearly nonexistent. The supportive relationships have been outstanding! Perhaps, for now, compassion, empathy, flexibility, and kindness to others do not resonate with the amplitude they once did. Not so here at 439. They continue to ring loud and clear!

Certainly, these last seven months have been challenging. I am thankful for the many heroes during these times including the ones that step on this campus every day. During this holiday season, my goal is to emulate the actions of our heroes and the perseverance demonstrated by our students. I am so thankful for the opportunity to work with such great people. They should be proud as they model a beacon of perseverance in our world. May your light shine bright during this holiday season, through 2021, and beyond.

*-Larry Roth, Superintendent*

## The New Normal by Paige Brown, senior

Remote learning is the new norm for Sedgwick Junior High and High School students. Remote learning consists of the students logging into their classes from their computer for the entire school day. The decision to switch to remote learning was made on November thirteenth until after Thanksgiving break, which the students will switch back to hybrid learning while only being on campus for two days of the week. The new normal has been a big change for most of the students because they miss seeing their friends and being able to talk to other students in person. While this switch has been difficult, the Sedgwick students have made it as fun as possible. In one of the classes, Collin Bogunovich was seen wearing his Homecoming king crown to make the other students laugh. In another class, Tate McGinn was seen hunting from a deer stand while on a zoom meeting. These are just some of the ways the students have spiced up the remote learning and turned it into an easier adjustment.

The decision to go remote was quickly made because almost sixty-five students had to quarantine due to the positive Covid cases. Before going remote, the classes were so empty which was really sad to see because the normal students used to see has changed. At least students have the technology they do today so they can see their classmates and teachers online. Though the situation is always changing, the teachers and students are showing that they can make learning work no matter what.

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## Secondary Electives Get Creative by Alyse McGaugh, junior

Throughout this year both teachers and students have had to adjust to the new remote way of learning. Core classes and electives have both changed, Mr.Stucky, the PE teacher, sends workouts to students and students are continuing to be active even in the remote learning environments. Family and Consumer Science teacher Miss.Craig says the only thing that she has had to change is her career and life planning classes. They were just starting to learn how to cook and there is no way she can make sure every kid has all the right ingredients. Industrial Technology teacher Mr.Stauth says that he is no longer assigning projects and now they are just reviewing safety videos on the machines.



Mr.Stucky and Mr.Stauth are both using more than just Google Classroom to teach their classes. Stauth is using a website called OpenBook for his welding class and Stucky is using an app called Volt Athletics for his weightlifting students. All students are doing well. The only issue so far is getting logged into class on time. Teachers say the only thing that is the same is that they can still be in the school to teach while the students are at home learning. All of the electives teachers deserve appreciate and recognition for the creativity they are employing to make remote learning work.

## Different, but Still Special by Olivia Grattan, senior

Although the holidays will be looking a little bit different for most of us this year, that does not mean that we should stop all celebrations. Everyone should do their best to keep themselves and others safe. The CDC has set guidelines that should help keep us all safe over the holidays. They are encouraging that people celebrate within their households and include others virtually. Keeping the event as small as possible is also encouraged. You should avoid bringing in people who do not live in the same home as you. By doing this, you avoid risking exposure. The best thing for everyone in our community to do is make the best out of everything and be thankful for everything that is good that is happening around us. We should not dwell on the fact that this year is a bit different. We should simply embrace the different and hope next year will be back to normal.



When it comes to the people in our school and in our community, people have changed their holidays plans to help keep everyone safe. Brianne Catlin and her family are celebrating as a household to keep everyone in their family safe. They will also be celebrating her birthday which falls on the same day in the same way. Sara Harjo, a teacher at Sedgwick high school explains that her Thanksgiving was a little different, but not any less special. She states "Usually we have a big Thanksgiving and Christmas, but this year we are only celebrating with my immediate family. My mom, who lives in Ohio, will have her usual seat at the table, but instead we will have our iPad there with her on video chat. It's not ideal, but we have to keep us all safe." Holidays are a time of family, appreciation, and hope for the future. Nothing can change that.

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## A Season in Limbo Finishes Strong by Winter Hersh, senior

The Sedgwick Cardinal football team has come a long way. Unsure if there was even going to be a football season this year, they ended up with a record of 8 wins and 2 losses. Every time the team played, they left it all out on the field. When asked about the football team and what it means to the players, the consensus response was, "it's a brotherhood." This has been one of the strongest seasons yet despite the fact that Covid had taken away three players temporarily. Jeff Werner is the coach of the Sedgwick football team. The thing he enjoys the most about coaching is "seeing a group of players work hard for a common goal." Werner said for next year the one and only goal going forward is to win a state title.



There have been so many memories and moments the Sedgwick football team have had this season. When asked about his favorite memory or moment of the season, senior Jayden Ferguson said "going to Ell Saline in the all whites and beating them 45-13 was the best memory this season." The whole football team improved greatly this year. Ferguson said he improved most on reading plays on defense and improved at tackling. A season unlike any other still showcased the best of the Cardinal Spirit!

## Reality VS. Expectations: 9<sup>th</sup> Graders Reflect on Transition to High School

By Madison Matson, senior



Highschool is one of the most memorable times in our lives, but the thought of it can be very stressful and overwhelming to incoming freshmen. A few of the freshmen here at Sedgwick High School have stated what they thought High school was going to be like and what it is actually like. Logan Stucky said she thought "high school was going to be a lot harder" and "I also make a lot more memories in high school and the environment is great!". Tayla Sampson said, "I thought it was going to be like Junior High but with different classes". Many of the freshman said that they thought the upperclassmen were going to do their own thing and not really talk to them much, but they all ended up being pretty great to be around. "It's easier to stay caught up than it was in JH. Also, it is a lot better when you

have a teacher you like." It seems that the freshmen are getting into high school and are liking it more than they thought they would.

## STAND Together By Josephine Cochran, sophomore

STAND stands up for others, each other and all in need. This group of students and influencers across Kansas works hard to prevent substance abuse in their school through youth-led social campaigns. Although they have recently focused on mental health awareness for those stressed with school or lives at home, which has been proved to be needed by caring individuals. Esteemed member of the Harvey County board for STAND, Kalin Rowley comments that; "Being in STAND makes me feel like I am a part of something bigger than myself that is making a positive impact on the students around me." This pure and confident reaction from a senior in high school is inspiring and puts an ounce of hope in everyone's heart.

STAND likes to bring fun to the public as well. Before COVID19, they would host an overtime after Sedgwick home games to bring everyone together and play fun games while taking their minds off their anxiety and worries. Their local authority figure, Amy Watkins, likes being a part of STAND because the kids get to express themselves and it's up to them to find fun and creative things to help and inspire others. Her supervising style lets the leaders in STAND be independent and teaches them how to cooperate in a team. These heroes are there for anyone who needs them and for those wanting to be a part of them. <https://mirrorinc.org/prevention-programs/stand/>





**BAND PLAYS ON** by Kalin Rowley, senior

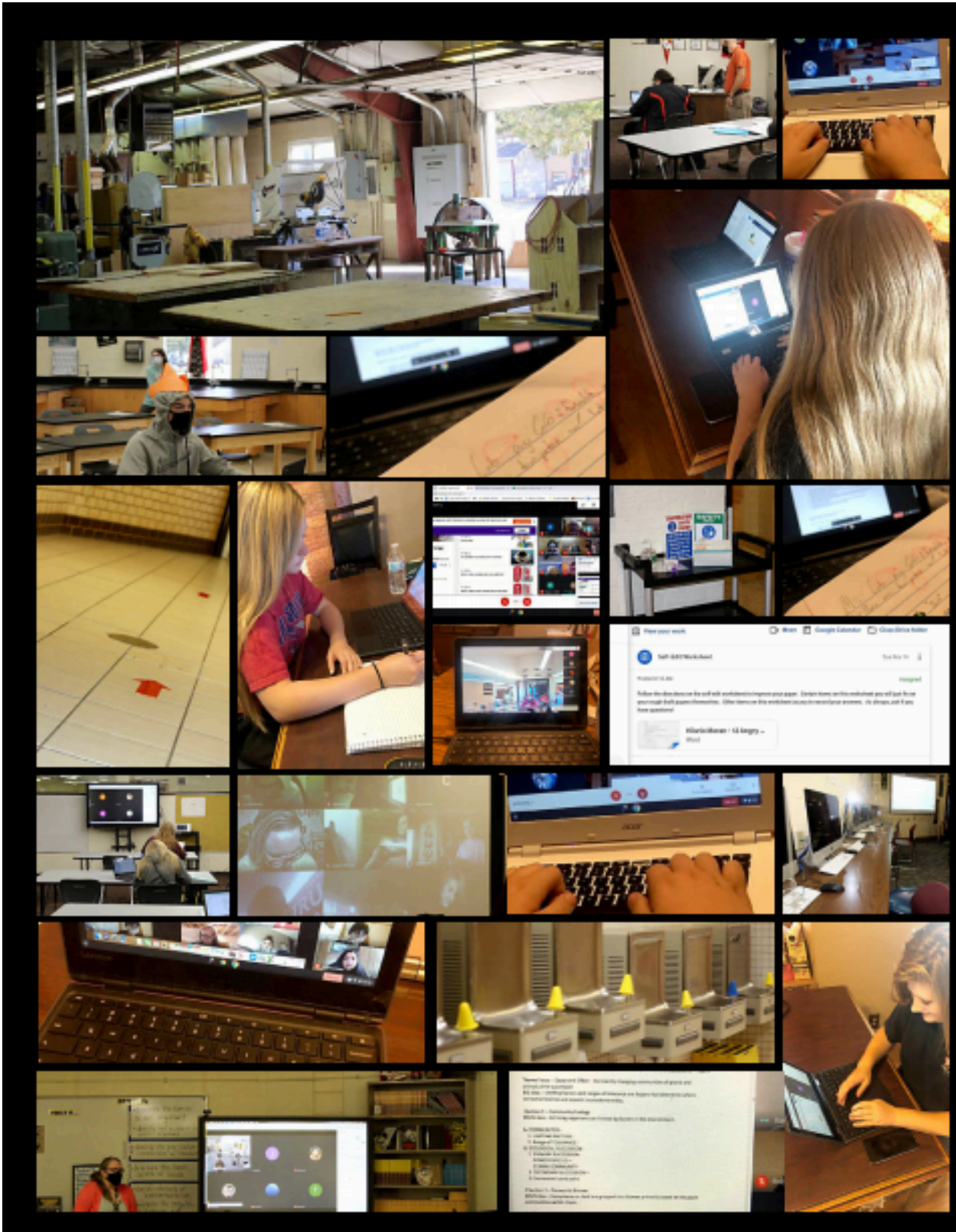
As Sedgwick Students adjust to learning remotely full-time, classes look much different. The band has had to overcome many obstacles due to its performance-based nature. However, band director Stephanie Marston said "I always say something will happen that has never happened before, and this year that has been particularly true! There have been a lot of changes from playing with horn covers, masks, and virtual instruction but we are resilient. I think we will appreciate the little things like playing concerts, honor bands and even regular rehearsals a lot more." Some of the biggest issues the band has faced while

being completely remote are things like internet lag, and students not being able to play due to having a sibling in class in the same room. To overcome this, they have been playing with one to two students unmuted to help with the lag, and students just "fingering along" (in other words, fingering the notes without putting any air into the instrument). While it has been a challenge, the band is grateful for the technology they have and that they are still able to play in some way. The band is looking forward to an upcoming concert, whatever that may look like, and the potential of getting to play some at basketball games this winter.



# An Inside Look at Remote Learning

by Laurn Wilkinon





## **December Students of the Month** by Hilario Moran, sophomore

### **Cole McGinn**

Cole McGinn is the seventh-grade student of the month for December. His favorite class is PE because he can exercise and play fun games with all of his friends. He likes to play after school sports like basketball and football with his friends. He has attended Sedgwick public schools since kindergarten. According to Cole, the best part of going to Sedgwick Public Schools is that it is a small school so you pretty much know everybody and you are friends with basically all of them. His plans after high school are to go to a good college so he can get a good job then he can have a good salary. Something people don't know about him is that he does not like fishing one bit.

### **Emma Koehn**

Emma Koehn is the eighth-grade student of the month for December. Her favorite class is history because she has always loved history and her teacher is always amazing. She likes to play sports and hang out with her friends. She plays volleyball and basketball. She has attended Sedgwick public schools since she was in preschool and then she moved away for two years. She came back in second grade. The best part going to Sedgwick, according to Emma, is that it is a small school and everyone is close to each other. "We are just a close town and that's what makes Sedgwick such a great town." Her plans after high school is that she would love to go to college and get a job in the Criminal Justice field. Something most people don't know about her is that in her free time, she bakes and cooks and that's her favorite hobby, her favorite dessert to make is snickerdoodle cookies.

### **Atinna Moran**

Atinna Moran is the freshman Sedgwick student of the month for December. She has attended Sedgwick Public Schools since 6th grade. Her favorite class is study hall because she likes the time to work on the things she needs to get done. The best thing about going to school in Sedgwick is, "that there are not a whole lot of kids." Atinna's favorite thing outside of school is sleep. After high school she wants to succeed and stay really positive, though she does not know what career track she wants to pursue yet. Something most people don't know about her is that she loves fashion.

### **Jace Helstrom**

Jace Helstrom is the sophomore Sedgwick student of the month for December. He has attended Sedgwick public schools all his life. His favorite class is P.E. It allows him to get away from school and lift weights or play a game with his friends. The best thing about Sedgwick to him is sports and he knows everyone since they were small, so it is exciting competing with all his friends. He wants to go into business and pursue real estate. Something most people might not know about him is that he loves to travel and do new things. He does not want to be a bland person. Nobody would say that "bland" describes Jace.

### Christopher Ward


Christopher Ward is the junior Sedgwick student of the month for December. He has attended Sedgwick public schools all his life and he says he's favorite part about school is the teachers. Christ said that they all have a good sense of humor and are very determined to help him. After high school, he said that he plans to go to college in Missouri and pursue a degree in business. His favorite class is American History because, "I get to make jokes with the teacher and the topic is very interesting to me." Outside of school he likes to collect sports cards and be with friends. Something that most people don't know about him is that he loves to go fishing.

### AnnaMarie Liby

AnnaMarie Liby is the senior Sedgwick student of the month for December. She has attended Sedgwick public school since Kindergarten. Her favorite class is anatomy and physiology. She likes to learn about the different systems and the body in general. Outside of school, Anna can be found either at practice, volunteering at the Meeting House, or hanging out with her friends. The best thing about Sedgwick, according to Anna, is being able to know everyone. After high school she plans on attending Emporia State University and majoring in nursing. Something most people don't know about her is that her favorite artist is Shawn Mendes.



## December 2020

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	<b>Milk served with all meals.</b> <b>Menu subject to substitution.</b>	<b>1</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Mim Crème Cheese Stick <b>Lunch:</b> Chicken Wrap Lettuce & Tomato Spanish Rice Corn Tropical Fruit Oatmeal Cookie	<b>2</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Mim Pancakes Sausage Fruit <b>Lunch:</b> Spaghetti Salad Green Beans Mashed Potatoes Garlic Bread	<b>3</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Mim Yogurt Fruit <b>Lunch:</b> Chesburger Lettuce & Tomato Fries Peaches Sherbet	<b>4</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Biscuit & Gravy Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Mashed Potatoes Steamed Carrots Rais Biscuit
<b>7</b>	<b>Breakfast:</b> Cereal Choices Breakfast Link Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Bosco Sticks Broccoli Baby Carrots Fruit Cocktail Rice Krispy Treat	<b>8</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Cherry Fritted Yogurt Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Taco In a Bag Lettuce & Tomato Refried Beans Pineapple Cinnamon Puff	<b>9</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Mim Waffles Sausage Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Peas Roll	<b>10</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Strawberry Pancakes Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Meatball Sub Ranch Potatoes Salad Grapes	<b>11</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Biscuit & Gravy Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Turkey Sandwich Lettuce & Tomato Fries Applesauce Frosted Cake
<b>14</b>	<b>Breakfast:</b> Bagel Cheese Sticks Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Corn Dog Fries Green Beans Fruit Cocktail Snackdoodle	<b>15</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> French Toast Sticks Sausage Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Quesadilla Tortilla Chips Black Bean & Corn Salsa Refried Beans Peaches	<b>16</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Breakfast Burrito Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Cavanti Corn Salad Mandarin Oranges Roll	<b>17</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Ham & Cheese Omelet Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Taco Soup Tortilla Chips Broccoli Florets Tropical Fruit	<b>18</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Biscuit & Gravy Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Rib B Que Lettuce & Tomato Sweet Fries Apple Slices Brownie
<b>21</b>	<b>Breakfast:</b> Pancake On a Stick Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Chicken Sandwich Potato Chips Lettuce & Tomato Pineapple Chocolate Chip Cookie	<b>22</b> <b>Breakfast:</b> Breakfast Pizza Fruit Juice <b>Lunch:</b> Baked Ham Cheesy Potatoes Green Beans Cinnamon Jeil-O Roll Ice Cream	<b>23</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b>	<b>24</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b>	<b>25</b> <b>SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b> 
<b>28</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b>	<b>29</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b>	<b>30</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b>	<b>31</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>WINTER BREAK</b>	<i>This institution is an equal opportunity provider.</i>