

# Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center

Julie Roberts  
Principal

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January 2020

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## Welcome 2020

Dear Seymour Smith Community:

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of our Seymour Smith ILC families a very happy, healthy new year. I hope your holiday was relaxing and filled with memories to cherish with families and friends. Our second quarter is wrapping up, which means we're almost halfway through the year! Can you believe it?! At the end of the month we will be conducting mid-year assessments in ELA and Math. I want to encourage all of our students during this time of increasing expectations, that it is your best effort we are asking for, and as long as you put that forth, we are happy with who you are growing up to be. I also want to recognize students effort to earn our ROARS Award. Nominations will be made this month by homeroom teachers. It's important to honor the character and leadership that is cultivated through perseverance and fortitude throughout each of our student's lives.

As many of us make resolutions in the new year, I encourage each of our students to set goals for themselves, write them down, and share them with their families, friends, and teachers for support. Reflect upon what dreams we have for ourselves and others, and continue to work hard to develop our talents and areas of challenge. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

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*Seymour Smith ROARS*

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## Upcoming Events

### January 2

School resumes

### January 7

Student Council meets

### January 8

BOE meeting

### January 13

Building Leadership Meeting

### January 14

PTA @ CS 3:45

### January 15

5<sup>th</sup> grade Ashokan Parent Meeting

### January 20

No School

### January 21

Mid-year assessments begin

Student Council meets

### January 22

BOE Meeting

### January 23

PTA's Math & Science Night

### January 27

Safety Team meets

### January 31

PTA's Spirit Day

Report Cards go home

## School Closings and Delays

The *Blackboard* notification system is in use for communicating school closings and delays. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding *Blackboard* please feel free to contact Central Office at 518-398-7181 extension 1410. Closing and Delay messages are also displayed on the district website at [www.ppcsd.org](http://www.ppcsd.org), as well as recorded on the SSILC Auto-Attendant Phone messaging system at (518) 398-3000.

## Math & Science Night

Save the date - January 23<sup>rd</sup>! The PTA is sponsoring Math & Science Night filled with fun hands-on learning activities for elementary students! This is a family event, no drop-offs, please. For more information or to volunteer, contact the PTA [pineplainselementaryPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:pineplainselementaryPTA@yahoo.com)

## Career Day

We are still looking for volunteers for Career Day on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am. Please contact the Main Office if you are interested! Involvement includes about a 5-10 minute presentation about your occupation, interest, skills, education, and experience to 3 groups, for each grade level (4).

## Make a Crystal Garden

Snowflakes and diamonds are real world examples of crystals. Need something to do on a snowday? You can make a crystal garden with egg shells, salt, and boiling water. Add some food coloring and you've got a science experiment! As the salt dissolves, the water molecules drive apart the salt molecules. When the water evaporates, the salt molecules go back together forming a regular geometric pattern called a crystal. Have your child check the shells twice a day and record what they see. Over several days, colorful crystals will form!

## Toys, Electronic Devices and Other Items from Home

The school provides adequate amount of age appropriate materials, toys and games for indoor and outdoor recess. Trading toys and games in school or on the bus is not allowed. As a result, it is recommended that your child save his or her favorite toys (i.e., electronics, video games, action figures) for home, thus preventing lost or broken items.

Student cell phones and electronic devices, (i.e., mobile technologies such as portable readers and tablets) are not permitted without written parent permission. The school cannot be responsible for the loss or destruction of such items. This policy is listed in the Parent Folder you received on the first day of school. If you have any questions regarding the classroom or school guidelines for these items, please feel free to call us.