

TRIM LINE



BEYOND THE STIX

SENIOR SUNRISE. The Class of 2026 gathers on the first day of school for Senior Sunrise. This has been a tradition for Stanton Seniors for the last several years. "It was a good start to the school year for our class," Senior Skyler Siebrandt said.



BY SENIOR RYLAN HANSEN

In Stanton, gravel roads carve their way through open fields and the sunrise stretches forever. We know greatness doesn't need bright city lights to shine. "Beyond the Stix" — we prove that big dreams grow strong even in small places.

We are a small town where everyone knows each other, and students can work directly within the community providing support and service. Teachers and staff know students by name, and the community shows up to support activities, games, and events.

"Being from a small town has led to so many opportunities that I wouldn't have had anywhere else," Freshman Joshua Armbruster said.

As a yearbook staff, we have worked hard to create coverage that captures the entire school, featuring great photos that are sure to document the best of our year.

This year we've pushed limits, crossed boundaries, and chased what came next. "The environment here is so friendly, and it

makes it easy to socialize and build relationships," Senior Taenen Ketelsen said.

From classrooms to courts, from concerts to competitions, we've shown that the "Stix" aren't the end of the map — they are just the journey.

We're proud of where we come from, and even prouder of where we're going. Opportunity isn't something we can wait for—it's something we step up to. Stanton students are heavily involved in school activities and have learned by doing, having perseverance and the confidence to grow with every risk they have taken. We have learned from our mistakes and have taken chances that were built through the challenges we've faced. "I feel very prepared for what the future holds, and excited to see what it brings," Senior Emerson Vogel said.

"Beyond the Stix" means understanding that our future isn't defined by where we come from, but by the work ethic, character, and determination we carry with us. Wherever the road leads—college campuses, careers, or communities—we take Stanton with us, grounded in where we started and ready for what's ahead— "Beyond the Stix."

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LANTERNS & LEGENDS

Every journey "Beyond the Stix" needs a light to follow, and these are ours. We are the Lanterns who've lit the path, glowing bright with curiosity, courage, and kindness. Our Legends are those stories that will continue long after our lockers close and the hallways fall quiet.



From preschool through senior year, each name is part of our journey; a spark in our shared sky, a reminder that even the smallest light can shine far beyond the fields that raised it.

"In our small school, we feel we can get more done," Senior Taenen Ketelsen said. "Teachers aren't worried about statistics, but instead care to build connections with the students, regardless if they teach them or have taught them," Senior Skyler Siebrandt said.

Teachers and staff enjoy watching us grow from elementary students, into the young adults we will become as we prepare to leave high school. In the Stix, we don't just grow up — we glow up. And together, we carry our lanterns into the world, leaving a trail of legends in our wake.

CANOEING THROUGH THE COURSES

From the calm stretches of English to the rapids of math, from history's winding bends to the currents of science, this is where we learned to navigate. "Some days were tougher than others, but every class was a great experience to learn new things," Freshman Cooper Fox said.

Each class was a paddle stroke, each project a course correction, guiding us forward through the waters of knowledge. "Although I had work release for half the day, I learned a lot in the morning classes that I could take into the job field with me," Senior Tiffanee Glaser said.



Here "Beyond the Stix" we discovered that learning isn't just about reaching the shore — it's about the journey, the challenges, and the teamwork along the way. "In the shop, we learned to work together as a team to complete our projects," Junior Damon Dubas said.

As we canoe through these pages, we celebrate the lessons, the laughter, and the growth that carried us beyond the familiar banks into new horizons.

HUNTING FOR A WIN

Here in Stanton our fields stretch as wide as the Elkhorn River. Within our land we have a hunger to hunt down a win.

We've learned that success doesn't come easy— it takes focus, strategy, and heart. Every game, every meet, every match was a hunt: for teamwork, for skill, and for the thrill of the win. "Our chemistry was really good this year in Junior High Boys Basketball," Eighth Grader Levi Hekrdle said. "We only lost one game."

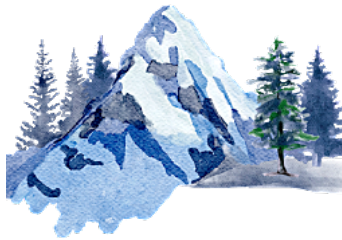


From early morning practices to late nights under stadium lights, our athletes carried the spirit of the Stix into every challenge. When not on the court, field, mat, or course, our athletes are lifting weights and watching film, proving that dedication knows no boundaries.

"Perseverance is where we learn the most," Senior Rylan Hansen said. "It teaches us to be better people, which will prepare us for the future." As you turn these pages, celebrate the perseverance, the triumphs, and the moments that took our talents and skills "Beyond the Stix."

SUMMIT OF SUCCESS

Every activity, every performance, every contest was a step up the hill. A sometimes steep, sometimes winding hill that led us to the summit of success. Here "Beyond the Six" we learned that reaching the top isn't just about the peak it's about, the climb, the teamwork, the friendships, and the experiences that keep us going when the path gets tough. "Being in activities is like being in a family away from home," Senior Karsyn Dusatko said. "When coming early for Jazz Band, I looked forward to Mr. Nathan bringing us breakfast."



These pages celebrate the students who dared to be involved, take the lead, and succeed. "Activities help to teach us leadership and responsibility," Junior Chase Schwartz said.

From early morning Jazz Band/Choir Rehearsals, to photographing on-the-road games, to late night One Act rehearsals, our students are involved in more than activities, they're involved in a culture that is driven by determination and perseverance. "I'm involved in a lot of activities," Junior Mia Sherman said. "It gives me a chance to excel in all my talents."

CAMPFIRE CHRONICLES



Around the flickering glow of friendship, laughter, and tradition, we've shared moments that will last far "Beyond the Stix." Homecoming, Prom, Middle School and Junior High Dance, and the Eighth Grade Musical were all events that ignited a spark. They added a log to our fire. "Although the Homecoming Dance was short, I danced with friends and people I didn't even know," Sophomore Bergan Pohlman said.

These pages hold the chronicles of our time together; the memories that warmed our hearts, the milestones we celebrated, and the connections that lit our way. Although not all occasions shared happy memories, it is the tears of goodbyes at graduation and the farewells of staff that dimmed our flame. "It's hard to say good-bye to my friends who are underclassmen and will be left behind," Senior Kylie Allemang said.

As we move forward, it's the memories, friendships, and photos that will tell the stories we will share by the campfire, that will guide us back home. "This year I had a lot of Instagram worthy memories to document my senior year," Senior Evan Koenig said.

HIKING FOR ACHIEVEMENT

Achievement isn't handed out at the beginning of the trail, instead it is earned step by step and climb by climb. Here "Beyond the Stix" every honor, achievement, and award recognizes the dedication, grit, and determination of our students, who are always moving forward when the path gets steep. "I worked really hard to get the grades I got," Seventh Grader Charlee Tuttle said. "I've been on the honor-roll since the fifth grade."



Students are appreciated for their achievements throughout the year. Those involved in the fine arts as well as athletics receive awards to acknowledge their triumphant efforts to the programs they have participated in. Seniors are awarded their graduation chords and are reminded of the commitment they have maintained in their hike through high school. "Such a surreal moment," Senior Claire Melcher said, "It makes me nervous for the big day."

These pages honor the students who embraced the challenge and scaled their personal peaks. They reached heights that inspire us all. From small victories and monumental honors to Outstanding Performers and Hall-of-Fame inductees, their journey reminds us that the view from the top is always worth the climb.