

Jack D. Moles

Superintendent
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SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles



I would like to take this opportunity to discuss a few unrelated items for the sake of providing information that normally is not passed on to our patrons. I would just like to provide the opportunity to get a brief glimpse into “how things work”.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

I have a committee of teachers help me develop the calendar each year. This committee is made up of one representative each from the high school, middle school, and from both of our elementary sites. Some points we look at in our discussion:

1. I provide the committee with some “absolutes”—things that need to be on the calendar or things that need to be avoided. The teachers have a 186-day contract year, so we must include 186 work days. We also try to include some “in-service” days where teachers have an opportunity to work together on curricular issues throughout the year. We also try to get the number of days per semester to be as even as possible, but this is not exact. We normally have more days in second semester.
2. One issue that the Board of Education and I have decided we should try to do is to honor both the Otoe and Johnson County Fairs. We believe it is important for our students and staff to have the opportunity to take part in the fairs. We have tweaked this in different ways in the past, with the coming year offering us another way to deal with this. Since the Friday of the Johnson County Fair is the most important to some, we will not have a teacher workday that day. We will push the start of school back another day as a result. As a result of honoring the two county fairs our calendar often does not resemble the calendars of neighboring districts.
3. I always ask the committee what they want Christmas break to look like. Amazingly, this does define what our calendar looks like as much, or more, than anything else we consider.
4. People often ask me how many “snow days” we have built into the schedule. Actually, the state requires us to provide a certain number of hours of instruction (1080 for grades 7-12, 1054 for elementary). There is no set number of days a school must be in session. Of course, if we missed extended days we do consider having school on some of our days off later in the year. For example, we could choose to have classes on an in-service day or one of the days of spring break. I do not like the concept of simply tacking on days at the end of the year, as I think better learning opportunities are provided earlier in the semester.

After the committee has helped me develop a rough draft, I then share it with the Principals for their input. After considering input from the Principals, I then take a recommended calendar to the Board of Education for adoption.

STAFFING

Changes in the teaching staff are based on the needs of our students. The Board of Education has been very supportive of providing the teaching staff that is needed. Over the past seven years we have made the many different moves, all based on what is best for kids. Some of the types of moves we have made include:

1. We have had some staff leave who we did not replace. We simply chose to “absorb” the loss of a teaching position and spread out the duties that teacher had. When this happens, we obviously see a cost reduction.
2. We have added in a position. The most recent example of this was the hiring of an “alternative education” teacher this year. This move was made to provide for students for whom the traditional classroom setting might not be the most optimal setting for them. Obviously, adding in a new position results in a cost increase.
3. We have shifted the duties of teachers. An example of this occurred when we made the decision a few years ago to add in a Reading Teacher in the elementary who would help all students in reading instruction. We downsized from three to two sections of some elementary grades, resulting in the ability to create the Reading Teacher position.
4. We have added in a position to offset costs that were going to another source. The Board of Ed recently approved the contract for a Speech Pathologist for next school year. In the past we have contracted through ESU 4 in Auburn. ESU 4 had worked to provide for the needs of our students but was having a hard time finding the trained personnel we needed. I recommended to the Board that we try to hire our own Speech Pathologist, as we have a definite need. Luckily, we were able to hire our own teacher. This will result in meeting the needs of our students, while also providing a cost reduction for these services.

In considering non-certificated staff members, we have looked at ways to keep costs down, while at the same time remaining true to the concept of providing for our students as best as possible. The most direct way in which we provide for our students academically is through the use of paraprofessionals, or teachers’ aides. These individuals do a wonderful job of helping all of our students. We have seen an increase in the number of aides we use over the past several years, but this is in direct correlation to our growing student needs in areas such as Special Education and ELL (English Language Learners). We are also trying to respond to needs based on poverty and student mobility. Each year the administrators, along with input from teachers, identify our biggest needs, then determine how our aides can best be utilized. At times the administrators go to the Board with recommendations that call for an increase in the number of aides. Again, we try to minimize adding, but at times this cannot be avoided.



SAFETY AND SECURITY

An issue patrons may have noticed is being considered by the Board of Education is improving safety and security measures at the school. We see need for upgrades. The current ideas we are considering include:

1. Secured main accesses. A project we are considering is installing “buzz in” systems in the main entrances of each of the three main buildings. We also may install “card” or “fob” access systems on other entrances so staff members can have easier access.
2. Security cameras. I have recommended placing cameras at our main entrances, in hallways with lockers, restrooms, and locker rooms, some main outdoor areas, and in areas with more potential for injury (gyms, weight rooms, etc.).
3. Improved classroom locks. Although all classroom doors can be locked, some do not provide the safest way to lock the door if there was an incident in the building.
4. Improved camera systems on buses. Although we have cameras on our buses, improving the system is still under consideration.

As stated earlier, these are some issues that the general public likely knows we discuss, but do not really have a background into how or why we made decisions. I hope this provides a little insight.

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL RICK LESTER

At JCC we’ve completed three quarters of our school year and now we’re heading into one of the busiest times of the year. Spring practices have begun and these activities keep our students super busy.

At this time we are finishing up our MAPS testing. These tests gage our student’s strengths and weaknesses in Reading, Math, Science and Language. Our teachers can address content strengths and weaknesses and structure their curriculum to gear towards improving our students’ weaknesses. We use MAPS testing in the fall and spring, and our goal is to see improved scores for the students between these testing times.

If we have students who don’t reach the proficiency score on their Science, Math or Reading MAPS test, we strongly encourage them to take Applied Chemistry, Applied Geometry or Applied Literacy Concepts (Reading Class). These three classes are especially geared towards aiding these students to obtain a better knowledge of the content and build a stronger foundation in these curriculum areas so they can become more proficient in the classroom and achieve better test scores in the future.

All students in grades 8th– 11th have pre-registered for the 2014-2015 school year. After tallying the students’ class requests, I will then line up the teachers’ preps. Mrs. Moles will then work with power school in placing the classes in a workable schedule to accommodate all high school students. We hope to have this done in the next month.

Prom is one of the most elaborate activities occurring this spring and it is set for Saturday, March 29, 2014 in the high school gym. The junior class has been working hard on the design and preparation of this event. The format will generally remain the same with our Johnson County Sheriff department administering breathalyzer tests before prom and before post prom. Post prom will be a fun after party in Omaha sponsored by junior and senior parents.

Richard Bacon, Middle School Principal/Athletic Director

Parent-Teacher Conferences were held on March 18th & 19th marking the end of the third quarter. We had a decent turnout this spring with over 50% of our Middle School students represented. For those parents who were unable to attend Parent-Teacher Conferences, report cards have been sent home with your child. I encourage those parents to make contact with their child's teachers to get clarification on how their student is doing in all areas of their education, not just grades. This important interaction between teacher and parent can benefit the student immensely when utilized.

Students will be taking a number of Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) tests through the month of April. These assessments are very important for our students and the district. Results from these assessments provide data which help guide curriculum decisions for our district. Results from these assessments will also be used to help determine a student's academic placement for the next school year. As the testing dates approach, there are some test-taking strategies and some things parents can do to help their children be successful on these assessments:

- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a good breakfast the morning of the tests.
- Have your child dress in layers – studies show children do better on assessments if they don't have to think about how hot or cold they are.
- Encourage your child to practice the following test-taking strategies: Skip a question and move on if you don't know the answer - you can always come back to that question later; Check your answers carefully; Make sure the numbers of your answers correspond to the numbers of the questions on the test; Encourage your child to read on the days leading up to the test. The easiest and best way to prepare your child to do well on tests is to have them read often.
- Encourage your child to take the tests seriously. A lot of important decisions regarding your children are made based on data we receive from these tests. If students don't give their best effort on the standardized tests, much of our data will be invalid, making it difficult to make decisions that will be in the best interests of our students.
- Keep a good attitude. Think positively!

Girls and boys track and the boys golf seasons have begun. The track teams have already gotten off to a strong start this spring with the boys winning the Nebraska Wesleyan Indoor meet. You will have multiple opportunities to catch our athletes in action as JCC will serve as host for the following meets this spring:

MUDECAS High School Championship – Saturday, April 5

Thunderbird Track Invitational – Tuesday, April 8

JCC JH Track Invitational – Thursday, April 24

Thunderbird JH Track Invitational – Thursday, May 1

JCC Golf Invitational – Thursday, May 8

JCC Track Invitational – Friday, May 9

Class C-2 District Championship – Thursday, May 15

Support your teams and Johnson County Central athletes with your attendance at these home events and watch competition at its best. GO THUNDERBIRDS!

The 2013-2014 Johnson County Central Athletic Banquet will be held on Monday, April 28th, starting at 6:30 p.m. This year's banquet will be organized by the Thunderbird Booster Club and will include a potluck dinner. We have had an outstanding year in athletics again this year. Our sports teams all had very competitive seasons and represented themselves and our school very well. In addition to the team successes, we've also had many individuals who have achieved some impressive honors and earned trips to their respective state tournaments. Congratulations and thank you to all athletes and coaches for their hard work and commitment to the overall success of our athletic program.



Elementary News

J O H N S O N C O U N T Y C E N T R A L

As the School Year Winds Down and we ramp up for Summer!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- April 2 & 3—4th & 5th Grade NeSA Reading Test.
- April 3—Kindergarten Round-Up.
- April 8 & 9—4th and 5th Grade NeSA Math Test.
- April 9 & 10—3rd Grade NeSA Reading Test.
- April 15 & 16—5th Grade NeSA Science Test.
- April 18—NO SCHOOL.
- April 21—NO SCHOOL.
- April 24—NO SCHOOL.
- April 25—3rd Grade Field Trip to Omaha Zoo.
- April 25—2nd Grade Field Trip to Arbor Day Farm.
- April 29 & 30—3rd Grade NeSA Math Test.

As the school year is beginning to wind down, (I think we'll have about 6 to 7 weeks left when this is published.) there are a few things to keep in mind before the summer break begins.

ACADEMICS

One of our top priorities for our students is their education. This will continue to be our focus up to the last days of school. As the softball and baseball teams begin to hit the fields for practice, we will still expect students to keep up with their studies and get adequate sleep. Starting in late April and early May, students in grades Kindergarten through 11th grade will be taking their MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Assessments. These are important assessments for us, as they show each student's academic growth for the school year. This information helps us to bolster curriculum or give students help where needed.

BILLS/FEES/BOOKS

Please keep in contact with the Elementary Office for any payments due for the end of the year. To help finalize the school year and get report cards sent out, we need to have all bills and fees paid up. Also, check to make sure that your child has returned all their library and text books to the school.

FIELD TRIPS

If your child has not yet had their field trip, it is probably coming up. If you have questions or concerns about your child's field trip, please contact your classroom teacher. Remember, field trips are not mandatory. If behaviors are a concern, students may be asked to stay at the school the day of the field trip. When your child attends a field trip, they not only represent our school, but they represent you as well. I want our students to be remembered as kind,

considerate and well-behaved.

SUMMER READING/LEARNING

Although not required by school in the summer, reading is a great way for your child to continue to learn and develop their academic skills. Along with summer comes summer vacations and ball games. The travel time to get to these events is a great time to have students either read aloud to you or a sibling, or to spend some silent reading time. If math is a concern, check out the resources of book stores such as Barnes & Noble. You can find lots of academic games and resources for your children. If you don't want to spend the money, talk with any of the teachers at our school about summer resources. Either way, it's a great investment in your student!



April

February Thunderbirds!

Kindergarten—Trever Bohling, Catherine Wendt, Marisol Mandl, Saige Rother, Wes Swanson, Tyler Wright, Kaiden Dorn, Hope Larsen, Jamie Newcomb, Madison VanLaningham **1st Grade**—David Campos, Salena Conley, Kali Drake, Madison Jansen, Keegan Jones, Rue Kuhl, Maecee Neemann, Memphis Pingel, Jocelyn Prado, Juanita Grobler, Destiny Jazbec, Lexi Robeson, Alivia Tenney **2nd Grade**—Kyle Bartels, Michael Bernadt, Ava Buggi, Wyatt Ludemann, Sun-

nie Rother, Kaitlyn Schuster, Keven Silos, Kollin Strayhorn, Sergio Valles, Keegan Woodcook, Arely Cabrales, Lorie Sofia Durst, Ava Klein, Kaitlynn Plager, Bailee Sterup, Maya Straka **3rd Grade**—Melissa Lowther, Cameron Schuster, Hayden Huskey, Aiden Weber, Ivan Arellano, Katelyn Beehe, Mazzie Benedict, Erika Cabrales, Tucker Drake, Kaiden Maynez, Chayce Oenbring, Daisy Ortiz, Cole Robeson, Tatum Rutledge **4th Grade**—Marisol Bobadilla,

Saydee Hardesty, Madison Pingel, Isabella Wolter, Francisco Xayaphonesongkham, Jordan Albrecht, Treyton Holthus, Matthew Jansen, Vanessa Jimenez, Lane Othmer, Emma Walters, Kobe Wilken **5th Grade**—Chloe Curry, Jack Leuenberger, Miguel Orozco, Zadi Plager, Ashley Gilliam, Devin Conley, Jason Kettelhake, Kylie Kleespies, Hayley Neemann, Saylor Rother

Counselor News by Shelley Moles

“Dedicated to encouraging a Journey of excellence Creating lifelong learners and Citizens for tomorrow.”

Spring College Fairs in Omaha and Lincoln:

Omaha Area College Fair, Sunday, April 6, 1-3 p.m., University of Nebraska at Omaha and Lincoln Area College Fair, Sunday April 13, 1-3 p.m., Southeast Community College-Lincoln.

The fairs will feature representatives from colleges across the state, region, and nation. This is a great opportunity for students-especially juniors and sophomores-to begin their college selection process.

Before attending, students should register for a barcode at NebraskaCollegeFairs.org, print the barcode and take it to the fair so that college representatives can scan their demographic information.

Summer Opportunities for High School Students:

Unicameral Youth Legislature: is June 8-11, 2014, and is open to all high school students. The Unicameral Youth Legislature is the ultimate opportunity to learn what it is like to serve as a state senator. Students will discover the unique process of our nation's only unicameral by sponsoring bills, conducting committee hearings and debating legislation at the Nebraska State Capitol. Students will conduct their legislative duties in the historic Warner Chamber, the former home of the Nebraska Senate, which was closed to the public in 1937. Registration includes lodging, meals (including lunch at the Governor's Mansion), and transportation from UNL's East Campus to the State Capitol. The deadline to register is May 15. Early-bird registration is \$325. \$100 scholarships are available. For more information or to register, visit the website NebraskaLegislature.gov/uyl or contact Ami Johnson at 402-471-0764 or ajohnson@leg.ne.gov.

UNMC Summer Health Professions Career Workshop: will be held at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) on Tuesday, July 29 – Friday, August 1, 2014. This workshop is designed to give students the opportunity to investigate different health careers through a hands-on learning program. Students entering their junior year, who have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and who have an interest in the health professions are invited to apply. (Maximum enrollment is 14 students.) Cost for the program is \$275 which includes: breakfast, lunch and snacks while on the UNMC Campus during the day, program costs and fees, transportation while in Omaha and chaperone and dorm room expenses. Students will be housed in dormitory rooms at the Scott's Residence Hall at UNO. Completed applications are due back to UNMC by June 2, 2014. Please contact Mrs. Moles for an Application and more information.

Health Career Camp 2014: Experience a hands-on introduction to health care careers at Bryan College of Health Sciences in Lincoln, July 7-11 or July 21-25, 2014. To participate, students must be a high school student age 16 or older, be interested in a health career and enjoy science classes. Camp activities include seeing “Human Body Specimens,” a sleep lab, and your kidney, spleen or beating heart, experiencing ultrasounds and Skills Lab demonstrations such as starting an IV, providing basic wound care, inserting an NG tube, and starting a Foley Catheter, as well as, shadowing a health care professional. Applications are available from Mrs. Moles or at <http://www.bryanhealth.com/HealthCareerCamp>. Applications must be completed and returned with a \$50 non-refundable deposit by April 25. Qualified applicants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. The cost of \$350 includes lunches, scrub uniforms, supplies, transportation to field trips and bowling and pizza social activity. Ten scholarship spots are available courtesy of Woods Charitable Foundation.

Stanford Pre-College Summer Institute and Summer College for High School Students: Programs offer highly motivated and intellectually curious students the opportunity to explore and discover topics not typically taught in secondary schools. In the Summer Institute, students who are ages 14-17, will engage in 3-4 week intensive study single-subject courses. Courses in areas that range from biotechnology to entrepreneurship and creative writing are customized to give students deep exposure and hands-on experience. At Summer College, students from around the world, ages 16-19, will choose from more than 125 college courses in 30 academic departments, earning undergraduate course credit and an official Stanford University transcript.

To learn more about both programs and their application process, visit: <http://spcs.stanford.edu/explore>. Limited financial aid is available.

2014 Health/Science Careers “College Bootcamp”: offered by Southeast Nebraska Area Health Education Center and Doane College for high school students May 28-30 at Doane College-Crete campus. Participating students will perform team building and leadership exercises, create and receive feedback on resumes and interview skills for college and jobs, perform a “strengths” assessment and learn to use their strengths, receive detailed information on how to be successful in college courses (emphasis on science courses), actively participate in study skills exercises, and meet several health-care professionals and students. Camp will begin at 9:30 a.m and conclude no later than 4 p.m. each day. Lunch will be provided and is included in the \$50 camp fee. Fee also includes all handouts, notes, books, etc. Deadline for camp registration is April 28, 2014. See Mrs. Moles for application packet. Camp is limited to 25 applicants and only complete applications will be considered.

2014 Big Red Academic Camps: These career exploration camps are a chance for students to explore the UNL campus, meet people from across the country, spend time investigating an interest or potential career and have lots of fun. The camps are held June 8-13, 2014 (except as noted) and are intended for students entering grades 10-12 in the fall 2014, (Students who graduate in May 2014 are also welcome to attend.) The camps available for 2014 and the tuition costs (if submitted by April 1st) are: Animal Science (\$450), Crop Science (\$475), Culinary Arts and Food Science (\$575), Education (\$600), Engineering (\$500), Fashion Design (\$525), Filmmaking (\$600), Outdoor Nebraska (\$500), Unicameral Youth Legislature (June 8-11, \$325) and Veterinary Science (\$600). Camps are residential camps - all food and housing will be provided for all participants throughout the duration of the camp. Online registration is available at bigredcamps.unl.edu. For any questions, e-mail pjeffries1@unl.edu or call 402-472-9017.

2014 Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute: The 2014 Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI) is an excellent program that expands high school students’ understanding of agriculture. Key elements of NAYI Leadership development, critical thinking, and decision making skills, along with the opportunity to interact with other youth interested in the future of agriculture.. This year NAYI will be held July 7-11, 2014, on UNL East Campus. This year's theme is “Making the Connection.”

Knowledgeable speakers will strive to motivate and educate the delegates by addressing current agricultural issues and pointing out the many opportunities this industry has to offer. One of the more popular events is the computer-simulated farm management program which challenges the delegates to work together as teams to manage their own farms. There will also be time for group discussions and interactions, as well as, a variety of evening activities.

Interested juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply. Selection of delegates will be based on leadership skills, interest, and involvement in agriculture. All meals, lodging, and conference fees during the NAYI are provided for the selected delegates. (FREE!) Apply on-line at www.nda.nebraska.gov. Applications are due April 15, 2014.

Career Exploration: Architecture, Landscape Arch & Interior Design Summer Workshop: This high school workshop is held on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus June 8-14, 2014. The workshop provides learning opportunities in the form of design studio explorations, seminars and discussions, field trips and film presentations. As part of the workshop, students will visit professional offices, learn about various career opportunities, and develop fundamental skills necessary for the study of design. The program is designed for young men and women who have completed 2 year or more years of their high school education and are interested in pursuing architecture, landscape or interior design. The fee of \$585/participant includes studio supplies, program fees, meals and lodging. Application form, recommendations and essay are due April 7, 2014. Reserved space for 36 students in the workshop. See Mrs. Moles for additional information and application form.

NeSA Testing

The following is the NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) Schedule for the Cook Site.

NeSA Reading

Grades 7 & 8: Wednesday, March 26 and Thursday March 27

Grades 4, 5, & 6: Wednesday, April 2 and Thursday April 3

NeSA Math

Grades 4, 5, & 6: Tuesday, April 8 and Wednesday, April 9

Grades 7 & 8: Thursday, April 10 and Friday, April 11

NeSA Science

Grades 5 & 8: Tuesday, April 15 and Wednesday, April 16

Middle School College Visits



The 8th grade class was fortunate to receive grant funding from Education Quest to participate in college visits at Southeast Community College at Milford and Nebraska Wesleyan at Lincoln. Students had a wonderful time learning about the college application process, prerequisites to attend college, and expectations of students at college. On Wednesday, April 23, the 8th grade students will have an opportunity to spend the morning at Doane College as part of the AHEC program (Southeast Area Health Education Center).

Students will learn about the various medical careers available to study at college, the benefits of attending college and have an opportunity to sit in a college classroom during a lecture. Students will visit the laboratories and have a chance to visit with professors at Doane.

JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
THIRD QUARTER HONOR ROLL
2013-2014

Seniors

Diana Andrade
Sonia Arellano
Grant Badertscher (All A's)
Brent Beethe
Emma Berkebile
Hanna Borrenpohl
Kylie Crane
Alexis Dorn
Taylor Dudley
Courtney Eltiste (All A's)
Madalyn Henne
Lauren Klaasmeyer (All A's)
Tiffany Neukirch
Michaela Pooch
Ivy Rutledge
Tyler Speckmann (All A's)
Leah Tubbesing
Michael Werner

Juniors

Tristan Attebery
Lacey Badertscher
Kaycee Bartels (All A's)
Melissa Bausch (All A's)
Rebecca Bernadt
Isaac Buss (All A's)
Michael Clark (All A's)
Erika Hunzeker (All A's)
Kelsie Kaster (All A's)
Michael Purcell (All A's)
Daisy Ramirez (All A's)
Cody Rieken
Ryan Teten
Lindsay Weber (All A's)

Honor Roll:

Students earn no class
grade lower than a "B"

Sophomores

Jesus Castor
Mitchell Faris
Aaron Johnson
Edward Li
Nathan Liberty
Karina Martinez
Keelee McClintock
Grant Moles (All A's)
Bryan Murphy
Rudy Pooch
Matthias Ruess
Bryce Sahs
Austin Valenzuela

Freshmen

Marissa Borrenpohl (All A's)
Carlos Cabrales
Schyler DeFreece (All A's)
Sara Kettelhake (All A's)
Courtney Klaasmeyer
Keaton Kleespies (All A's)
Sopha Kongmanyvong (All A's)
Spencer Kuhl
Madison Panko
Jesse Reyes
Tevin Rosekrans
Samuel Saldivar
Angelica Wellman

Honor Roll with Distinction

Students earn at least a 94%
average with all A's and a
maximum of one "B"

**Johnson County Central Middle School Honor Roll
Third Quarter 2013-2014**

Grade 8

Johan Arellano
Armando Cabrales
Charla Eggleston (All A's)
***MacKenzie Eltiste**
Taylor Gerdes
Nicholas Goracke (All A's)
Chase Graham
Vanhna Kongmanyvong
Sierra McClintock (All A's)
***Aleisha McDonald**
Macey Pietzyk
Tyllar Roesener
***Hannah Swanda**

Grade 7

Sarai Ares
***Connor Bartels**
Andrew Beethe (All A's)
Grace Clark (All A's)
***Hailey Clark**
Erika Cruz
Alexis Graham
Kole Kleespies (All A's)
Corral McClintock
Jordan Rodriguez
***Simon Rother**
Tyler Sedersten

Grade 6

Abbigail Balfour
***Carrie Beethe**
Samuel Buss
Gabriel DeFreece
Tanner Kerner
Tucker Liberty
Demetrius Murray
Eli Waring (All A's)
***Jacob Wolter**

Honor Roll students have no grade lower than a B.

***Honor Roll with distinction is based on student's having all A's with only one B.**

Family Fun Walk “Hawaiian” Style

By Mrs. Peters

The fifth annual Johnson County Coalition Family Fun Walk will be held at the Sterling Park on Sunday, May 18, 2014, from 1-3 p.m. Everyone is invited, young and old, so get out your Hawaiian style shirts and come for a healthy and fun time. Participants will receive a free t-shirt as supplies last!

The walking path is approximately ½ mile long, and for each lap you walk you will get a punch card and a chance to win free prizes. There are other activities to keep the kids busy as well. The Johnson County Sheriff's Dept. will be there too. When you are needing a break from the walking or just need some fuel for more energy, stop for a free snack and drink.

The county coalition is all about choosing a healthy lifestyle, so come join us for some fun exercise and maybe win some amazing prizes!

We'd like to thank all the businesses in Johnson County who helped support the Family Fun Walk! Without you this wouldn't be possible!



ELL NEWS FOR APRIL by Mrs. Weber

Spring is finally here and the students couldn't be more thrilled. This time of year is exciting as we anticipate the grass turning green, flowers blooming, the birds building nests, and, of course, the warm weather and sunshine. This is a great time for us to work on our descriptive language. Students in the high school and middle school have been working on expanding their vocabulary through synonyms. “It was a nice day” might be better described as “It was a glorious day”, or “It was a perfect day.”

Figurative language is also wonderful to discuss this time of year. Onomatopoeias can be found when we talk about what the baby animals say – such as the duck says “quack”. Many students are surprised to learn that the animals actually say different things in different languages. Alliterations can be found in “the big blue sky” and “dancing daffodils.” The students' favorite part so far was making and solving figurative language art puzzles.

As spring begins to bloom, I hope that you and your family can take the time to get outside and enjoy the beauty of nature, and talk about what you are seeing. This is a great way to stretch a student's vocabulary!

Happy Spring!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - FINAL COUNT
MRS. SALLY HUTT - COORDINATOR

This has been by far, the best year since we began collecting box tops. We ended with a total of over 27,000 box tops! Students, their families, and members of the JCCentral communities must be commended for making this possible! Thanks also for the help of Rachel & Emma Walters, Mrs. Bacon and the Middle School students who helped trim and count. AMAZING!

A SINCERE THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND DEDICATION TO THIS PROGRAM.
KEEP SAVING!

TITLE 1 - SALLY HUTT - K-3 - April 2014

A Parent Survey was conducted last month. Some of the survey results will follow.

One survey was sent home with the oldest student in all grades K-5. **One-hundred and one** surveys were distributed. **Eighty-five** surveys were answered and returned.

On questions 1-10, the survey asked whether the reader understood the Title 1 program, its purpose, whether or not the respondents experienced satisfaction with communication by Title 1 teachers, and how respondents rated their familiarity with the Parent Involvement Policy in the Handbook. Of those surveys returned, an average of 94% of those responses were YES. Concerning questions 11-13, the survey asked if help was needed from Title 1 with homework, whether more information or materials were needed and whether the reader would attend an annual meeting about Title 1. Of those surveys returned, an average of only 33% answered YES to the final three questions. The personal comments were very helpful and appreciated. We hope to improve our program using these results. Thank you for your time and thoughts.

Please contact Mrs. Grove - Grades 4-8 and Mrs. Sally Hutt - Grades K-3, with questions or suggestions about our school wide Title 1 program.

District Music Contest – Mr. Doran

On Thursday, April 24, 2014, JCC will again host District Music Contest for the C & D schools in district 1. The nine schools participating are: Falls City Sacred Heart, Diller-Odell, Freeman, Humboldt-Table Rock-Steinhauer, Johnson County Central, Lewiston, Parkview Christian, Pawnee City, & Sterling.

Instrumental judges for this year's contest are: Greg Olsen from Nebraska City High School, Steve Steager from Fremont Middle School, & Jim Johnson who is a retired band director. Vocal judges are Dr. Matthew Harden from UNO, Ann Moore from Lincoln Southeast, & Kelly Meyer from Beatrice High School.

One of the responsibilities of hosting districts is providing the workers to assist in the overall flow of the contest. Our JCC staff does a super job of helping make this contest run smoothly and we wouldn't be able to host as efficiently as we do without them!

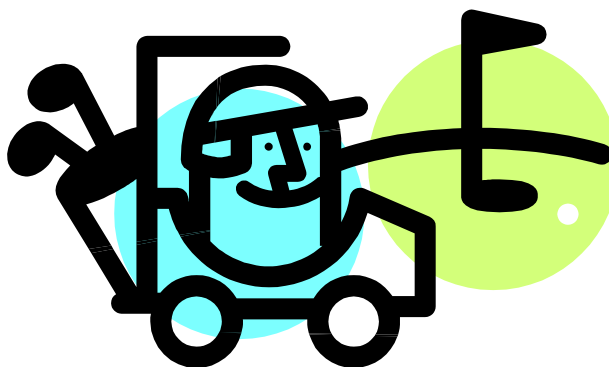
2014 FBLA State Leadership Conference

By Angie Huskey

On April 3rd, 25 students will depart Tecumseh for the FBLA State Leadership Conference (SLC) that will be held in Omaha, NE. The conference consists of business meetings, competitive events, seminars, workshops, election of state officers, awards, as well as a variety of other planned leadership and educational activities. Johnson County Central's FBLA members will be competing against over 2,500 of the best and brightest business students in the state of Nebraska for a chance to qualify and compete at the national level. This year's national competition will be held in June in Nashville, Tennessee.

At this year's SLC, there will be a variety of competitions that will be administered during the three-day competition. Contests in: Accounting, Business Calculations, Business Communications, Word Processing, Job Interview, Computer Problem Solving, Business Law, and Economics, Marketing, Personal Finance, Network Design, Sports Management, as well as a variety of Impromptu and Public Speaking events, among others, will be part of the three day conference.

In addition to the competitive events JCC-FBLA members will have the opportunity to listen to a variety of dynamic speakers and presentations. The presentations being offered at this year's competition will cover the following topics: becoming successful leaders, understanding IT security, marketing yourself through resumes and interviews, ethics, and positive decision making.



Boys golf by Rick Richard

The boys are looking forward to a great season. we have three players returning (Grant Badertscher, Brent Beethe, Tristan Attebery) who played in every varsity match last year. The leading contenders for the remaining spots are Mason Waring, Michael Clark , Ethan Clements, Tyson Parrish, and Ben Doeden, all of whom had excellent seasons on junior varsity last year. We are looking at a different schedule this year, with an upgrade in meets, adding Friend Invitational and Nebraska City Invitational .

The rest of the players looking for playing time include Luis Ramirez, Garret Badertscher, Michael Purcell, Cody Rieken, and Alex King. Freshmen who are on the team are Keaton Kleespies, and Jonathan Cruz.

We are also very excited to have Ben Swanson helping coach the team this season. Ben is very knowledgeable and brings a tremendous amount of enthusiasm to the team.

Springtime in the Band Department

By: Emily Fricke

Spring is a busy time for the music department. All of the instrumental groups have numerous events coming up that we are preparing for, and some of the students have extra performances at contest they are working on as well.

The high school band is particularly busy this time of year. We are preparing for two contests, MUDECAS and District Music Contest, which are both being held here at JCC. Aside from both Concert and Jazz Band, there are students preparing for small ensembles and solos. Students choosing to perform in a small group or solo are Grant Moles, Joe Bailey, Taylor Dudley, Bryan Murphy, Isaac Buss, Annika McDonald, Justin Long, Eddie Li, Leah Tubbesing, Schyler De-Freece, Ethan Clements, Sara Kettlehake, Samantha Francois, and Natalie Roddy. We also have two students, Grant Moles and Eddie Li, who made it into Class C Allstate Band in Kearney on the 29th.

As for the middle school, we have a large number of students participating in small groups and ensembles as well as our full 6th grade and 7th/8th grade bands. These students are working very hard to prepare for their contest at HTRS on the 28th. Students participating in small groups and solos are Sam Buss, Trevor Young, Joe Rodriquez, Levi Dorsey, Caleb Eggleston, Tanner Kerner, Andruw Stafford, Jazi Ascheman, Colton Wellman, Carrie Beethe, Kole Kleespies, Simon Rother, Johnny Kongmanyvong, Aleisha McDonald, Charla Eggleston, Sierra McClintock, Taylor Gerdes, Hannah Swanda, Tyler Bartels, Erika Cruz, Carley Broadfoot, Grace Clark, Corral McClintock, Emalee North, Haley Beethe, Diana Cruz, Samantha Kuhl, and Sarai Ares. We also had two students, Sierra McClintock and Taylor Gerdes, make it into the Meridan Honor Band in Daykin, NE on April 4th.

April	4	Meridian MS Honor Choir and Band
	10	HS Pre-Contest Concert 7:00 pm
	24	HS District Music Contest in Tecumseh
May	5	HS Spring Concert and Art Show
	10	HS Band at Graduation



2014 Thunderbird Girls Track Preview

The 2014 version of the girls track team is entering this season with high expectations. A very strong core group returns from last season and with the addition of a very talented group of newcomers, there is a lot to be excited about for this season. The team is led by a group of three seniors that have been on the track team for four years and should not only score points for the team but also will be strong leaders. Returning state qualifiers Hanna Borrenpohl and Lauren Klaasmeyer will once again be expected to score points in the sprints and middle distance areas, while Michaela Pooch, who placed 3rd at districts last year, will once again be leading the way in the throws. Overall the girls team should be able to be successful in many different events across the board. On paper it appears that we should be able to have athletes medaling in about every event at meets this year.

Girls Track Roster

Seniors

Hanna Borrenpohl – Sprints/Long Jump/Hurdles
Lauren Klaasmeyer – Middle Distance/Triple Jump
Michaela Pooch - Throws
Leah Tubbesing – Student Manager

Juniors

Lacey Basertscher—Sprints/Long Jump
Kaycee Bartels—Sprints/Long & High Jump
Lindsay Weber—Throws
Shawna Othmer—Throws
Hanna Carnagey—Throws
Erika Hunzeker—Sprints/Throws

Sophomores

Cyndy Reyes – Sprints/Long Jump
Brittany Neukirch – Sprints/Pole Vault
Keelee McClintock – Middle Distance

Freshman

Erin Hunzeker—Middle Distance/High Jump/Hurdles
Annika McDonald—Middle Distance/Long & Triple Jump
Courtney Klaasmeyer—Throws
Tashayla Dorn—Sprints/Triple Jump
Angelica Wellman—Middle Distance/Long Jump/Hurdles
Marissa Borrenpohl—Sprints/High Jump

2014 Track & Field Schedule

3/22 – Nebraska Wesleyan Indoor
4/3 – Thayer Central Invite
4/5 – MUDECAS @ Home
4/8 – JCC Invite @ Home
4/22 – Tri-County Invite
4/29 – Falls City Invite
5/3 – ECNC @ Yutan
5/6 – Freeman Invite @ Doane
5/9 – Thunderbird Invite @ Home
5/15 – Districts @ Home
5/23 – State Track @ Omaha Burke
5/24 – State Track @ Omaha Burke

Boys Track by Dustin Buggi

JCC's 2014 boys track season looks to be an exciting one. With both state qualifiers (Jay Kuhns, Pole Vault and Spenser Sullivan, High Jump) returning and a good number of young athletes we look to be even more competitive this year. We have a good distribution of athletes spread throughout many events. We also have good competition for the top spots in the relays.

We did just participate in the Nebraska Wesleyan Indoor Track meet where we placed 1st place as a team. Here are those that placed and the time:

55m Dash

4th Nate Liberty 7.07

400m Dash

2nd Mitch Faris 55.80

800m Run

1st Justin Kuhns 2:13.40

3rd Jay Kuhns 2:22.80

1600m Run

4th Aaron Johnson 5:10.90

5th Samuel Saldivar 5:14.30

3200m Run

2nd Samuel Saldivar 11:09.9

3rd Aaron Johnson 11:28.10

55m Hurdles

3rd Nate Liberty 8.97

4x800m Relay

1st Garrett H., Ja. Kuhns, Ju. Kuhns, B. Johnson

High Jump

5th Spenser Sullivan 56

6th Mitch Faris 56

Pole Vault

1st Jay Kuhns 120

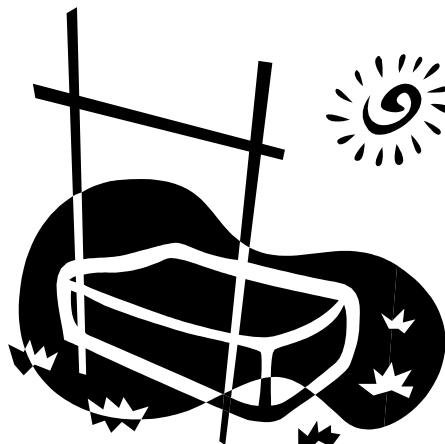
2nd Justin Kuhns 120

Triple Jump


4th Spenser Sullivan

Shot Put



5th Ryan Teten 44'1.5



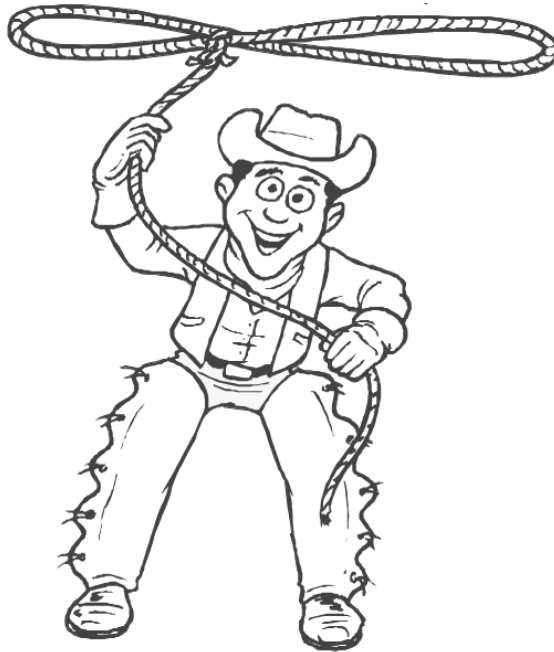
April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1</p> <p>Drug Free Mtg. @ Sterling 8:30 am</p> <p>Tbird Booster club cleanup @ track concession stand 5:00 pm</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>Kindergarten Roundup NO KINDERGARTEN State FBLA @ Omaha V Track @ Thayer Central HS 10:30</p>	<p>4</p> <p>MS Meridian Honor Band/Choir 8:00 am State FBLA @ Omaha</p>	<p>5</p> <p>State FBLA @ Omaha V Track Mudecas @ JCC 9:00 am</p>
6	<p>7</p> <p>JH Quiz Bowl @ Freeman 6:00 pm T-bird booster club Meeting @ 5:00 NHS Induction Banquet @ 6:30 pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>V Track @ JCC 9:30 am V Golf @ Tec. CC 4:30 pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>V Golf @ Friend 8:00 am State FFA Convention @ Lincoln</p>	<p>10</p> <p>State FFA Convention @ Lincoln HS Contest Concert @ HS Gym 7:00 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>State FFA Convention @ Lincoln</p>	<p>12</p> <p>ACT Test Day</p>
13	<p>14</p> <p>Freeman HS Quiz Bowl 5:30 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>V Golf @ Kirkman's Lakeview Golf Course 9:00 am</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>V G @ Nebr. City 9:00 Intra-School Quiz Bowl @ HS Gym 1:00 JH Track @ Conestoga 2:00 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>No School Easter Break</p>	19
	<p>21</p> <p>No School Easter Break</p> <p>JV Golf Invitational @ 2:30</p>	<p>22</p> <p>V Track @ Tri County 8:00 am</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Art Students to Joslyn Art Museum 8th Grade to Doane V Golf @ Southern HS 9:30 am</p>	<p>24</p> <p>No School District Music @ JCC MS Big Red Stars visit UNL JH Track @ JCC 4:00</p>	<p>25</p> <p>3rd Grade to Zoo Arbor Day Tree Planting for 2nd & 3rd FFA Banquet @ 6:30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>JH Track Mudecas @ Pawnee City 9:00 am</p>
27	<p>28</p> <p>Zoology Class to Omaha Zoo Athletic Banquet @ HS Gym 6:30 pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>V Track @ Falls City HS 2:30 pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>V Golf @ Falls City 8:00 am FFA Blood Drive</p>			

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Ch. Burger/ WG Bun Potato Salad Bar Fruit Cookie Milk	2 Ch. Teriyaki Fried Rice Fruit Salad Milk	3 Pizza Salad Bar Fruit Vegetable Rice Crispy Bar Milk	4 Omelet Fruit Tri Tater Coffee Cake Milk	5 K— 8 Fruits and Vegetables offered Daily
6	7 Chicken Tetrzzini Salad Bar Carrots Fruit WG Bread Stick Milk	8 Sloppy Joe SP Tots Salad Bar Fruit Milk	9 Sliced Ham Two Mashed Potatoes Salad Bar Vegetable Fruit Biscuit / Jelly Milk	10 Baked Chicken Drumstick Salad Bar Savory Rice Fruit Oatmeal Roll Milk	11 Tuna Noodle Casserole Salad Bar Vegetable Fruit B&B Milk	12 9—12 Fruit and Salad Bar offered daily
13	14 Spaghetti /Meat Sauce Salad Bar Peas Fruit Garlic Bread Milk	15 Hot Dog Baked Beans Salad Bar Fruit Milk	16 Chicken Noodles / Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Orange Wedges WG Roll Milk	17 Turkey Wrap Sun Chips Fruit Salad Bar Scooby Snack Milk	18 No School	19 All Trays must have 1/2cup of fruit or vegeta- bles on their tray.
20 	21 No School	22 Pepperoni Pizza Salad Bar Fruit Garlic Bread Stick Milk	23 Taco Burger/ WG Bun Black Bean Salsa /(Tortilla Chips 9/12) Refried Beans Fruit Milk	24 Italian Pasta Baked Salad Bar Baby Carrots &Pepper Strips (K/3) Fruit B&B Milk	25 Chicken Pattie Mashed Potatoes/ Gravy Corn Fruit WG Roll Milk	26 Menus are sub- ject to change.
27	28 Burrito / Salsa Mexican Corn Salad Bar Tortilla Chips Fruit Milk	29 BBQ Beef /WG Bun SP Fries Bake Beans Fruit Oatmeal Cookie Milk	30 Turkey & Ch. Sub Salad Bar Over Potatoes Fruit Graham Snacks Milk	In The operation of the child feeding programs, no child will be discrimi- nated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or handi- cap. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write to the Secre- tary of Agriculture.		

Kindergarten Round-Up



WHEN: Tuesday, April 3, 2014
9:00-11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Johnson County Central Elementary Building in Tecumseh.

WHO: Children residing in the Johnson County Central school district who are, or will be, age 5 on or before July 31, 2014.

Individual letters will be sent in April to the parents of all Kindergarten-ready students residing in Johnson County Central's school district. If you do not receive a letter, please call the school and let us know that you will be attending the 2014 Kindergarten Round-Up.

Johnson County Central Public Schools

PO Box 338
Tecumseh, NE 68450

PO Box 255
Cook, NE 68329

Phone: 402 335-3320 Superintendent @ Tecumseh
402 335-3328 Principal @ Tecumseh
402 864-2024 Elementary Office @ Cook
402 864-4171 Principal @ Cook
402 864-4181 MS Office @ Cook
Web Site www.jccentral.org

This newsletter is produced monthly to inform parents, district patrons and others about school events, classroom events, and student achievements in the classroom and extra curricular activities. This information is submitted by faculty and staff members. Information may be submitted to offices at Tecumseh and Cook.

The school reserves the right to edit information in the interest of space and content.

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It shall be the policy of Johnson County Central Public Schools to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for discrimination concerns. Inquiries concerning any of the above, or Title IX and Rehabilitation Act Regulations (504) should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, 358 N 6th Street, Tecumseh, NE 68329; (402)335-3320.

