

Jack D. Moles
Superintendent
402-335-3330

Rick Lester
High School Principal
402-335-3328

Rich Bacon
Athletic Director
Middle School Principal
402-864-4171

Jon Rother
Elementary Principal
402-335-3320



SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles



SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles

As we approach the spring, I would like to take this opportunity to re-express my feelings on some points of emphasis for our students in grades 8-11 and their parents. I specifically want to combine three ideas into one common thought: class selections, the choice to stay with music, and participation in track and weight training. The common thought I want to express here is that I have a desire see students challenge themselves more. In each of these areas I am sensing that some students may not want to challenge themselves on a higher level. By not facing these challenges, I believe students lower their chances to experience their utmost success.

I have often stressed that students who score high on the ACT are the students who are seeing larger scholarships at graduation time. Two years ago, for example, Johnson County Central had two graduating seniors who received full-ride (full tuition and room and board) scholarships. These were not athletic scholarships—they were very much academic scholarships. A very large reason for these two students receiving such scholarships was high ACT scores.

This year the juniors will all take the ACT as part of the state assessment program. This is the second year of this requirement. Thus, almost every junior will receive an ACT score. Our plans are to provide the ACT for our sophomores as well so they can get experience in the ACT before taking the assessment as a junior.

We see such an importance in raising ACT scores that we make it a priority to offer the Baylor Test Prep class for our students. The Baylor course has been successful in helping students raise their ACT scores. However, this course only succeeds at the highest level when students have challenged themselves with a strenuous course load. All ACT research indicates that the surest way for a student to attain a high ACT score is to take a demanding class load. Why is a high ACT score important? From a financial view, the higher a student scores on the ACT, the more scholarship money he/she is likely to receive. One point on the ACT can mean thousands of dollars more in scholarships.

A high grade point average is wonderful to have and does contribute to some scholarships, but the key really is a higher ACT score. Our own data, provided by ACT, reveals the following:

1. JCC students who take full advantage of higher level math classes all the way through their senior year have an average on 22.8 on the math portion of the ACT, while those who take three lesser years of math have an average of 13.0.
2. JCC students who take full advantage of higher level science courses all the way through their senior year have an average of 23.4 on the science portion, while those who take three lesser years of science have an average of 20.6.

3. JCC students who challenged themselves more had an average in math and science of 23.1, while those who did not challenge themselves as much had an average of 16.8. If we make a very simplistic and unscientific assumption that every student scored the same on the Reading and English portions of the ACT, then students who challenged themselves in science and math would score almost six points higher on the ACT. That equates to over \$5,000 more in scholarship money **ANNUALLY** to some schools. Is it worth it?

A few years ago I was approached by a parent about a student who had been notified of receiving a fairly large scholarship that would basically pay the student's tuition costs over the next four years. I knew the student had reached a certain score on the ACT, which then qualified the student for this scholarship. When I said that the ACT score was likely what pushed the student "over the top" I was told that I should make sure all parents know this. I replied that I had been pushing this every year and will continue to push it.

I know some students like to take a less demanding course of study in order to protect their grade point averages and class ranks. A survey of over 1,900 colleges and universities asked for the admissions officers to reveal what the most important factors they look for in determining whether to accept high school applicants. Among the most important factors they cited as having "considerable importance" in admission decisions were:

1. Grades in College Prep Classes 74.9%
2. Admission Test Scores (ACT, SAT) 54.3
9. Class Rank 19.2%

Notice class rank was only 9th on this list, behind such things as a counselor recommendation or the student's demonstrated interests.

So, my challenge to our students in grades 8-11, and their parents, is to challenge themselves with a more difficult course load. This choice cannot be made in the senior year. It must be a point of emphasis upon entry into high school, but it also must be maintained throughout high school. The benefits from this choice are well documented. If classes are avoided to maintain a high GPA or class rank, then it will possibly cost the family thousands of dollars in scholarship money. Of course, we believe the changes we made recently to require high school students to take four years of both math and science will likely help move us in this direction.

The next topic I would again like to address is the choice of whether to remain in music, especially in band. First of all, the arts are a vital part of the educational experience. The arts help to define us as human beings. We find it so important that we have an arts requirement for graduation. Music, especially instrumental music, has been proven to have a direct correlation to academic success, especially in math. Research shows that students who are involved in instrumental music perform better in math.

I have a concern when I hear a student may be considering dropping music, especially band, from his/her course of study. I have a belief that the main reason for this is that these students may not want to put in the work that is entailed in participation. When that is the main reason for dropping something, what kind of lesson is being learned or reinforced? One of my continuing points of emphasis has been to challenge our students and move them beyond where they think they can go.

One of my goals is to grow our student participation in the arts, especially in growing participation in the band. A school with a growing band program is most often a school that is improving itself academically. The two definitely go hand-in-hand, thus my emphasis here.

The third topic I would like to address is participation in track and the weight room. First of all, if a student decides to golf I am in total support of that choice. Golf is a great lifetime activity. However, if one of our students plans on playing other sports and is not going out for golf, then he/she should be considering track. Of course, track is good for conditioning, but my belief in the benefits of track goes much deeper than that. Track would help our athletes get on an even playing field with athletes in other schools. I can usually tell which athletes from other schools were likely out for track the previous year and hit the weight room during the summer. Track also helps to build some of the mental and physical “toughness” needed to compete on a high level. Athletes who challenge themselves in track are setting themselves up to have a better chance at experiencing success in other areas.

Hitting the weight room is equally important. We have experienced different levels of struggles in each of our sports this year. Do we have inferior athletes? I do not believe that. We have several athletes with a great deal of potential. However, when an athlete knows that his/her opponent has done more to prepare, then the athlete does not have a high enough level of confidence in his/her own abilities. I can guarantee that our athletes who are involved in track and faithfully hit the weight room this summer will be much more confident next year.

I am often presented with reasons for when our teams are not successful. Many times the rationale I hear involves coaching or some athletes not going out. I believe all that our kids who do go out can do is control their own efforts. Thus, if they do not choose to make the efforts during track season and the summer, then they controlled that decision and are not giving themselves the best opportunity to compete at their highest level.

All three of these items, while seemingly independent of each other, fit together. All involve our students, and their parents, in challenging themselves even more. For them to experience success on an individual basis, and for our school to thus experience success, we need all of our students to follow this idea of accepting the challenges.



NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL RICK LESTER

Spring is right around the corner 😊 We've had a few really nice days and I'm sure the students are looking forward to spring activities. At JCC Prom is just around the corner – Prom is scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2018 at JCC high school gym, doors will open at 8:00 p.m. Parents will be allowed to enter the building from 8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will be seated in bleachers to view a “Grand March”. From 8:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. parents can view decorations and take pictures. The dance will be held from 8:45 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Prom participants that want to attend Post-Prom will be excused from the high school at 11:30 p.m. students will be allowed to travel home or a friend's house to change clothes (high school locker rooms will be available for students to change in if they choose). ALL Post-Prom participants need to be at the Tecumseh community building by 12:00 a.m. for entrance, if not, they will not be allowed access to participate in Post-Prom. If any students leave the dance earlier than 11:30 p.m. they will not be allowed to participate in Post-Prom.

To help ensure that we have a safe, drug and alcohol free Prom and Post-Prom, the Johnson County Sheriff's department will be administering breathalyzer tests before Prom and before the students enter Post-Prom at the Tecumseh Community Building. Prom participants will also have a ticket of admission form to sign as well as their parents to give them access for the dance and Post-Prom activities.

I would like to remind parents that we have tutoring for students that are in ZAP or students that just want assistance on some school work and need some tutoring – Mrs. Roesener runs this program in the library from 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. I would encourage you to have your student take advantage of this opportunity.

RICH BACON, MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

The 3rd quarter of school ends on Thursday, March 8. Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday, March 15th from 1:30-8:00 p.m. Middle school conferences will be held in the old gym at the middle school on a first come first serve basis. Please don't miss this opportunity to sit down and talk with your child's teachers. This is an ideal time for parents and teachers to have a candid conversation about their child's effort, classroom behavior, social development and other issues that are relevant to student learning and development. The dialogue generated at Parent-Teacher Conferences is an important element in a student's learning process that is beneficial to all and I hope all parents will take advantage of this opportunity. We hope to see you on March 15th.

Students will be starting the state accountability tests, formerly known as Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) assessments, starting in late March through the last week 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. As the testing dates approach here are 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; 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 our data will be invalid, making it difficult to make decisions that will be in the best interests of our students.

Congratulations to the following students who earned the right to represent JCC at the Johnson County Spelling Bee: 8th grade- Kaita Baird, Logan Barras, Vicky Pinedo, Francisco Xayaphonesongkham and alternates Jazmin Cabrales & Dakotah Ludemann; 7th grade- Erika Cabrales, Judy Kim, Daisy Ortiz, Rita Ceballos and alternates Sierra Hergenrader & Aiden Weber; 6th grade- Bailee Sterup, Sergio Valles, Ava Buggi & Wyatt Luedemann and alternates Arely Cabrales & Jadeyn Grobler. Special congratulations to Logan Barras who was the 8th grade winner and overall champion, Francisco Xayaphonesongkham and Vicky Pinedo who finished 2nd and 3rd respectively among 8th graders and Sierra Hergenrader who was the 7th grade winner. Logan earned the right to represent Johnson County Central in the Midwest Spelling Bee. Great job by all JCC medalists and participants!

We had several Middle School students that auditioned for the Meridian Honor Choir and Honor Band. Students selected to the Honor Choir are: Logan Barras, Ava Berkebile, Jonathon Duncan, Jacob Graham, Hayden Huskey, Danielle Lueders, Madison Pingel, Emma Straka, & Tanner Woods. Vanessa Jimenez, Emma Swanda & Emma Walters were selected for the Honor Band. The public can see these students, along with the entire 7th & 8th grade and 6th grade choirs and bands perform in late March. On Thursday, March 22nd there will be a middle school music concert in the main gym. On Friday, March 23rd, the 7th & 8th grade band and choir will be participating in the HTRS Middle School Music Contest. We hope to see you at one of these performances.

Elementary News

J O N R O T H E R

E M A I L : J O N . R O T H E R @ J C C E N T R A L . O R G
T W I T T E R : @ J O N R O T H E R



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Mon. March 5—Pennies for Patients Fundraiser begins.
- Tues. March 6—JCC 5th Graders attend the Peru State Water Celebration.
- Thurs. March 8—End of 3rd Quarter.
- Fri. March 9—NO SCHOOL!
- Mon. March 12—NO SCHOOL!
- Thurs. March 15—NO SCHOOL!
- Thurs. March 15—Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:30-8:00 PM.
- Fri. March 29—Pennies for Patients ends.
- Fri. March 30—NO SCHOOL!
- Mon. April 2—NO SCHOOL!

But, What do I get?

Back in March of 1992, I received a Nebraska State Runner-Up Basketball medal for being on the Tecumseh basketball team. Being there was a wonderful experience. I don't know where the medal is. I made all-conference in football twice and honorable-mention all-state twice in football. I was academic all-American twice in college and team captain. All very nice experiences, but I honestly don't remember if those accolades came with any hardware or certificates. If they did, I don't know where they are. And honestly, rarely does the conversation ever come up as to what sports I made it to state in and whether or not I was all-conference, all-state, made the playoffs or was all-American.

So what did I get? The point is, the recognition is short lived. The medals, certificates and lists are remembered for a short time and then a new group is recognized. These accolades tell of abilities in a sport (or whatever the venue), but say very little about my character. When thinking about what we get from activities and being involved, sometimes we focus too much on the recognition and not enough on the

character building. Don't get me wrong, if individuals are putting in the required time and effort, and in return are being successful, they should be recognized. But, this should not be the end goal. The goal should be about who they are becoming.

As I went through my football career, there were times I wanted to quit. Why? Because I thought I would not be recognized for my efforts for being a "starter". Because I thought the coach didn't like me. Because it was hard. But, I had my parents there to guide me. They knew quitting would not turn out to be a good habit to get into. They also knew that being a starter, or even liked, was the point. And, they were right. I learned about something called "perseverance". I learned about overcoming adversity. I learned to work with people who were very different from me, people who were not necessarily my "friends", towards a common goal. I learned that if I wanted to reach goals of success, that I had to love the process; the work, the time, the effort, the sacrifices. I had to learn to put others before myself. I had to learn to do things I didn't want to

do. I learned that some of the things that make the most differences go unnoticed by most. And, I had to learn to do the little things well.

It's hard to do sometimes, but we need to continue to teach our children that what they get from their experiences and being involved in activities is experience. They get to be involved in something bigger than themselves. They get to contribute. They get to make a difference.

It will be these qualities of resilience, teamwork, reliability, grit, perseverance and self-sacrifice that will make them employable. It will be these qualities that will help them to make a difference in their world. The medals, trophies and certificates; they'll be lost to time and collect dust.

Pennies for Patients

This March, JCC's preschool through fifth grade students will be able to participate in the Pennies for Patients fundraiser. This event allows students to collect spare change to help benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This event is a great experience for students in practicing generosity and philanthropy. They will also learn more about Leukemia and Lymphoma and how they affect individuals worldwide. For more information about the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society visit:

<http://www.studentseries.org/about/who-we-are/mission>



THUNDERBIRDS OF THE MONTH

JANUARY 2018



Kindergarten: Jack Sterup, Lila Britt, Jameson Bacon, Lydia Bilsend, CaroyleLynn Guerra, Courtney Oltrogge, Natalya Kirkendall *Not pictured: Aedan Gordon*



1st Grade: Heidi Reyes, Danica Russell, Elliott Werner, Josiah Barnts, Jackson Gottula, Jamy Rentas, Bentley Myers, Diego Martinez



2nd Grade: Riley Wellensiek, Alex Thiphavong, Angel Buchanan, Jesus Ivan Hurtado, Dalton Henderson, Meghan Kilmer *Not pictured: Aaryn Kaster*



3rd Grade: Hayleigh Daniels, Edgar Duarte, Leonel Cruz, Hayley Jones, Memphis Pingel, Jonathan DeFreece, Jillian Cropp, Anthony Campos, Zoey Bryant, Harrison Bacon *Not pictured: Erik Prado, Calyssta Frampton*



4th & 5th Grades: (front) Lexi Christiansen, Elizabeth Bstandig-Rowland, Zeke Burki, Brie Roberson, Charlyn Bobadilla, Trevor Pietzyk (back) Jersey Graham, Keegan Jones, Alex Cruz, Cameron Lowther, Hailey Stafford-Thompson, Jennifer Hernandez

NOTES FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Ms. Olivia Reuter

Seniors: Apply For Scholarships

Many scholarship opportunities have been e-mailed to students. Also, many application forms have been handed out to seniors in class. Seniors who are planning to go to a college or university after high school should be applying for scholarships. If they need any help with scholarship applications, they should see me. It is always best to not wait until the day a scholarship is due to complete the scholarship application. Some scholarships require reference letters and other paperwork that takes time to complete or gather.

Community Service Forms for 2017-2018

The community service form for high school students to fill out for community service that they completed between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018 was e-mailed to all high school students once in the fall and again recently. They can also pick up a hard copy in my office. They need to fill in what the service was that they completed and where they did it, the amount of hours completed, and someone from the organization, event, church, etc. that they completed this service for needs to sign the form for each service activity. Fund raising activities for a class or school organization or court-ordered community service do not count. Students who complete 30 hrs. or more will receive a gold medal, students who complete 20-29 hours will receive a silver medal, students who complete 10-19 hours will receive a bronze medal, and students who complete 1-9 hours will receive a certificate. All forms are due to Mrs. Reuter by Friday, April 6, 2018. Late forms will not be accepted.

Seniors: Haven't Completed Your FAFSA Yet?

No problem! Students and parents can complete the form at FAFSA.gov. Before you start, create an FSA ID for you and one for a parent at fsaid.ed.gov. You'll need them to access and sign the FAFSA.

For free help with the FAFSA, watch the FAFSA Demo or use the free FAFSA tools on the EducationQuest website, or call EducationQuest to make an appointment:

Omaha – 888.357.6300

Lincoln – 800.303.3745

What to Expect After You Submit Your FAFSA

The FAFSA opened October 1st so many of you have already completed and submitted your form. Here's what happens next:

Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR). You'll receive it via an email link if you provided an email address on your FAFSA. The SAR acknowledges that your FAFSA was received, and if you need to take further action to process your FAFSA.

Make sure you applied for admission to colleges you listed on your FAFSA. Colleges who receive your FAFSA results typically won't send you a financial aid package until you've applied and have been accepted to the school.

Watch for verification requests. The college(s) you listed on your FAFSA might request verification of your FAFSA information. If so, send the required documents to the colleges' financial aid office.

Watch for financial aid award notifications. The colleges you applied to – and listed on your FAFSA – will send you a financial aid award notification detailing the types and amounts of aid they're offering based on your financial need.

ACT College Online Prep

Since the ACT is now the state test for juniors, the state has provided a one-year online prep account to each junior in the state of Nebraska. This online prep helps students get used to the ACT format, try practice questions, learn tips for test taking, and take up to two practice tests as they prepare for the ACT on April 3rd that they will take here at school. Students log into their online ACT prep account by going to <https://onlineprep.act.org/login>

All JCC juniors have been given login information for their account. It'd be great if they work on this at home as well as at school so they are as prepared for the ACT as they can be when it comes time to test.

Meet the JCC Class of 2018

Here are five more profiles of students in JCC's senior class of 2018.

Aleisha McDonald



Aleisha McDonald is the daughter of Mike and Sheena McDonald. She has two sisters, Annika (18) and Ashlei (15). Aleisha has been involved in many activities at JCC and in her community including National Honor Society, Band, Choir, Jazz Band, FFA, CLASS Leadership, Cross Country, Track and Field, One Act, 3-D Drug Free Group, Church Youth Group, Girl Scouts, Basketball, 4-H, and Church Council. After high school, Aleisha plans to attend Hastings College and major in pre-veterinary science. Her favorite high school class is Biology II and her favorite school lunch is the popcorn chicken bowl. The high school accomplishment that Aleisha is most proud of is getting 6th place at the state cross country meet her senior year, running against 149 girls. In ten years, Aleisha sees herself out of college and either starting her own vet clinic or working at someone else's vet clinic. Aleisha's advice to underclassmen is, "Ignore the drama between the students because all of that drama means nothing after you graduate."

Trinity Mahoney



Trinity Mahoney is the daughter of Faith and Jon Schmid and Tim Kuker. Her siblings include Sara (16), Wesley (8), and Sophia (8). After she completes high school, Trinity plans to enter into the Culinary Arts program at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha. In high school, she has been involved in band all four years, golf all four years, FBLA her junior year, and school plays her freshman and sophomore years. Her favorite high school class is Zoology and her favorite school lunch is taco salad. The high school accomplishment that Trinity is most proud of is that she has gained a lot of patience throughout her high school years and has also been able to open up to people more. In ten years, Trinity sees herself as either a top chef in a high-end restaurant or possibly owning her own restaurant. Her advice to younger students is, "Do your homework! There may be challenges in your life that seem impossible to overcome. Just remember that the word impossible is just the words I'm possible a little closer together."

Rylee Woodcock



Rylee Woodcock is the son of Gideon and Jeannette Woodcock of Cook. His siblings are Jaymie (32), Kelsi (27), and Keegan (12). Rylee's favorite class in high school was history and his favorite school lunch is the popcorn chicken bowl. Rylee has participated in the American Legion oratorical essay completion during high school. After he graduates from high school in May, Rylee plans to attend Southeast Community College and enter into a Mechanics program. Rylee's greatest high school accomplishment is making it to his senior year. In ten years, Rylee sees himself as a full-time mechanic in the state of North Carolina. His advice to younger students is, "Always turn your homework in on time."

Arturo Hernandez



Arturo Hernandez is the son of Marcos and Ernestina Mejia of Tecumseh. During his high school years, he has been involved in football and wrestling. After he graduates from high school, Arturo will leave on May 22nd to enter the U.S. Army where he plans to become a cavalry scout. Arturo's favorite high school class is math and his favorite school lunch is the popcorn chicken bowl. The accomplishment that Arturo is most proud of during his high school years is staying on track to graduate. He is also proud of how he is improved as a person and in his sports. In ten years, Arturo sees himself still in the military with a nice little family. He will live wherever he is stationed, hopefully somewhere warm. His advice to younger students is, "Life is tough. You will have your moments where you want to drop everything and just give up, but it's those who

Carlee Walters



Carlee Walters is the daughter of David Walters and Lisa Walters of Talmage. Her siblings are Tammy, Susan, Jamie, and Steven. Carlee has been involved in choir during her time at JCC and her favorite classes have been her art classes. Her favorite lunch is taco salad. After she graduates high school, Carlee plans to attend SCC and enter into the nursing program to become an RN. The accomplishments that Carlee is most proud of are achieving her CAN certificate during her junior year of high school, learning how to be patient at necessary times, and learning how to push through even when she wants to quit. In ten years, Carlee sees herself living happily somewhere and working to achieve her goals. She hopes to have a start on the big picture of her life by that time. Her advice to underclassmen is the following, "Keep going forward!!! Even though school is boring, you are always one day closer to your diploma. Do not give up on yourself. Your high school experience is for you, not your friends. You will live with the choices you make, nobody else will."



Mr. Dierking's Third Grade News

Greetings from third grade! We are quickly approaching the end of third quarter and it is hard to believe how quickly the school year has flown by. The third grade students continue to work very hard in each subject as we strive to give our best effort as we apply the new skills that we have learned.

We have learned many challenging concepts during the school year, such as multiplication and cursive writing. In math, we have been learning about geometric solids and solving equations for area and perimeter while we continue to reinforce our multiplication skills. Practicing these skills helps us become more confident each day. As we become more comfortable with multiplication, we will advance to division skills.

Our reading series allows us to experience a new genre each week, taking us on a new adventure. Over the course of the school year, we have read stories of fiction, biographies about important individuals in history, and stories explaining the world around us. Each week is met with anticipation as we begin a new reading adventure.

Social science has also been exciting recently. In February, we went on a field trip to Morrill Hall without leaving our classroom. We took a virtual field trip to explore the various habitats found in Nebraska and learned how animals have adapted to their environments over time. As part of the field trip, Morrill Hall sent us a collection of furs to examine as young scientists. We had a great time identifying the similarities and differences between each animal's fur and the various foods that they eat. We are very thankful to Morrill Hall for this wonderful opportunity. The field trip was a great introduction to begin exploring more about animals and the various habitats around the world.



2017-18 Wrestling Season Wrap Up– Dean Wellensiek

The JCC wrestling team consisted of eleven wrestlers this season. Team members included seniors Nick Goracke, Arturo Hernandez, and TJae Roesener; juniors Simon Rother, Josh Bailey, and Diego Reyes; sophomores Caleb Eggleston, Aldo Reyes, and Joe Rodriguez; freshmen Dalton Berkebile and Jack Leuenberger.

Nick Goracke (285) and Josh Bailey (220) were state qualifiers for the Thunderbirds, both finishing third at the district tournament. Nick and Josh both went 2-2 at the State Tournament. Nick finished the season with a 19-6 record and Josh finished with a 24-5 record. Both wrestlers missed three weeks of the season due to illness, which made their accomplishments even more remarkable.

Caleb Eggleston (120) led the team in wins with a 32-13 record. Joe Rodriguez (145) also had a great season with a 30-19 season record. Season records for other team members included Diego Reyes (126) 23-21, Simon Rother (195) 18-18, and Arturo Hernandez (170) 17-19. Caleb, Joe, Simon, and Diego all made it to the heart break round at districts, wrestling some of their best matches of the season.

Coaching the Thunderbirds this season were Dean Wellensiek, Larry Kuhl, and Gabe Meints. Volunteer assistants included Nile Bartling and Chris Leuenberger.

Middle School Math– Mrs. Hunzeker

The math room is very busy getting ready for the upcoming state test.

Math 7 has been working on geometry. The topics being discussed include angles, triangles and quadrilaterals. Finding area and perimeter of shapes, finding missing angles using various approaches and eventually getting to volume and surface area. A new app on the iPad has been introduced which includes solving math problems from the subjects being covered along with other general math problems. The students have really enjoyed implementing the technology into math.

Pre-Algebra has been working on the Pythagorean Theorem. We are now moving on to angles formed by parallel lines cut by a transversal. The new app has been introduced into this class as well. Assignments over the current material are solved first, and then more general math questions follow. The students really seem to enjoy this. They tend to forget they are doing math, it is more like a video game but each step requires a math question to be answered correctly.

Algebra is starting their chapter on factoring. So far, the class has factored using GCF, grouping along with factoring trinomials. They are getting ready to factor trinomials when “a” is not equal to zero. Coming up will be factoring using the quadratic equation. The new app is also useful even at this level. Some of the material learned in class is not covered in the app, but some is. When appropriate the app is used to reinforce material learned that day, or to practice material needed to do well on the state test.

7th and 8th grade Reading Mrs. Meints

The second semester is flying by and will be over before we know it. Both the 7th and 8th grade students have recently finished their nonfiction units. Both grades are now starting a poetry unit. During the poetry unit they will be learning about the types of poems, types of figurative language and poetic devices. We will finish out the year with a unit over drama and the 7th grade will be doing themes in oral tradition, while the 8th grade does themes in American stories.

Science By Vicky Boone

The end of third quarter is one of my favorite times of the year. We are almost finished with winter and the flu season, but don't yet have spring fever or senior-itis. It is also the time where students in every class finally start to realize how much they have actually learned this year. Suddenly, things start to make sense and they are able to “put all the pieces together” and apply what they learned to the next topic.

In chemistry we finished gas laws and are currently studying pH and acid/base reactions. Students are employing their English skills to write their lab reports and using their math skills to do titration and pH calculations which are based on their balanced equations. We will finish out the year with oxidation/reduction reactions, a bit of organic chemistry and nuclear chemistry and a lab practical where students get a chance to use everything they have learned throughout the year to identify a variety of mystery solutions.

In anatomy & physiology, we have just moved from the brain and nervous system to the cardiovascular system. The circulatory system proved easy for the majority of students since most arteries and veins are named after the bones or regions of the body which we learned first semester. We will try to get the entire class CPR certified before the end of the year but are waiting for the end of flu season. We will finish up the year with the renal and reproductive systems and endocrinology.

In physics, we are currently studying electricity, circuits and magnetism and next semester will move into electromagnetic waves, sound and light. We generally finish the year by building a Rube Goldberg machine, which is a complex system that uses multiple small steps to accomplish a simple task. It is a fun way to test all the principles of physics that we have learned and see energy converted from one form into another in each step.

As always, the seniors are starting to count down the days and are looking forward to their last prom and their graduation. This year's seniors are special to me, not only because I am their class sponsor, but also because they were just freshmen the year I started at JCC. I had some of them for health class that first year, all of them for biology as sophomores and chemistry as juniors, and some of them again this year in my upper level classes. I'm sure their parents will agree that these last 4 years have gone by incredibly fast. It is hard to believe that those “freshmen” will soon be leaving for college or starting jobs. I want to take this opportunity to wish the Class of 2018 much success and happiness in the years to come!

Construction Technology– Mr. Novell

The construction class has started building a new track shed for the High School. This class is comprised of Juniors and Seniors. In first semester before the weather turned cold the students planned the design and completed the floor framing and most of the wall framing. With the weather turning nice, they are looking forward in completing the shed. The shed will be a 12 foot by 16 foot building with a shed roof lines. The shed will be housing the hurdles and other track equipment.



High School Mathematics Ben Swanson

In Applied Math 1, students have been studying a wide variety of topics so far this spring semester. Since returning from the holiday break, students in this class have learned about methods of gathering data and the many types of graphs used to display this data. This was followed by a unit over percents and how they are used in sales and business. Currently, they are working on topics in algebra such as graphs of functions and linear equations.

In Applied Math 2, the semester started with learning about rate of change and the slope of a line. This led to graphing linear equations and inequalities, and then an introduction to the graphs of parabolas. We have since switched over to geometry topics and have been graphing transformations of geometric figures such as translations (slide), reflections, and rotations.

In Beginning Algebra, January began with solving inequality statements. This included inequalities involving compound statements and absolute value. Next was learning how to solve problems involving two unknowns using a system of equations and inequalities. To solve these systems, students have used graphing, substitution, and elimination methods. Most recently, students have been introduced to polynomials and how to perform operations with them.

Finally, in Advanced Algebra, we have been immersed in quadratic equations. Students learned how to solve these 2nd degree functions using graphing, factoring, completing the square, and the quadratic formula. Up next, we will take an in-depth look at the equations and graphs of parabolas and circles, as well as other sections of cones such as the ellipse and hyperbola. Most recently we have been examining polynomial functions. Several juniors are currently enrolled in this class, and they will be taking the ACT at school on April 3rd. It will be our goal to cover as many relevant topics as possible and complete ACT practice test problems to help these juniors prepare.



HS Science Jessica Ferguson

It's hard to believe that 3rd Quarter is almost over. The High School Science classes have been hard at work all year. We kicked off second semester diving right in!

General Science has been studying motion, momentum, forces, Newton's laws, work, and simple machines. Biology has been busy studying genetics and evolution.

The General Science students have measured the speed of a balloon rocket and were challenged to describe how Newton's laws explained the rocket's motion. The students have also competed against each other to design a safe and fast car that would protect an egg from the effects of inertia when the car crashed. Students were given two days to design their cars. On the first day they were given the following materials; insulated foam meat trays, foam cups, straws, straight pins, and tape. There was a minimum and a maximum of each item that had to be used. On the second day the students got to decide what material they would like more of and had to incorporate those materials into their designs. There were some great designs! The students then got to compete with their classmates to see whose car went the fastest. The kicker was that it also had to protect the egg! If the egg broke, they were disqualified from the competition.

Biology students have learned about the replication of DNA, how individuals obtain their genes and characteristics, and what happens where there are mistakes. Students have completed a karyotype of an individual and have researched a common genetic disorder based on looking at the chromosomes. They then looked at different pedigrees and saw how traits were passed from parent to offspring and how it is possible for one sibling to obtain the trait and not the others. Next, we have looked at the history of life. The students will continue the year looking into ecology and finishing the year looking at human biology.

♥ Welcome to Preschool!

Open House @ Tecumseh and Cook

May 7, 2018

4:30-6:30 p.m.

Open to all families who are currently enrolled or interested in enrolling their child in the Johnson County Central Public Schools Preschool Program. This open house will give you an opportunity to see the preschool classroom, meet the teacher, and ask any questions you may have. An Orientation night will also be held in August.

If you have any questions, please call: 335-3320.



March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Corn Dog Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	2 Cheese Pizza Cookie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	3
4	5 Breakfast for Lunch Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	6 Popcorn Chicken Bowl Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	7 Hot Ham & Cheese Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	8 Goulash Green Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	9 No School Spring Break	10
11 Daylight Savings	12 No School Spring Break	13 Thai Meatball Fried Rice Bowl Wg Bread stick Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	14 Cheeseburger/WG Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	15 No School Teacher In Service Parent Teacher Conference	16 Fish Sandwich WG Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19 Chefs Choice	20 Chicken Patty / wg Bun Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	21 Spaghetti/ Meat Sauce Garlic Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	22 Taco Salad Refried Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Bread Milk	23 Mac and Cheese Green Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	24
25	26 Chicken Nuggets Fruit & Veggie Bar Potatoes Milk	27 Pizza Fruit & Veggie Bar Cookie Milk	28 Pork Steak Mashed Potato / Gravy Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	29 Mozz. Br. Cheese Stick Corn Fruit & Veggie Milk	30 No School Easter Break Good Friday	31 Passover
				<p>Menu is subject to change with out notice</p> <p>"This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider"</p>		

March 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -ECNC Quiz Bowl (7 th -12 th Gr.) @ Conestoga HS, 9:00am	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -PEA @ Career Development Events, 8:00am in Beatrice -HS Top Ten Banquet @ HS Gym, 6:30pm	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -Cheer Parent's Meeting @ JCC HS, 6:30pm	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -UNL Campus Visit, 8:30am	-End of 3 rd Quarter -ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -UNL Campus Visit, 8:30am	-No School: Spring Break -ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -JH Wrestling @ Nebraska City, 9:00am
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
-No School: Spring Break -ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -District Speech @ Lincoln Southwest HS, 8:00am -JH Wrestling @ Louisville HS, 3:00 pm	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -Board of Education Meeting @ Tecumseh SPED Room, 7:30pm	-No School: Teacher In Service -ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -Parent/Teacher Conferences @ Both Sites, 1:30-8:00pm	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -Shamrock Showdown: Dodgeball Tournament @ HS Gym, 6:30pm	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Varsity Track @ Nebraska Wesleyan University, 9-30am	-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
-ECNC HS Student Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -HS Science @ Med Center (Omaha) Workshop, 8:30am -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -ESU 4 Quiz Bowl @ JCC HS, 4:00 pm	-ECNC HS Art Exhibit, Wells Fargo 12th & P, Lincoln @ 8:00am -Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -Cheer Pre-Tryout, 6:30am -MIDDECAS Music Contest @ Sterling, 8:00am -ECNC HS Student Art Workshop @ NWU, 8:00am	-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -Cheer Pre-Tryout, 6:30am -State Patrol Presentation @ HS, 10:00am	-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -Cheer Pre-Tryout, 6:30am -State Speech @ UNK, 8:00am -MS Music Contest Concert @ MS, Cym, 6:30pm	-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -MS Band Music Contest @ Humboldt, 8:00am -Class C All-State Band @ Kearney, 4:00pm	-Class C All-State Band @ Kearney, 4:00pm -Cheerleading Tryouts @ HS Gym, 2:00pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -Freeman Quiz Bowl @ Adams, 6:00pm	-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -Zoology Field Trip @ Henry Doory Zoo, 9:00am -Cheer Fundraiser Mktg @ 3:00pm -NHS Banquet @ HS Gym, 6:30pm	-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -MUDECAS Quiz Bowl @ SCC Beatrice, 10:00 am	-Penites for Patients, ELEM Sites -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site -Varsity Track @ Thayer Central Community School, 10:30am	-No School: Easter Break -NSCAS Testing @ Cook Site		

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.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 3
Cook, NE 68329
ECRWS
ECRWS

POSTAL PATRON

Non-Discrimination

It shall be the policy of Johnson County Central Public Schools to not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability, age, pregnancy, or any other legally prohibited basis. 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 68450; (402) 335-3320.

Child find

Children that are birth to 5 years old who are experiencing problems with speech language, cognitive, emotional and/or physical development or have a disability can receive services through Early Childhood Education Services. If interested or in need of more information please contact Rebecca Kling, Special Education Coordinator or Jack Moles, Superintendent at 402-335-3320.

No School Days:

March 9th & 12th— Spring Break

*March 15th— Teacher In Service,
Parent-Teacher Conferences at both
sites, 1:30-8:00 pm*

*March 30th-April 2nd— Easter
Break*

