

Superintendent Monthly Update

The Four Day School Week
Is it worth it?

by **Jon Rother**. December 2022

You may know of school districts in Nebraska who have shifted to a four day school week. At JCC, we've pondered the idea from time to time. We have even reached out to districts with the four day school week model to find out why they have it and if they found it beneficial. Some went to a four day week due to the sheer distance the students lived from school. This was from some of the more Western districts in Nebraska whose district covered an inordinate amount of square mileage. Other districts shifted to a four day week as a cost savings to the district. Closing the school for one day per week can cut down on operating costs. In our case, this would be estimated at a little over \$4,000 per day. Whether or not it is enough to justify the shorter week would be debatable and would depend on the financial status of the district.

PROS

CONS

Savings of an estimated \$4,000+ per day (transportation/food service/support staff/substitute teachers).	Daycare concerns for parents.
Less missed days by students & staff due to appointments.	Less time in the classroom & fitting curriculum into fewer days.
Attract new teachers when the need arises.	Getting junior high students to practices/activities on off days.
Retain teachers.	Concerns for younger students when not in school

As the school board and teachers' bargaining team have started negotiations, a change in the school week and school year can impact the teachers' contracts. Therefore, a four day week can only be accomplished with the support of staff and the community (more specifically the parents whose children attend school).



**JCC Mission Statement:
 Journey together...
 Creating opportunities...
 Committed to excellence!**

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Jon Rother
 Superintendent
 Elementary Principal
 402-335-3320

Rick Lester
 High School Principal
 402-335-3328

Rich Bacon
 Middle School Principal
 402-864-4171

There are several numbers that must be considered when looking at changing the school day and the calendar.

1. Student hours in session (not including the 30 minutes allotted for lunch). A school district may go over these hours, but not under.
 - a. 1,080 hours for grades 7-12.
 - b. 1,032 hours for grades 1-6.
 - c. 400 hours for Kindergarten.
 2. Student Credit Hours/Instructional Units.
 3. Teacher contract days. A school district may not go over or under the contracted days. The number of teacher contract days may only be changed through the negotiated agreement.
 - a. 185 contracted days per JCC 2022-2023 Negotiated Agreement.
- In shortening the week, each day will have to be lengthened in order to meet the requirements for student hours. In doing so, we will also have to take into account the teacher contract. As teachers are part of a union, their contracts must be equitable to similar sized school districts. This is called an “array” of schools. Some of the factors that go into an array comparison are: base pay, number of steps and columns on the pay scale, insurance deductibles, sick days, personal days, retirement and contracted days. The teachers’ final compensation must fall between 98% and 102% of the array. If it doesn’t, the Court of Industrial Relations steps in as the mediator in negotiations between the board and the bargaining committee.

Currently, teachers are required to report to duty no later than 8:00 AM and remain on duty until 4:00 PM; an 8 hour day. For the examples below, for mathematics sake, we will stick with the minimum amount of hours teachers are required on duty. Working with our current calendar, this means that teachers will work a *minimum* of 1,480 hours per their contract. The following depicts our current schedule.

Current Five Day Week Calendar 2022-2023

Student Days: 167

Teacher Days: 185

Current	Start	End	Hours/Day	Total Hours in Year	Days Over Required
EL	8:15 AM	3:33 PM	6.8	1,135.60	15.2
MS	8:15 AM	3:37 PM	6.87	1,146.73	9.2
HS	8:15 AM	3:43 PM	6.97	1,163.43	11.97

If we used this year’s school calendar and plugged it into next year's calendar, starting at roughly the same time, ending at roughly the same time, with the same teacher work days and the same holidays off, then took the remaining Mondays and made them NO SCHOOL days for everyone, we would end up with 154 student days and 174 teacher days. This would then leave para-educators at about 164 work days. Here are two *samples* of what it could look like by extending the day by under two different scenarios:

Sample Four Day Week Calendar

Student Days: 154

Teacher Days: 174

4 Day - Version 1	Start	End	Hours/Day	Total Hours in Year	Days Over Required
EL	8:00 AM	3:35 PM	7.083 (+0.283)	1,090.78	8.3
MS	8:00 AM	3:40 PM	7.167 (+0.297)	1,103.72	3.3
HS	8:00 AM	3:50 PM	7.33 (+0.36)	1,128.82	6.6

4 Day - Version 2	Start	End	Hours/Day	Total Hours in Year	Days Over Required
EL	8:00 AM	3:45 PM	7.25 (+0.45)	1,116.50	11.7
MS	8:00 AM	3:50 PM	7.33 (+0.46)	1,128.82	6.6
HS	8:00 AM	4:00 PM	7.5 (+0.53)	1,155.00	10

Hours different than our current schedule

The final details of the calendar would have to get worked out after negotiations (at the latest February). This would include length of the school day, student days in session and teacher contracted days.

What I am looking for at this time is feedback from you.

- Do you support a 4-day school week?
- How would a 4-day week benefit you?
- What concerns do you have with a 4-day week for you and your family?

I will be sending a survey to all our parents through email. If you do not have email, you may go to www.jccentral.org to find this article and the link to the survey, or you can type the following URL into your browser or scan the QR code using your phone or device:

<https://forms.gle/Z2ZkHgnbSQ8Hxrnt9>



K-3 October Thunderbirds of the Month



Kindergarten (L to R): Katie Ly, Kendrick Reyes, Wren Bischoff, Elizabeth Orozco, Aidaly Merlin-Lara, Owen Bowman

1st Grade (L to R): Bryson Bailey, Jayden Dixon, Shaylee Hartman, Karla Prado, Lili Sejkora, Connor Mecham, Zander Bintz Rap, Allura Bruley, Isabell Gerking



2nd Grade (L to R): Randy Louis, Cesar Valles, Henry Smith, Bristol Meints, Isaiah King, Aries Savago, Matthew Dixon, Josie McCoy

3rd Grade (L to R): Triton Gorman, Clayton Weber, Hazel Arguello, Quinlynn Beethe, Noah Thompson, Tyson Shirley, Evelyn Little, not pictured Harper Beck



NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL RICK LESTER

This newsletter will cover the months of December and January. With that in mind, I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving break and didn't overdo it too much with all the good food available. Christmas break will be upon us sooner than later and then we're in 2nd semester. Wow...this semester went fast!

With Thanksgiving and Christmas break upon us, this brings the topic of semester exams. Semester exams are given in the month of December in the core curriculum classes and count as 5% of the student's final grade. Once your student knows their exam schedule, I encourage you as parents to assist them in their preparation for these exams. Urge your student to study ahead of time instead of cramming their studying into the night before the exam. Help them by providing a quiet environment in which to study and encourage them to get plenty of rest and to eat good meals as they prepare to take their semester exams.

Another topic we need to discuss is about students changing classes for second semester. Students that are interested changing their classes for second semester need to see Mrs. Reuter any time before the end of Christmas break (Friday, December 16, 2022). Students will also have five school days to make changes to the class schedule at the beginning of second semester from Tuesday, January 3, 2023 to Monday, January 9, 2023.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

By Rich Bacon

With the month of December upon us thoughts often turn to the holidays and spending time with family. But, the month of December also brings with it the rapidly approaching end of the first semester and a month full of games, matches, and holiday concerts. In addition to all these extracurricular activities, the normal everyday work in the classroom continues as well. There are only three weeks of school in December before the end of the 1st semester. Please remind your student to continue to work hard and keep up with his school work.

On Friday, November 11, an assembly was held at the middle school honoring local veterans for their service to our great country. Representatives from Bryan-Holtgrewe American Legion Post #246 of Talmage and Bickel-Nelson American Legion Post #360 of Cook combined to present the colors. Students from the 7th & 8th grade band performed the National Anthem and 8th graders from the Middle School Leadership Team, Harrison Bacon, Brayden Beethe, A.J. Rautenbach, Regan Thies and Molly Weber led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Nate Goodrich did an outstanding job sharing his experiences aboard a submarine while serving in the U.S. Navy and thoughts about Veterans Day. The 4th and 5th grade classes performed patriotic musical number and Anthony Orozco performed Taps. At the conclusion of the program, more than 25 veterans, spouses and guests were treated to lunch at the school. Thank you to all veterans for their service to our country.

Elementary and Middle School students participated in Red Ribbon Week activities during the week of October 24. The mission of the Red Ribbon Campaign® is to present a unified and visible commitment towards the creation of a drug-free America. It is an ideal way for people and communities to unite and take a visible stand against drugs. For each day of the week students were encouraged to dress up for a particular theme. Monday, October 24 was “Too Bright for Drugs” day – students wore neon clothes. Tuesday was “Use Your Head to Stay Drug Free” day – students wore their favorite hat. Wednesday was “Follow your Dreams, Not Drugs” day – students wore pajamas to school. Thursday was “Pair up Against Drugs” day – students dressed like another student or twinned with another person. Friday was “Take Pride in Being Drug Free” day – students wore JCC clothing to show school pride. The Middle School Leadership Team also visited our elementary classrooms and led Red Ribbon Week activities emphasizing the importance of making good choices for their health and wellness. We had good student participation throughout the week and the Leadership Team did an outstanding job in the elementary classrooms.

On Monday, November 7, our 8th grade had the opportunity to attend a Life Skills Sportsmanship Pep Rally at Pinnacle Bank Arena where they heard several University of Nebraska coaches and athletes speak on various topics, all aimed at promoting the importance of education, diversity, inclusion, sportsmanship, and good decision-making. Speakers such as women’s basketball coach Amy Williams, football captian Travis Vokelek, volleyball players Lexi Rodriguez and Ally Batenhorst, along with other University of Nebraska athletes from the softball team and the men’s track and field team gave presentations on personal pride and work ethic, sportsmanship and respect for yourself and others, dealing with pressure, and building positive relationships. Each speaker presented a positive message for the nearly 3,000 middle school students in attendance. After the Pep Rally students were given a slice of Valentino’s pizza and a ticket to watch the UNL women basketball team’s season opener against Omaha.

The Junior High Boys Basketball team has started their season with 24 boys participating. We have three home events this year and, hopefully, we will be able to see you at a game this season.

Go Thunderbirds!

Notes From the High School Counselor Mrs. Olivia Reuter

Apply for a Buffett Scholarship From November 1, 2022- February 1, 2023

To be eligible for the Susan T. Buffett Scholarship, you must live in Nebraska and meet in-state residency requirements of the college you plan to attend, graduate from a Nebraska high school or earn a Nebraska GED, achieve at least a 2.0 cumulative unweighted GPA in high school, and be a first-time freshman when entering college. Note- Students obtaining dual enrollment credits in high school are still eligible to apply. The requirements to apply and the link to apply can be found at <https://buffettscholarships.org/application-requirements>

ACT Testing Available Here at JCC on February 11, 2023

We will be offering the ACT here at Johnson County Central High School again on Saturday, February 11, 2023. This is open to all high school students and even middle school students, if their parents want them to take it. This will be the second time that the test will be held here at our school. The cost to test is \$63 without the writing test and \$88 with the writing test. High schoolers on the free or reduced lunch program, can get a fee waiver from Mrs. Reuter to waive their registration fee. To test, you must register online at act.org If you want to test at JCC, choose Johnson Co. Central High School as your test center.

2023-2024 FAFSA Application Now Open

Seniors in high school who plan to attend college should complete a FAFSA form online. Seniors can now start applying for the FAFSA and should definitely have this done by March 15, 2023. The earlier they are completed, the better. Some colleges and universities only have so much grant and scholarship money to award and when it's gone, it's gone. To create a FAFSA, seniors will need their own and their parents' 2021 tax information and W2s. They need to fill out the 2023-2024 FAFSA because the FAFSA is for the year you will start college. One parent and one student will need an FSA ID. If a parent already has one from an older child in college, they can use the same one. For more information on this and all steps to completing the FAFSA, go to <https://www.educationquest.org/resources/fafsa-tools/> This page includes FAFSA videos, tutorials, checklists, a FAFSA demo, frequently asked questions, and more. If you still have FAFSA questions, you are welcome to call Education Quest, they are here to help all Nebraska students with the FAFSA. The number for the Lincoln office is (402) 475-5222. The number for the Omaha office is (402) 391-4033. They are always willing to set up virtual appointments with parents and students, and sometimes they can set up in-person appointments too.

Search for Nebraska Scholarships By Using Scholarship Quest

ScholarshipQuest is a feature on the Education Quest website that allows students to create a profile and search for Nebraska scholarships. This is an especially good tool for high school seniors, but there are also scholarships on their for underclassmen as well. If you are in high school, it's a good idea to create an account and check your scholarship matches periodically. To get started and create an account, go to <https://www.educationquest.org/resources/scholarshipquest/> and click on the orange rectangular Go For Scholarship Quest button.

Meet the Class of 2023



Daisy Ortiz is the daughter of Manuel and Marilu Ortiz of Tecumseh. Her school activities include cheerleading, volleyball, basketball, track, spring play, yearbook, choir, and band. When it comes to her favorite high school classes, Daisy had this to say, “My favorite classes have been food science and journalism. I really enjoyed food science because it was an easy class, but it was also very interesting and informative. I love how Mrs. Hodges would make the class very hands on. We did tons of experiments. I also really enjoyed journalism. Journalism wasn’t just a class for me, it was like therapy. Mrs. Little made this class fun and a safe space for everyone. Not only do we make some pretty good yearbooks but we take some awesome pictures as well. We had tons of yearbook parties, to celebrate our little wins. I really enjoy making the yearbook. I want to look back in ten years and be like wow I made this page!” As for challenging

classes, Daisy said, “My most challenging classes have definitely been Chemistry and American Government. Chemistry was challenging for me because I’m not really good at science. American Government was challenging because I really don’t understand it. As for a favorite school lunch, Daisy says, “I could be basic and say popcorn chicken bowl but I would definitely say our Thanksgiving meal.” When asked about which teachers have inspired her the most, Daisy said, “Mrs. Little has been an amazing teacher to have throughout high school. She motivates me to get things done and is very helpful and caring. Another teacher that makes school better is Mrs. Roesener. She makes learning so much fun. She’s funny and makes coming to class easy. Coach Collin has also been very helpful and inspiring these past four years. He’s very supportive and encouraging.” Outside of school, Daisy likes to sing and hang out with her family. She also likes to read books, but only good books. After high school, Daisy plans to attend Southeast Community College for their nursing program. When asked what she will remember most about her high school years, Daisy had the following to say, “The best thing was being a part of the JCC cheerleading squad. All the memories I created with the squad over the years I will carry with me forever. Getting to cheer on my classmates was the best experience I got. Getting to spread the spirit all around, and learning to be a leader is something that cheer gave to me. I will forever be grateful for these memories, squad, and coaches.” When asked to predict her life ten years in the future, Daisy had this to say, “In ten years I see myself graduated from college and working as an RN in a hospital. I think I’ll be married and even maybe with kids. I will probably be living in Lincoln, NE or in Texas. I will definitely be traveling in ten years and living my best life!”

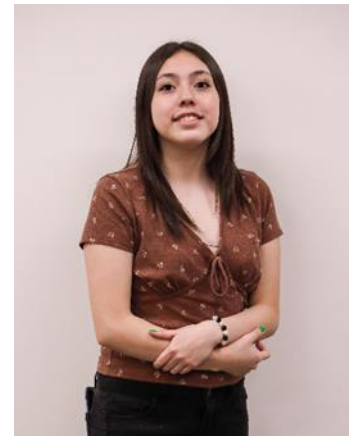
Brandon Speckmann is the son of Dale and Kristi Speckmann. He lives just outside of Tecumseh. His school activities have been football, basketball, track, golf, and FBLA. His favorite high school class was food science because he likes learning about the nutritional factors of the food we eat. His most challenging class is physics because it is a very difficult class and it confuses him. When it comes to a teacher/coach who has inspired him the most, Brandon had this to say, “Coach Haughton, he teaches us how to be a better man and adult in the future.” His favorite school lunch is the popcorn chicken bowl. As of now, Brandon plans to enter the workforce right after graduation and eventually become an electrician. Outside of school, Brandon likes to hunt and fish, hang out with family and friends, and play or watch sports. As for what he will remember the most about high school, Brandon says, “Mostly sports, I don’t like school, so the only thing I will remember is the memories I made during sports.” When thinking about his life ten years in the future, Brandon says, “I hope I am still living in the area and have a good job as an electrician. We will see if I am married at the time, I hope I am.”





Mazzie Benedict is the daughter of Ciera Bryant and Steven Benedict. She lives in Cook. Her high school activities have been FFA, choir, and FCA. Her favorite school lunch is the breaded beef patty. Outside of school, Mazzie likes to spend time at her church, ride her four-wheeler, and play video games. When asked about her favorite high school class, Mazzie said, “Geometry because I just loved doing the problems, and any class I have taken with Mrs. Hodges! I love her classes because they came easy to me, and because they made me realize that I want to do conservation bio.” When asked about a most challenging class, Mazzie responded with, “Business math. Simply because I’m bad with formulas.” When asked what teachers have inspired her the most, Mazzie responded with, “Mrs. Hodges, Mrs. Little, Mrs. Schuster, and Mrs. Richardson. They all inspired me to keep trying and doing my best, even when I was at my worst. They just believed in me, and I greatly appreciate that.” After she graduates from high school, Mazzie plans to attend Wayne State College to major in conservation biology. When asked about her best high school memory, Mazzie said, “The best thing that happened to me was when I competed at an AG competition in Biotechnology and placed the highest on my team. It was my first time ever doing that, and that really opened my eyes to the fact that I shouldn’t ever let my pride get in the way of trying new things.” As for predicting her life in ten years, Mazzie said, “Hopefully I am traveling as a wildlife biologist, but if I’m not traveling I want to live in WV, Maine, or NC.”

Kimberly Orozco is the daughter of Miguel and Sandra Orozco of Tecumseh. Her school activities have been one act, choir, speech, and academic decathlon. When it comes to a favorite lunch, Kimmy loves the popcorn chicken bowl. When asked about her favorite things to do outside of school, she said, “I love to paint in my free time, it’s an easy stress reliever. I also love to read and play video games!” Her favorite high school classes have been her art classes because she loves being creative and working on new projects. When asked about her most challenging class, Kimmy said, “My most challenging high school class is American Government. I love learning about the new topics, but I struggle to follow on some topics.” When asked about the teacher who inspired her the most, she had this to say, “Mrs. Peoples! Mrs. Peoples has always helped me when I needed it! Be it in struggling with an art block or just normal things in general! She has always inspired me to be myself and be proud of the artwork I create” After high school graduation, Kimmy plans to attend SCC Lincoln to learn more about computers, and then transfer on to a four-year college. She doesn’t know exactly what field she will be going into yet. When asked what she will remember the most about her high school years, Kimmy had the following to say, “I will remember the bonfire that happened this year! I will be sure to remember all the amazing laughs we had.” As for her thoughts on her life ten years in the future, Kimmy said, “In ten years I’ll be living somewhere else! I will have finished college by then and be further pursuing my career involving computers. I will have my own family in ten years! I’ll be doing work from home most likely, since being able to work with computers allows that. I want to have an artistic side job as well, so then I can pursue my love for painting!”



Greetings Thunderbird Family!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and is looking forward to Christmas! Let's put a wrap on the fall season.

Here are a few sport specific highlights from the fall season.

In volleyball, the team finished with an 18-12 record, also, the team finished 3rd in the MUDECAS tournament (B division) and 4th in the ECNC tournament. Individually, juniors Sunnie Rother, Bailee Sterup, and freshman Harley Lubben were all named to the ECNC All Conference Honorable Mention Team. Freshman Ashley Beethe was named to first team MUDECAS B division and was a first team ECNC All Conference selection. Ashley also set the school record for kills in a season with 326. Junior Arely Cabrales was selected to honorable mention team of the MUDECAS B division and was a selected to be on the second team of ECNC All Conference. Arely also the school records for assists in a match (45), season (739), and in a career (1,694).

In cross country, the girls placed 3rd at the ECNC meet. These runners were medalist at the ECNC meet: Senior Hayden Huskey (9th), senior Juliette Cucurulo (10th), freshmen Catherine Wendt (11th) and Madison VanLaninham (13th). Also, Hayden Huskey (placed 14th at districts) and Madison VanLaningham (placed 9th at districts) qualified for the state meet.

In girls golf, senior Anzel du Preez placed 5th at the ECNC meet and was named a member of the All Conference team. Anzel also set a new school record with an 18 hole low score of 92. The team also set a new 9 hole low score record of 44.

One-Act Play Conference took place in Palmyra this year and the cast and crew finished 5th.

In football, here are the players selected to the All District 2 team. Keegan Jones and Nolan Wellensiek were selected to the first team. Brandon Speckmann and Cameron Schuster were selected to second team. Wesley Swanson, Sergio Valles, and Wyatt Ludemann were all named to the honorable mention team.

Some important winter dates:

Winter sports pep rally: December 1st

First varsity basketball game: December 2nd

First wrestling competition: December 3rd

No School: December 19th - January 2nd

NSAA Moratorium: December 23rd - December 27th

Also as you head out to watch your fellow Thunderbirds play basketball this winter please remember to be respectful to the referees! Speaking of basketball, I ran across this article and thought some of you would be interested. It has to do with misunderstood rules in basketball. I have included some highlights and more common ones that I tend to see but if you want to read the whole list you can find it on the South Dakota High School Activities Association website: <https://www.sdhsaa.com/>

Most Misunderstood Basketball Rules

**The front, top, sides, and bottom of the backboard are all in play. The ball cannot pass over a rectangular backboard from either direction. The back of a backboard is out of bounds as well as the supporting structures

**The traveling rule is one of the most misunderstood rules in basketball. To start a dribble, the ball must be released before the pivot foot is lifted. On a pass or a shot, the pivot foot may be lifted, but may not return to the floor before the ball is released. A player may slide on the floor while trying to secure a loose ball until that player's momentum stops. At that point that player cannot attempt to get up or rollover. A player securing a ball while on the floor cannot attempt to stand up unless that player starts a dribble. A player in this situation may also pass, shoot, or call a timeout. If the player is flat on his or her back, that player may sit up without violating.

**The hand is considered part of the ball when the hand is in contact with the ball. This includes holding, dribbling, passing, or even during a shot attempt. Striking a ball handler or a shooter on that player's hand that is incidental to an attempt to play the ball is not a foul, no matter how loud it sounds or how much it hurts.

**Reaching in is not a foul. The term is nowhere to be found in any rulebook. There must be contact to have a foul. The mere act of reaching in, by itself, is nothing. If contact does occur, it's either a holding foul or illegal use of hands foul. When a player, in order to stop the clock, does not make a legitimate play for the ball, holds, pushes or grabs away from the ball, or uses undue roughness, the foul is an intentional foul.

**Over the back is not a foul. The term is nowhere to be found in any rulebook. There must be contact to have a foul. A taller player may often be able to get a rebound over a shorter player, even if the shorter player has good rebounding position. If the shorter player is displaced, then a pushing foul must be called. A rebounding player, with an inside position, while boxing out, is not allowed to push back or displace an opponent, which is a pushing foul.

**A defensive player does not have to remain stationary to take a charge. A defender may turn away or duck to absorb contact, provided he or she has already established legal guarding position, which is both feet on the playing court and facing the opponent. The defender can always move backwards or sideways to maintain a legal guarding position and may even have one or both feet off the playing court when contact occurs. That player may legally rise vertically. If the defender is moving forward, then the contact is caused by the defender, which is a blocking foul.

**The intent of the three-second rule is to not allow an offensive player to gain an advantage. Referees will not call this violation if the player is not gaining an advantage. There is no three-second count between the release of a shot and the control of a rebound, at which time a new count starts. There is no three-second count during a throw in. There is no three-second count while the ball is in the backcourt. Allowance shall be made for a player who, having been in the restricted area for less than three seconds, dribbles in or moves immediately to try for goal

**Officials do not make calls that decide the outcome of a game. Players commit fouls and violations; officials view those infractions, judge the action, and then apply the rules of the game to what they had viewed. The rules then determine the penalty. Officials are on the court to be the only unbiased arbiters of the game. Officials are not concerned with who wins or loses, but only fairness and safety. Everyone else in that gym cares about winning, and therefore cannot look at the game objectively.

Have a safe holiday season!

Garrett Collin



JCC MUSIC CALENDAR

Month	Date	Day	Event
December	1	Thursday	HS Christmas Concert - Auditorium @ 7:00
	2	Friday	PB - BB vs. Mead
	6	Tuesday	PB - BB vs. Southern
	8	Thursday	PB - BB vs. Syracuse
	9	Friday	4-8 Christmas Concert - 6:30 PM - Cook
	?	Sunday	Christmas Caroling - 6:00 PM with Baptist Church
	15	Thursday	K-3 Christmas Program - Auditorium @ 6:30
	16	Friday	PB - BB vs. Louisville
January	3	Tuesday	School Resumes
	8-9	Sun-Mon	Doane Vocal Festival - Crete
	17	Tuesday	PB - BB vs. Weeping Water
	19	Thursday	PB - BB vs. HTRS
	21	Saturday	Singing Youth of Nebraska - Fremont or Omaha
	26	Thursday	PB - BB vs. Fairbury
February	17	Friday	PB - BB vs. Auburn
March	7	Tuesday	30th Annual Freshmore Clinic - Tecumseh
	16	Thursday	MS Contest Concert - Cook @ 6:30 pm
	17	Friday	MS Band Contest - HTRS
			MS Vocal Music Contest TBA
	18	Saturday	Class C Allstate Band
	20	Monday	HS Contest Concert @ 6:30 pm
	23	Thursday	HS MUDECAS Music Contest - HTRS
	31	Friday	Meridian MS Honor Choir and Band
April	20	Thursday	HS District Music Contest - Tecumseh
	27, 28	Thur & Fri	Spring Play - Thur @ 1:00, Fri @ 7
	30	Sun	Spring Play - Sun @ 2
May	1	Monday	HS Spring Concert and Art Show @ 6:30 pm
	8	Monday	ECNC Honor Band @ Falls City
	10	Wednesday	Band Recruitment Day
	12	Friday	4-8 Spring Concert - Cook, 6:30 pm
	13	Saturday	HS Band at Graduation
	15	Monday	K-3 Spring Program - HS GYM, 7:00 pm

JCC Preschool Enrollment for the 2023-24 School Year Opens February 1, 2023

We know you are your child's first and most important teacher, and we would love to join you in the education of your young learner.

Our focus is to provide learning opportunities for those students who will be entering kindergarten the following year. Therefore, the majority of our enrollment will be filled by prekindergarten students. **Prekindergarten** is defined as a child who will be four years of age on or before July 31, 2023. A **three-year-old** is defined as a child who will be three years of age on or before July 31, 2023. We offer a full-day program for prekindergarten students in Tecumseh and Cook. Three-year-olds will join the morning portion of the full-day program. Preschool is in session Tuesday through Friday. It is preferred that your child be fully toilet trained before entering the program.

The preschool schedule encompasses discovery through active involvement. "The Creative Curriculum" program is implemented. Activities, materials, and equipment reflect and respect the diversity of race and multiculturalism and the physical and mental abilities of all children.

There is no tuition fee for preschool. However, breakfast and/or lunch fees will be charged when applicable. An application for free and reduced meals will be offered at orientation.

Transportation will be provided between sites as well as to and from licensed child care providers within close geographic proximity of the attending site at no cost.

Enrollment will be filled according to the following criteria: [Rule 11](#) guidelines, students currently enrolled in our program, and the date an application is received. If interested in the preschool program, please complete the electronic application which will be available beginning **February 1, 2023** on the school web-site: www.jccentral.org. If you would prefer a paper application, please contact the elementary office.

Contact will be made by April 15, 2023 regarding enrollment for the 2023-24 school year. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a classroom visit, please call the **elementary office: 402-335-3320**. Thank you for considering Johnson County Central Preschool.

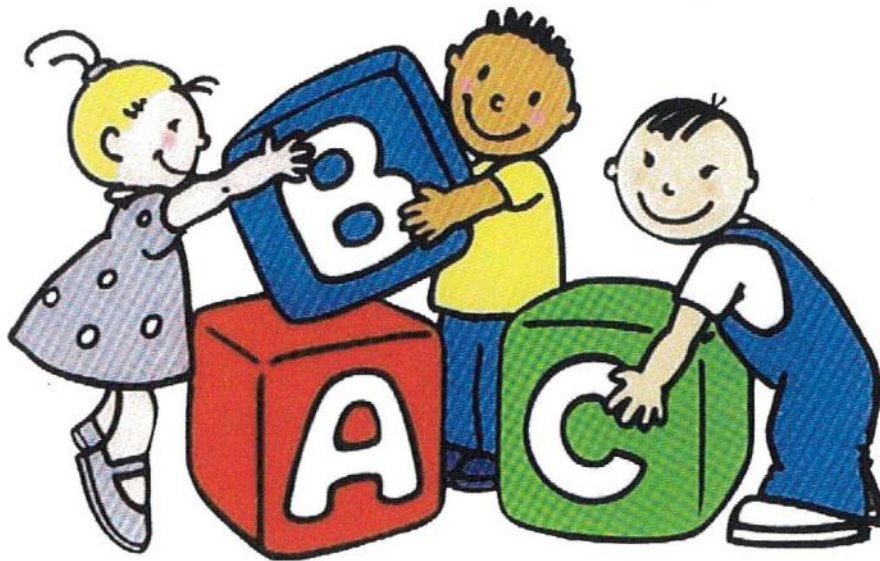
*All preschool children, regardless of their abilities, disabilities, or the social, linguistic, or economic diversity of the children's families are eligible to be served in our preschool program.

Save the Date

Johnson County Central Preschool

2023-24 Enrollment Opens

February 1, 2023



**An on-line application can be accessed
beginning February 1, 2023**

www.jccentral.org

**If you have any questions or would like to schedule a classroom
visit, please call the elementary office: 402-335-3320.**


***All preschool children, regardless of their abilities, disabilities, or the social, linguistic, or economic diversity of the children's families are eligible to be served in our preschool program.**

December 2022 Johnson County Central Lunch Menu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Hot Dog w/ug Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	2 Pizza Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	3
				8 Popcorn Chicken Bowl HS, MS, CE Popcorn Chicken TE & PK Fruit & Veggie Bar Dinner Roll Milk	9 Sloppy Nacho's Cowboy Salsa Fruit & Veggie Bar Scooby Snack Milk	10
				15 Corn Dog Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	16 Br. Cheese Stix Cookie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	17
				22 NO SCHOOL	23	24
				DECEMBER 19 - 30 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK		
				29 NO SCHOOL	30	
				DECEMBER 19 - 30 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK		
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January 2023

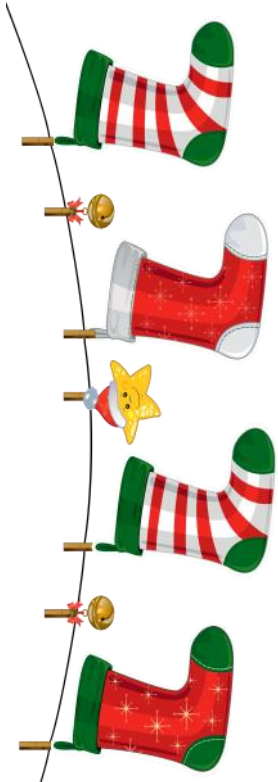
Johnson County Central Lunch Menu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 	2 NO SCHOOL <i>Teacher In-service</i>	3 Cr Chicken / w/ Biscuit Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	4 Cheeseburger w/ Bun French Fries Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	5 Chili Cheese Dog HS/MS Hit Dog Elem Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	6 Pizza Cookie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	7	
8	9 PB Jelly/Ch. Stick Tec. Elem Totcho's MS & HS Bread Stick Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	10 Chefs Choice Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	11 Chicken Noodle Soup Cheese Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	12 Breakfast for Lunch Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	13 Asian Chicken MS&HS Chicken Nuggets Elem & PK Rice Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	14	
15	16 NO SCHOOL <i>Teacher In-service</i>	17 Goulash Green Beans Garlic Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	18 Sloppy Joe w/ Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	19 Cheese Sticks Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	20 Br Chicken Patty/ w/ Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	21	
22	23 Chicken Fajita Refried Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	24 Hot Ham & Cheese w/ Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	25 Corn Dog Mac & Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	26 Chicken Noodle Soup Cheese Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	27 Pizza Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	28	
29	30 Chicken Alfredo Green Beans Garlic Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	31 Br Beef Patty w/ Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Menu Is Subject to Change Without Notice “This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider”				

December 2022

JCC Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



3
 Aca Deca Scrimmage @ JCC HS—8:00 am
 W Girls Invite @ Conestoga HS—9:00 am
 JH Boys BB Tournament @ JCC MS, Cook—9:00 am
 W Boys Invite @ Harvard—10:00 am
 BB @ Tri-County
 JV Boys/Girls—1:00 pm
 V Girls/Boys—2:30/4:00 pm

1
 SCC Early Childhood Career Day @ SCC, Lincoln 8:30 am
 Winter Sports Pep Rally @ JCC HS—3:15 pm
 9-12 Grade HS Music Concert @ JCC Elem Auditorium—7:00 pm

2
 BB vs Mead @ JCC JV Boys @ MS, Cook—4:30 pm
 JV Girls @ JCC HS—4:30 pm
 V Girls/Boys @ JCC HS—6:00/7:30 pm

1
 Grades 4/5 NSCAS Math Testing—8:30 am
 Ag Ed Students—NE Ag Expo—Lincoln—9:00 am
 W Girls Tri @ WW—6:00 pm
 BB vs Syracuse @ JCC JV Boys @ JCC MS—4:30 pm
 JV Girls @ JCC HS—4:30 pm
 V Girls/Boys @ JCC HS—6:00/7:30 pm

8
 Preschool Family Holiday Event—Tecumseh 2:30 pm
 Cook—2:30 pm
 W Boys Invite @ Bellevue West HS—3:30 pm
 4-8 MS Concert @ JCC MS Cook Site—6:30 pm

7
 Grades 4/5 NSCAS ELA Testing—8:30 am
 FFA Launch Winter Boost @ UNL—9:30 am
 HS College Visit to Wayne State College—11:00 am

6
 All Seniors SENCA Presentation
 All Juniors ASVAB Testing
 All Freshmen/Sophomores Career Event Presentation @ HS—8:15 am
 BB vs Southern @ JCC JV Boys @ MS Cook—4:30 pm
 JV Girls @ JCC HS—4:30 pm
 V Girls/Boys @ JCC HS—6:00/7:15 pm

5
 NO SCHOOL
 Teacher In Service
 V Unified Bowling State Meet @ Sun Valley Lanes, Lincoln—8:00 am
 C Team Boys BB vs Louisville @ JCC HS—6:00 pm

9
 JH Boys VV Tourney @ Palmyra—8:00 am
 W Girls Invite @ West Point Beemer HS—9:00 am
 W Boys Invite @ North Bend—10:00 am
 JV/V Girls/Boys BB @ Pawnee City—1:30/2:30/3:30/5:00 pm
 COOK COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS @ JCC MS—5:30 PM

8
 Grades 6/7/8 NSCAS ELA Testing—8:30 am
 W Girls V Invite @ Fairbury HS—4:00 pm
 W Boys V @ JCC HS—5:30 pm
 K-3 Grade Christmas Program—6:30 pm

13
 JCC V Bowling @ Sunset Bowl, York—2:00 pm
 JH Boys BB vs WW @ JCC MS Cook—4:00 pm
 JV/V Girls/Boys BB @ Palmyra HS—4:30/5:45/7:15 pm

12
 JH Boys BB @ Calvert Elem, Auburn (C.B.A) - 4:30 pm
 C Team BB Girls/Boys vs Freeman @ JCC HS—6:00/7:30 pm

10
 JH Boys BB Tourney @ Malcalm—9:00 am
 W Girls/Boys Thunderbird Invite @ JCC MS, Cook—9:30 am
 JCC Bowling @ Tiger Pin, North Bend—10:00 am

15
 Grades 6/7/8 NSCAS ELA Testing—8:30 am
 W Girls V Invite @ Fairbury HS—4:00 pm
 W Boys V @ JCC HS—5:30 pm
 K-3 Grade Christmas Program—6:30 pm

20
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 JV/V Girls BB vs Auburn @ JCC HS—5:30/7:00 pm

19
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 C Team Girls/Boys BB @ Syracuse—6:00/7:30 pm

16
 END OF 2ND QUARTER/ 1ST SEMESTER
 BB vs Louisville @ JCC JV Boys @ MS Cook—4:30 pm
 JV Girls @ HS—4:30 pm
 V Girls/Boys @ HS—6:00/7:30 pm

22
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 PARENTS NIGHT FOR BASKETBALL & CHEER
 JV/V Girls/Boys BB vs Freeman @ JCC HS 3:00/4:30/6:00/7:30 pm

27
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 NSAA Moratorium—GYMS CLOSED

18
 NSAA Moratorium—GYMS CLOSED

17
 JH Boys BB Tourney @ Malcalm—9:00 am
 W Girls/Boys Thunderbird Invite @ JCC MS, Cook—9:30 am
 JCC Bowling @ Tiger Pin, North Bend—10:00 am

23
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 NSAA Moratorium—GYMS CLOSED

30
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 V Girls/Boys BB Tourney @ Thayer Central 11:00 am/1:00 pm


26
 NO SCHOOL
 WINTER BREAK
 NSAA Moratorium—GYMS CLOSED

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



January 2023

JCC Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK 	2 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service	3 CLASSES RESUME FOR 2023 Begin 2nd Semester 3rd Quarter	4	5 JV/V Girls/Boys BB @ Wilber-Clatonia-4:30/6:00/7:30 pm W/V Boys Tri @ Thurayer Central-6:00 pm	6 W/V Girls/Boys Invite @ Wilber-Clatonia-3:30 pm	7 W/V Girls Invite @ Beatrice HS-9:00 am
8	9 V Girls BB Mudecas Tourney-TBD JCC Bowling @ The Mark, Elkhorn-1:00 pm	10 V Boys BB Mudecas Tourney-TBD JCC Bowling @ Harvest Bowl-4:00 pm	11 JCC School Board Meeting @ JCC HS Computer Lab-6:00 pm	12 V Girls/Boys BB Mudecas Tourney-TBD W/V Boys Invite @ Yutan HS-4:00 pm	13 V Girls BB Mudecas Tourney-TBD W/V Boys Invite @ Weeping Water HS-2:00 pm	14 V Boys BB Mudecas Tourney-TBD W/V Girls Invite @ Nebraska City HS-10:00 am
15	16 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service FFA District LDE's @ Norris HS-8:00 am C Team BB Girls/Boys @ Wilber-Clatonia-6:00/7:15 pm	17 JCC V Bowling @ Harvest Bowl-4:00 pm W/V Girls/Boys @ Fairbury HS-6:00 pm BB vs Weeping Water @ JCC JV Boys @ MS, Cook Site-4:30 pm JV Girls @ HS-4:30 pm V Girls/Boys @ HS 6:00/7:30 pm	18	19 BB vs HTRS @ JCC JV Boys @ MS, Cook Site 4:30 pm JV Girls @ HS-4:30 pm V Girls/Boys @ HS-6:00/7:30 pm W/V Boys Tri @ Weeping Water-6:00 pm	20 W/V Girls/Boys Invite @ Louisville HS-2:30 pm	21 W/V Girls Invite @ Weeping Water HS-9:30 am BB @ Falls City JV Boys @ Falls City MS- 2:00 pm JV Girls @ Falls City HS-2:00 pm V Girls/Boys @ Falls City HS-3:30/5:00 pm
22	23 JH Girls BB vs Freeman @ JCC MS, Cook Site 4:00 pm C Team BB Girls/Boys vs Southern @ JCC HS-6:00/7:30 pm	24	25	26 ESU #4 Leadership Academy-9:00 am BB vs Fairbury @ JCC JV Boys @ JCC MS, Cook Site-4:30 pm JV Girls @ JCC HS-4:30 pm V Girls/Boys @ JCC HS-6:00/7:30 pm	27 V/W Invite @ Freeman HS-3:00 pm	28 Mudecas Speech Context @ HTRS JH Girls BB Tourney @ JCC MS, Cook-9:00 am W/V Girls Tourney @ Cedar Bluffs HS-10:00 am
29	30 V Boys BB ECNC-TBD W/V Girls ECNC Conf. Invite @ Weeping Water HS-6:00 pm	31 V Girls BB ECNC-TBD	ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE			

Annual JCC Wish Tree

Our annual Wish Tree will be starting soon! During this event, community members and district patrons are invited to pick an ornament (or 2) and fulfill a wish for our teachers. This is a wonderful way to show support for our school district!



Trees will be set up in the elementary entryway in Tecumseh, outside the new gym at the Cook site, and near the high school gym entrance at the Tecumseh site. We will also be taking trees to some community events during the month of December. We will be using an online Amazon Wish List and that address link will be released during the early part of November. Please check the district and PTO Facebook pages and the school website for that link once it goes active. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Alicia Brommer at abrommer01@gmail.com.

Thank you for making this a successful event for our teachers and students. It truly is appreciated by everyone involved! Happy holidays!

~Sponsored by the JCC PTO

Parents please stop by school and check out the lost and found tables. Both elementary & middle school have an abundance of lost and found clothing.



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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Non-Discrimination

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.

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 Jon Rother, Superintendent at 402-335-3320.

NO SCHOOL

Monday, December 5

Monday, January 2

Monday, January 16

TEACHER IN SERVICE

NO SCHOOL

Monday, DECEMBER 19—

Monday, JANUARY 2

**Christmas & New Year
Break**

**Classes Resume Tuesday,
January 3**

*Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New Year!*