



## Superintendent Monthly Update

by **Jon Rother**. February 2024

# JCC Facilities Survey Results

(Conducted October-December 2023)

- **178** surveys were completed.
  - ◊ **16** were returned with no rank order of the options and requesting no new tax burden.
- **77%** of surveys returned **supported new construction**.
- **PK-8 New Construction** on New Site with Gyms
  - ◊ **49% first choice**, 34% second choice, 16% last choice
- **7-12 New Construction** on New Site with Gyms
  - ◊ **35% first choice**, 51% second choice, 14% last choice
- **Renovate Current Facilities**
  - ◊ **16% first choice**, 14% second choice, 70% last choice
- Out of **2,226 registered voters** in the JCC district, the number of surveys returned represents **8.7%** of the voting population.
  - ◊ This assumes that all the surveys came from registered voters within the JCC district and that each individual returned only one (1) survey.

## Recap of the July 2023 Bond Election

2,226 Registered Voters in the JCC School District:

- **66%** of Johnson County Voted (Yes 636, No 537)
- **69%** of Otoe County Voted (Yes 52, No 236)
- **80%** of Nemaha County Voted (Yes 0, No 8)
- **78%** of Pawnee County Voted (Yes 4, No 17)

**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

# A Historical Timeline of JCC's Facilities Journey

February 2023

- 1931** - Tecumseh Site Elementary built
- 1958** - Nemaha Valley School built
- 1966** - Tecumseh High School built
- 1999** - Addition to Nemaha Valley School through bond totaling \$3.4 million
- 2001** - Due to decreasing enrollment and decreasing state aid, Nemaha Valley begins informally meeting with representatives from neighboring schools to prepare for a possible merger.
- 2003** - Nemaha Valley begins a series of meetings with neighboring schools.
- 2004** - In April 2004, Nemaha Valley held a public meeting to discuss the future of the district.
- 2005** - In September of 2005, a feasibility study was conducted for Nemaha Valley for the possibility of a merger with Tecumseh Public Schools.
- 2007** - In April 2007, joint board meetings were held between Nemaha Valley and Tecumseh Public Schools in Cook at the Nemaha Valley Media Center to dissolve the districts and merge them into Johnson County Central Public Schools. JCC's Cook Site would have programming for grades K-8, the Tecumseh Site would have programming for grades K-6 and grades 9-12.
- 2011** - PK-3 programming is moved to the Tecumseh Site. All 4-8 programming is moved to the Cook Site. The Cook Site maintains a preschool as well.
- 2018** - Aging facilities and staffing inefficiencies identified as areas of emphasis for the district. A series of meetings are held in the fall across the district for public input to help drive the next decisions.
- 2019** - In February of 2019, Advisory Committees for Facilities and Programming are created to provide recommendations to the board for future plans. Two more community meetings are held to inform and hear from patrons.
- 2019** - In April of 2019, two more community meetings were held to give patrons cost estimates for new construction.
- 2019** - In November 2019, Clark Enersen Partners was chosen by the board as the architect to explore and design a future building project.
- 2021** - In January 2021, JCC entered into an Option Agreement to Purchase Real Estate for the 52 acres of land North of the Tecumseh Site football field for a potential new site.
- 2021** - In October 2021, JCC contracts with Boyd Jones as the Construction Manager At-Risk for a future building project.
- 2022** - A bond election for a PK-12 facility on new ground in the bond amount of \$43.375 million dollars fails on a vote of 563 FOR and 673 AGAINST.
- 2023** - A bond election for a PK-12 facility on new ground in the bond amount of \$49.5 million dollars fails on a vote of 692 FOR and 798 AGAINST.

# Clarification on Figures from the November 2023 Newsletter

February 2023

In my November 2023 newsletter article titled “One Site Benefits”, I talked about personnel savings and time lost for teachers due to travel. Here is the excerpt from the article:

*“Up to 7 class periods are lost due to 8 teachers traveling between the 2 sites on a daily basis (this equates to a full teacher or approximately \$74,200).”*

The number \$74,200 is the average cost to the district for a teacher based on the salaries and benefits of teachers at JCC for the 2023-2024 school year. \$74,200 includes salary and benefits. The current base salary for teachers at JCC is \$39,400 without benefits. The current highest salary paid to JCC teachers is \$75,254 without benefits.

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## Kindergarten Enrollment

For the 2024-2025 School Year

Students reaching age 5 on or before July 31, 2024 are eligible for kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year. We will be setting a date for Kindergarten Round-Up soon. Please stay tuned for updates.

Students who will reach the age of 5 between August 1 and October 15 this year, can be enrolled for the 2024-2025 school year. However, the student must demonstrate through JCC’s recognized assessment procedure that they are capable of performing the work of kindergarten. JCC School Board Policy 5055 states:

*“The board delegates to the elementary principal responsibility for determining whether the conditions of this policy have been met. The elementary principal may deny early enrollment of a child who meets the early enrollment criteria if, in the principal’s professional judgment, the child lacks the academic or social skills to be successful in the district’s kindergarten program.”*

**Early enrollment requests for the 2024-2025 school year must be submitted by March 29, 2024.**

# Snow Days

(How many days can the students miss?)

Due to January's exceptional weather conditions, JCC (and many other schools) had to cancel some school days. These decisions aren't easy as we know we'd like to have the children in school (And some of you would love to get them out of the house!), but the safety of staff and students is the biggest concern. Can our buses traverse the roads safely? Can those parents, students and staff driving to school and back do so safely? Can those who walk to school make it safely? Input from several people and agencies are used to make the decision:

- County roads departments are consulted.
- Attend webinars and get updates from the National Weather Service.
- Get updates from Pawnee/Johnson County Emergency Management.
- Get updates from JCC transportation personnel who (when safe to do so) drive out and check the bus routes.
- Personally drive county roads to check conditions.

As we have a considerable amount of winter left this school year, we can't help but wonder how many school days can the students miss before they have to make it up? The short answer is 11 days for high school students, nine days for middle school and 14 days for elementary. The long answer has to do with the state requirements for student hours and the length of our school day. High school and middle school students are required to attend 1,080 hours each year while elementary students are required to attend 1,032 hours each year. The JCC school day is 6.97 hours for high school, 6.87 hours for middle school and 6.8 hours for elementary school. All of these take out time for lunch. These numbers are then multiplied by the number of full school days (165) and then two half days (the first and last days of the school year) are added on. This puts the totals at 1,157.55 hours for the high school, 1,141.05 for the middle school and 1,129.5 for elementary. Take the total number of hours, subtract what is required by the state, divide this by the length of the school day, and you will get the number of days over what is required.

- High School  $(1,157.55 - 1,080) / 6.97 = 11.1$  days over requirement
- Middle School  $(1,141.05 - 1,080) / 6.87 = 8.89$  days over requirement
- Elementary  $(1,129.5 - 1,032) / 6.8 = 14.3$  days over requirement

As always, should you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at (402) 921-0187 or [jon.rother@jccentral.org](mailto:jon.rother@jccentral.org) !

# November 2023

## Thunderbirds of the Month



**K** - Colton Bowman, Jesse Lada, Caleb Griess, Emersynn Gartner, Ryder Myers  
Not Pictured - Emmarie Shullaw, Ellora Thomas, Izzabella Brown

**1st** - Victoria Chavez Acosta, Noah Lehn, Wren Bischoff, Jaxon Stafford-Lafin, Carsyn Gregory, Colton Bailey, Emery Herron, Kendrick Reyes, Renzo Maldonado, Piper Lary



**2nd** - Casin Gottula, Ava Herbert, Naomi Andrade, Charlie Brandt, Shelby Rothfuss, Shaylee Hartman, Quinn Beck, Bentley Gottula, Karter Shullaw

**3rd** - Thaddious Desmond, Jacob Griess, Chloe Kirkendall, Sophia Veras, Beau Winslow, Garrett Burgett, Randy Louis



## **NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL RICK LESTER**

The month of February is our first step in preparation for next fall where our students will start pre-registration for the 2024-2025 school year.

What is pre-registration? The students choose their top eight classes and two options - at this time there is no set schedule. Once all pre-registrations are complete we'll plan the class schedule. Every student must sign their pre-registration form and their parents must also sign the form. This gives the parents the opportunity to see their student's class selections and "sign off" on it. Mrs. Reuter, the school counselor, is the final signature on every student's pre-registration form. She reviews each student's class selection to verify they are taking appropriate classes which are required for each grade and are meeting their graduation requirements.

Students will receive their pre-registration forms on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. They will be due back to the office on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. This due date is necessary so that we can plan the class schedule. We try to create a schedule that accommodates the most students with the least amount of conflicts. Once we have the best class schedule created, Mrs. Reuter will personally meet with each student who has a class conflict. A student will only have a class schedule conflict if they are unable to get an eight period class schedule by using their eight selected classes or two options. Mrs. Reuter will then aid them in selecting an additional alternate class until we are able to fill their eight periods with an appropriate schedule.

After we have completed a successful class schedule, I will send out summer pre-registration letters to all students. Around the first week in August, each student will receive this letter which will contain their actual class schedule, complete with periods and teachers for every class. If the students and parents are satisfied with this schedule, nothing more needs to be done before the beginning of school next fall. If students desire to make changes to their class schedule they will have a scheduled day (to be announced), to meet with the counselor to make changes prior to the start of school. Students will also have the first five days of the 2024-2025 school year to change their class schedule.

I encourage all parents to work with your students to help them plan their 2024-2025 class schedule - your input and encouragement is essential.



# NOTES FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

## Mrs. Olivia Reuter

### FAFSA Update and How to Create an FSA ID

The 2024-25 FAFSA is now open!!!! Students and parents must create a Student Aid Account (FSA ID) – including parents without a Social Security number.

- If parents file as married filing jointly – *only one parent FSA ID is required.*
- If parents are unmarried but live together or are married and filing taxes separately, *both parents must have an FSA ID.*
- The Social Security Administration must verify the FSA IDs *before* a FAFSA can be started (allow 3 days)
- FSA IDs will use two-factor authentication.
- Those without a Social Security Number will be able to create an account when the FAFSA opens.

EducationQuest provides free help to Nebraska families!!! Their college planning experts are also ready to provide personal assistance in person at their offices, through a Zoom meeting, or on the phone. Contact EducationQuest offices in Lincoln (402-475-5222) or Omaha (402-391-4033) with any questions you have that you can't find answers to or to set up an appointment to receive help in filling out the FAFSA.

### Applications for Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Scholarships Open Until Feb 1st

The Susan T. Buffett Foundation has offered scholarships to college students in Nebraska for over 50 years. Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis to first-time freshman entering college who live in Nebraska, graduate from a Nebraska high school with plans to attend a Nebraska public college, and demonstrate financial need. The requirements for the online application are as follows: application forms, one recommendation, FAFSA Submission Summary (previously called Student Aid Report), high school transcript, short answer questions, and a consent form. All applications must be submitted including all required documents by February 1, 2024 before 5:00 PM (central time), except for the FAFSA Submission Summary. Your FAFSA Submission Summary needs to be submitted by March 15, 2024 before 5:00 PM (central time). There are no exceptions on deadlines, none whatsoever!

### Meet JCC's Class of 2024

In each newsletter, I'll be featuring a few of our JCC seniors. This month, I'm continuing with four more members of the JCC class of 2024.



#### **Bailee Sterup**

Bailee Sterup is the daughter of Aaron and LeAnn Sterup of Tecumseh. Her favorite class is her online college course, Basic Nutrition, because she normally doesn't have much to do for that class. Her most difficult class is Psychology because it is a lot of remembering and upper level learning. While in high school, Bailee has been involved in basketball, volleyball, track, National Honor Society, student council, FBLA, and HOSA. The best thing about being a senior according to Bailee is, "getting to leave high school soon." Outside of school, Bailee loves to go shopping and getting her nails done. After she graduates high school, Bailee plans to attend SCC Lincoln. In ten years, Bailee sees herself living in Florida and married.

## **Arely Cabrales**

Arely Cabrales is the daughter of Maria Carrera and Teodoro Cabrales of Tecumseh. She has two older brothers, Carlos and Uriel. Arely's favorite classes in high school were here English classes because she enjoys writing and reading. When asked about her most challenging high school class, Arely replied, "American Government is probably my biggest struggle because it's not something I am interested in." Throughout high school, Arely has participated in volleyball, basketball, track, and National Honor Society. Her favorite school lunch is definitely the popcorn chicken bowl. According to Arely, "The best thing about being a senior is definitely the feeling of almost being done with school. I know I will always cherish the memories I have made throughout my four years, but I am excited to see what the future holds for me." Outside of school, Arely likes to read and cook. Arely's plans after high school graduation include attending SCC for two years and then transferring to UNL to complete her teaching program. When predicting her life ten years from now, Arely said, "I see myself hopefully with a family, financially stable, working at a small town elementary school, and owning a cat and a dog."

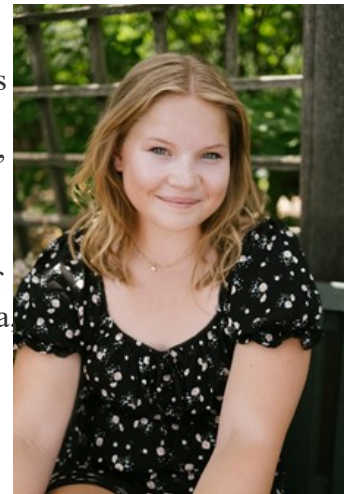


## **Sergio Valles**

Sergio Valles is the son of Sergio and Norma Valles of Tecumseh. He has two sisters and one brother, Ana (30), Ruby (20), and Cesar (8). Sergio's favorite high school class is team games because it's fun and easy. His most difficult high school class is physics because it involves a lot of math and science. His favorite school lunch is the popcorn chicken bowl. During high school, Sergio has been involved in band, basketball, National Honor Society, football, BUDS, student council, golf, one-act, and the spring play. Outside of school, Sergio likes to hang out with friends and golf. Sergio says that the best thing about being a senior is, "almost being done with high school." After graduation, Sergio plans to attend college and major in computer science. His career goal is to become a quality assurance analyst. He has not yet decided which college or university he will attend. In ten years, Sergio predicts, "I see myself living and working in a city with a family. I hope to have pets."

## **Maya Straka**

Maya Straka is the daughter of Scott and Jennifer Straka of Tecumseh. She has one sister, Emma, who is in college at Northwest Missouri State. During high school, Maya has been involved in band, basketball, academic decathlon, NHS, HOSA, FBLA, volleyball, and track and field. Her favorite high school class was anatomy/physiology because she really enjoyed learning about all of the parts of the body and how they work together. Maya's favorite school lunch is the popcorn chicken bowl. Her most difficult class was Chemistry. Outside of school, Maya likes to hang out with her friends and family. According to Maya the best thing about being a senior is "being able to be a leader on our sports teams." After she graduates from high school, Maya plans to "attend a college and hopefully become either a marine biologist or a zoologist." In ten years, Maya says that she sees herself working at a job that she enjoys.





# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

By Rich Bacon

2<sup>nd</sup> quarter/1<sup>st</sup> semester report cards were handed out to students the week of January 22. If you haven't seen your child's report card, please talk to them or call the office.

Congratulations to the following Middle School students who earned straight A's for both the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Reese Badertscher, Leighton Beethe, Payton Brandt, Abigail Burki, Reese Carter, Adree Case, Conner Gerking, Dalton Henderson, Trey Lubben, Stefani Peters, Sophia Schmid, Wesley Schmid, Landon Toohey & Riley Wellensiek; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Jackson Gottula, Hadley Hartman, & Heidi Reyes; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Jay Barot, Lila Britt, Timothy Johns-Hinrichsen, Angel Lara Rojas, Kyndall Meints, Emma Othmer, Jack Sterup & Brynn Weber; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Isaac Buchanan, Ada Goodrich, Kelly Kongmanyong & Ian Robeson; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Salena Cabrales, Rylin Campbell-Thies, Alivia Gottula & Evelyn Little. Congratulations to these students for their hard work!

On a related note, second semester Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 7:00 p.m. Parent-Teacher Conference is an ideal time for parents and teachers to have detailed conversations about a child's current grades, the effort that is being given by their child, the student's classroom behavior and other issues that are relevant to student learning. Parent-Teacher Conferences also provide your child's teachers with an opportunity to share classroom work or share something positive that your child has done. 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 February 12<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to the following students who earned the right to represent JCC at the Johnson County Spelling Contest. Eighth Grade: Jesus Hurtado, Kenny Ofoegbu, Stefani Peters, & Wes Schmid; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Damien Andrade, Jackson Gottula, Wyatt Lueders & Heidi Reyes; Sixth Grade: Jay Barot, Lydia Bilsend, Lilyana Birdwell & Timothy Johns-Hinrichsen; Fifth Grade: Eleanor Burgett, Ada Goodrich, Damien Hinojosa & Ian Robeson; and 4<sup>th</sup> grade: Selena Cabrales, Rylin Campbell-Thies, Nathaly Hurtado-Arellano & Evelyn Little.

Special Congratulations for the Thunderbirds who qualified for the oral portion of the Spelling Bee to be held at the middle school in Cook: Stefani Peters, Jesus Hurtado, Kenechukwu Ofoegbu, Wesley Schmid, Jackson Gottula, Heidi Reyes, Timothy Johns-Hinrichsen, Jay Barot, Selena Cabrales and Nathaly Hurtado-Arellano. Good Job and Good Luck Thunderbirds!

Congratulations to the following JCC 7th-9th grade students who were selected for the Singing Youth of Nebraska Honor Choir in Kearney: Reese Carter, Adree Case, Jesus Hurtado, Cooper Jones, Kenny Ofoegbu, Tony Orozco, Stefani Peters, Damian Prado, Wesley Schmid, Alex Thipphavong, Tegan Topp, Xavier Arguello, Jude Longsine Brayden Beethe, Jon DeFreece and Monica Jimenez. They will perform on Saturday, January 27 in a choir of around 120 members that were chosen through an audition process.

The Junior High Boys' Basketball teams finished their season before the semester break in December. The A-team finished with a 7-4 record, the B-team finished with a 6-5 record and the C-team was 0-4. The A-team finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the JCC Invite and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Palmyra Fun Day Tournament & and the B-Team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Palmyra Fun Day Tournament. Congratulations to Coach Jones, Coach Straka, Coach West and the boys on a competitive season.

The Johnson County Central wrestling team and girls' basketball team started practice in early January in preparation of their upcoming season. There are several opportunities for our fans to watch them at a contest close by. Please come and cheer on our athletes and coaches. Good luck to both teams and their coaches. Go Thunderbirds!

# Johnson County Central Middle School Honor Roll Second Quarter 2023-2024

## 8th Grade

Reese Badertscher (All A's)  
Leighton Beethe (All A's)  
Pavton Brandt (All A's)  
Abigail Burki (All A's)  
Reese Carter (All A's)  
Adree Case (All A's)  
Conner Gerking (All A's)  
Dalton Henderson (All A's)  
 Ailyn Herrera  
 Jesus Hurtado  
 Cooper Jones  
 Aaryn Kaster  
 Bodhi Klein  
Trey Lubben (All A's)  
 Anthony Orozco  
Stefani Peters (All A's)  
Sophia Schmid (All A's)  
Wesley Schmid (All A's)  
 Alex Thippavong  
Landon Toohey (All A's)  
Riley Wellensick (All A's)

## 7th Grade

Jorge Andrade  
 Bentley Campbell  
Jackson Gottula (All A's)  
Hadley Hartman (All A's)  
 Marley Jensen  
 Janel Leyva  
 Jude Longsine  
Heidi Reyes (All A's)  
 Kenna Thomas  
 TyLynn Wellensick  
Elliot Werner (All A's)

## 6th Grade

Jamison Bacon  
Jay Barot (All A's)  
 Lydia Bilslend  
 Lilyana Birdwell  
Lila Britt (All A's)  
 Lucas Cropp  
 Haley Dixon  
 Aedan Gordon  
 Naomie Henry  
Timothy Johns-Hinrichsen (All A's)  
 McKenna Lade  
Angel Lara Rojas (All A's)  
Kyndall Meints (All A's)  
 Kloie Neemann  
 Courtney Oltrogge  
Emma Othmer (All A's)  
 Sophia Rainey  
Jack Sterup (All A's)  
 Zophia Wagner  
Brynn Weber (All A's)



Honor Roll students have no grade lower than a B.  
 Honor Roll with distinction is based on student's having all A's

# Johnson County Central Middle School Honor Roll

## First Semester 2023-2024

**8th Grade**

- Jessa Adams
- Reese Badertscher (All A's)**
- Leighton Beethe (All A's)**
- Payton Brandt (All A's)**
- Abigail Burki (All A's)**
- Reese Carter (All A's)**
- Adree Case (All A's)**
- Grace Frederick
- Conner Gerking (All A's)**
- Dalton Henderson (All A's)**
- Ailyn Herrera
- Cooper Jones (All A's)**
- Aaryn Kaster
- Bodhi Klein
- Trey Lubben (All A's)**
- Anthony Orozco
- Stefani Peters (All A's)**
- Edgar Prado
- Sophia Schmid (All A's)**
- Wesley Schmid (All A's)**
- Alex Thippavong
- Landon Toohy (All A's)**
- Riley Wellensiek (All A's)**

**7th Grade**

- Jorge Andrade
- Evelyn Burget
- Bentley Campbell
- Jackson Gottula (All A's)**
- Hadley Hartman (All A's)**
- Ashton Huskey
- Marley Jensen
- Janel Leyva
- Jude Longsine
- Heidi Reyes (All A's)**
- Kenna Thomas
- Elliott Werner

**6th Grade**

- Jamison Bacon
- Jay Barot (All A's)**
- Lydia Bilsend (All A's)**
- Lilyana Birdwell
- Lila Britt (All A's)**
- Lucas Cropp
- Aedan Gordon
- Naomie Henry
- Timothy Johns-Hinrichsen (All A's)**
- McKenna Lade
- Angel Lara Rojas (All A's)**
- Kyndall Meints (All A's)**
- Kloie Neemann
- Courtney Oltrogge (All A's)**
- Emma Othmer (All A's)**
- Sophia Rainey
- Jack Sterup (All A's)**
- Zophia Wagner
- Brynn Weber (All A's)**

Honor Roll students have no grade lower than a B.  
Honor Roll with distinction is based on student's having all A's

## Greetings Thunderbird Family!

I hope everyone had a great holiday break and a Happy New Year! At the writing of this letter, we are in the heart of the winter season as the basketball teams get ready for the conference tournament and the wrestling teams prepare for districts and state.

With all the crazy weather that we have had over the last few weeks, the MUDECAS basketball tournament was canceled. The boys and girls were both placed in the A division against Falls City Sacred Heart. The boys came away with a win while the girls lost by 12. However, during the tournament our own 2009 girls team was supposed to be recognized for their 15th anniversary of winning the A division. In order to still recognize them, we had the team introduced in front of our home crowd on January 20th.



Members of the team: Breanna “Borrenpohl” Rowland, Lisa “Niedermeyer” Ourada, Taylor “Davison” Moore, Shelby “Reilly” Potter, Kelsi “Holthus” Meyer, Brittney “Lester” Pflueger, Tanya “Gadeken” Williams, Shelby “Blum” Rose, Whitney “Pfister” Caspers, Jamie “Straube” Kuhl, Kate “Wellensiek” Dietz, Michaela “Remond” Hueber.

Assistant Coaches: Bob Eichenburger, Ashley Juilfs. Head Coach: Randy Miller

**Here are some important dates as we move through February:**

**Wrestling:**

*February 3rd: Girls Sub districts at Crete*

*February 9th: Girls Districts at Aurora*

*February 10th: Boys Districts at Boone Central*

*February 15th, 16th, 17th: Boys and Girls State Wrestling in Omaha.*

**Basketball:**

*February 6th: Senior night vs. Elmwood-Murdock*

*February 13th, 15th: Girls sub-districts at the highest seed.*

**(Freeman, JCC, Lourdes, Weeping Water)**

*February 19th, 20th, 22nd: Boys sub-districts at the highest seed.*

**(Freeman, JCC, Lincoln Lutheran Southern, Tri County)**

*February 28-March 2: Girls State Tournament in Lincoln*

*March 6-9: Boys State Tournament in Lincoln*

**Bowling:**

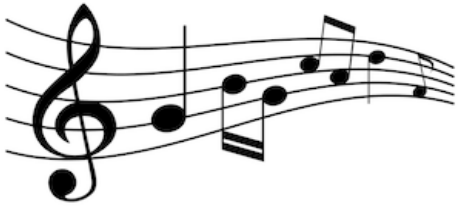
*January 29th: Boys & Girls Districts at Sun Valley Lanes in Lincoln @ 11:30  
(JCC, Lincoln Northwest, Seward, Waverly)*

**\*\*Spring practice starts on Monday, February 26th\*\***

Thank you!

Garrett Collin  
Activities Director





# Music Calendar



<b>February</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>Thurs-Fri</b>	<b>Wesleyan Honor Choir</b>
	6	Tuesday	PB - BB vs. Elmwood-Murdock
	7-10	Wed-Sat	ACDA Choral Conference - Omaha
	<del>8-10</del>	<del>Thurs-Sat</del>	<del>Wesleyan Honor Band (9th-12th)</del>
	13	Tuesday	PSC Choral Invitational
<b>March</b>	5	Tuesday	30th Annual Freshmore Clinic - Tecumseh
	14	Thursday	<b>MS Contest Concert - Cook @ 6:30 pm</b>
	15	Friday	<b>MS Contest - HTRS (Choir &amp; Band)</b>
	19	Tuesday	<b>HS MUDECAS Music Contest - Sterling</b>
	23	Saturday	Class C Allstate Band
<b>April</b>	5	Friday	Meridian MS Honor Choir and Band (7th/8th)
	8	Monday	<b>HS Contest Concert @ 7:00pm</b>
	18	Thursday	<b>HS District Music Contest - Tecumseh</b>
	25, 26	Thur & Fri	Musical - Thur @ 2:00, Fri @ 7:00
	28	Sun	Musical - Sun @ 2
	29	Monday	<b>HS Spring Concert and Art Show @ 7:00 pm</b>
<b>May</b>	1	Wednesday	Band Recruitment Day
	6	Monday	ECNC Honor Band @ Auburn
	11	Saturday	<b>HS Band at Graduation</b>
	13	Monday	<b>4-8 Spring Concert - Cook 7:00pm</b>
	14	Tuesday	<b>K-3 Spring Program - HS GYM, 7:00 pm</b>

# JCC Preschool Enrollment for the 2024-25 School Year Opens February 1, 2024

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, 2024. A **three-year-old** is defined as a child who will be three years of age on or before July 31, 2024. We offer a full-day program for prekindergarten students. Three-year-olds will attend a morning preschool session. All preschool programming will be housed at the Tecumseh site for the 2024-25 academic year. Preschool is in session Tuesday through Friday. It is preferred that your child be fully toilet trained before entering the program. If your child is kindergarten eligible (age five by July 31, 2024), he/she is not eligible for our preschool 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 to and from licensed child care programs at no cost. Shuttle services will run between the Cook site and the Tecumseh site.

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, 2024** on the school website: [www.jccentral.org](http://www.jccentral.org). If you would prefer a paper application, please contact the elementary office.

Contact will be made by April 15, 2024 regarding enrollment for the 2024-25 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.

**Parents** please stop by school and check out the lost and found – both schools have an abundance of lost and found clothing.



### Here is a friendly reminder about School Pay!

JCC uses a secure online payment platform called SchoolPay where parents can create accounts to pay for some of the student fees and lunch balance. The website is <https://www.schoolpay.com/login> and from there you can create an account for yourself and associate with your child/children. There is also a direct link from the JCC website: Quicklinks > SchoolPay (Online Payment)

Previously the link was listed as "Online Lunch Payment."

Not only can you pay for lunches, some of the other items that can be paid for online are iPad Insurance, Instrument Rental Fee, Student Activity Fee, Adult Activity Pass, & After School Program. There is a FAQ page on the website that answers common questions about how to create an account and add your children.

# SchoolPay<sup>®</sup>





# Bus Drivers Wanted!



JCC is seeking route, shuttle and activity drivers for the current school year and upcoming 2023-2024 school year.






\$35 per route  
\$35 per shuttle  
\$25.00 per hour for activities

Contact Mr. Rother or Laurie Badertscher if interested.  
402-335-3320


Johnson County Central is an equal-opportunity employer.

# February 2024 Johnson County Central Lunch Menu

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>Menu Is Subject to Change Without Notice</b> <b>“This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider”</b>					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Chicken Nuggets Bread & Butter Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Taco Salad Cheese Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Br. Pork Patty /ug Bun Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Goulash Green Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Garlic Bread Milk	Chili Dog w/ug bun HS Hot Dog w/ug bun Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences	Chicken Tender Wrap L&T Corn Chips Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Ash Wednesday Mac & Cheese Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk 	Shredded Pork / ug Bun Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Cheese Sticks Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Chicken Tetrazzini Garlic Bread Stick Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Chefs Choice Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Hamburger / WG Bun Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Quesadilla Spanish Rice Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Chili & Meatless Chili Cinnamon Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	24 National Chili Day 
25	26	27	28	29		
	NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service	Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Br Chicken Patty w/ug Bun Potatoes Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk		

# February 2024

## JCC Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5 BB C Team Girls/Boys @ Elmwood-Murdock- 6:00/7:00 pm	6 BB JH Girls (B/A) @ Weeping Water-5:00 pm BB vs Elmwood-Murdock @ JCC JV Boys @ JCC MS Cook Site- 4:30 pm JV Girls @ JCC HS-4:30 pm V Girls/Boys @ JCC HS-6:00/7:45 pm	7 FBLA Penn Business Contest @ PSC-8:30 am JCC School Board Meeting @ JCC HS Computer Lab - 6:00 p.m.	8 BB JH Girls vs Plattsmouth @ JCC MS Cook Site-4:00 pm BB @ College View Academy JV G/B-4:30 pm V G/B-6:00/7:45 pm	9 FBLA Husker Business Invitational @ UNL-8:00 am Wrestling V Girls District Meet @ Aurora MS-9:00 am	10 Wrestling Boys District Meet @ Boone Central - Time TBD Auburn Speech Meet @ Auburn HS-8:30 am BB C Team B/G Tourney @ JCC MS Cook Site- 9:00 am
11	12 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Parent/Teacher Conferences- 11:00 am-7:00 pm BB JH Girls @ Syracuse HS-4:30 pm	13 PSC Choral Invitational @ PSC JAG NE visit Wayne State College- 10:00 am 8th Grade SCC Campus Tour-9:30 am BB V Girls Sub-Districts-TBD	14 	15 Wrestling G/B Varsity State Championships @ CHI Health Center-Omaha-TBD BB V Girls Sub-Districts-TBD	16 Wrestling G/B Varsity State Championships @ CHI Health Center-Omaha-TBD State Cheer Competition-Grand Island BB Boys JV/V @ Auburn HS- 5:30/7:00 pm State Aca Deca @ UNO	17 Wrestling B Varsity State Championships @ CHI Health Center-Omaha-TBD BB JH Girls Tourney @ Palmyra-9:00 am State Aca Deca @ UNO
18	19 FFA District Welding Competition @ SCC-9:00 am BB JH Girls vs Pawnee City @ JCC MS Cook Site-4:00 pm BB V Boys Sub-Districts-TBD	20 Wrestling JH Trt @ JCC MS Cook Site- 4:30 pm BB V Boys Sub-Districts-TBD	21 ECNC Speech Meet @ Freeman HS-8:30 am	22 JAG NE State Competitions @ Henry Doody Zoo-9:30 am Wrestling JH Invite @ Falls City- 4:00 pm BB JH Girls @ Falls City- 4:00 pm BB V Boys Sub-Districts-TBD	23 Wrestling JH Invite @ Weeping Water -10:00 am	24
25	26 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Teacher In-Service Spring Practice Starts	27 Vaping Awareness Assembly- Grades 6-12 @ JCC HS-9:30 am	28 BB V Girls State Tourney @ Lincoln-TBD	29 Wrestling JH Tourney @ Auburn HS-4:30 pm BB V Girls State Tourney @ Lincoln-TBD	<b>ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE</b>	

# 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](http://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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ECRWS

## POSTAL PATRON

### 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**

***Friday, February 2nd***

No School for Students  
ESU #4 Engaging Educators Conference

***Monday, February 12***

No School for Students  
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 11:00 am—7:00 p.m.

***Monday, February 26***

No School for Students  
Teacher In-Service