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Johnson County Central Public Schools



Monthly Newsletter

May 2014

SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles



Certified State Aid figures for the 2014-15 school year were recently released by the Nebraska Department of Education. State Aid will not be kind to Johnson County Central again, as we will lose about \$123,000 next year as compared to this year. This equates to over half of the State Aid we received this year. The \$107,383 we will receive is actually a little more than I had originally planned on, but only slightly. The total is the least amount we will have received as a district. This is a direction I have been foretelling for several years now.

The State Aid formula, while quite complicated, is based on a simple theory that goes like this: $NEEDS-RESOURCES=STATE\ AID$. This means that the State determines what a school's needs are based on many factors. Then they figure what other resources, mainly local, are available to the district. Subtract the resources from the needs and in theory that school's State Aid is determined. A school that substantially grows its budget while not seeing much of an increase in local funding in theory should expect to see more State Aid. A district that does not grow its budget much, but sees a larger increase in local resources in theory will see a drop off in State Aid.

Another part of the formula is that the spending of each district is compared to that of like-sized districts to help determine needs. An individual school district's comparison group is made up of the ten school districts smaller and the ten that are larger in terms of formula students. Thus, every school district will have a different comparison group. In the case of JCC, the group goes as small as Superior (457 formula students) to Winnebago (555 formula students). When comparing Adjusted General Fund Operating Expenditures and Adjusted General Fund Operating Expenditures Per Formula Student (the two figures used by the State), JCC is a below average spender. In Adjusted General Fund Operating Expenditures, JCC spent \$4,942,448 as compared to a group average of \$5,220,557, or almost \$300,000 less. In the area of spending per student, JCC spent \$9,501 as compared to a group of average of \$10,161, or \$660 less. Thus, JCC's spending appears to be very much in line with the spending of schools of a similar size.

A trend that we are seeing in Nebraska school finance is that more and more schools are moving from being "equalized" districts to "non-equalized" districts. Equalized districts do not have enough resources and receive State Aid. Non-equalized districts are determined to have enough resources so they do not receive State Aid. For years the number of school districts who were non-equalized was in the 30-range, but has grown over the past few years. This year 114 school districts are classified as non-equalized and projections are that almost half of the schools (around 140) will become non-equalized in a matter of a few years. Much of this trend is being caused by rapidly escalating agricultural land valuations. My prediction has been that JCC will move into the non-equalized group but we are not there yet.

As we work through next year's budget, a question of timing makes efforts difficult. There are four "magic" dates that we have to look at when developing our budget, and in my opinion these dates are not in the proper alignment.

The first date is February 8. The Board of Education and the local teachers' group is required to complete negotiations by this date. They must do this without knowing what State Aid or local property valuations will be. Actually, they do not even know the staff that will be in place for the next year. In reality, the only "piece of the puzzle" that they have for the next school year is health insurance premiums.

The next date is April 10. This is the date that the State must inform schools what their State Aid will be for the following year. This date has jumped around quite a bit over the years. In my memory, the certification date has been as early as February 15 and as late as June 1 in given years.

The next date a district must look at is April 15. This is a date by which districts must inform certificated staff (i.e. teachers) whether there will be a "reduction in force (RIF)". If a school is going to look at using a RIF to help lower costs they must be in contact with staff members who could potentially be affected by a RIF. At our April Board of Education meeting, the Board did not take action to utilize reduction in force.

The fourth date is August 20. County Assessors are required to provide valuation certifications to school districts by this date. Notice that this date is over four months after the RIF date. Thus, in some years a district might not know either their State Aid or property valuations before having to make staffing decisions.

The main problem with all of this, of course, is how to put together a budget for the 2014-15 school year. As in recent years it will again be tight. I have begun the process of working through this and will meet with the Board of Education's Budget Review Committee in the near future to discuss specific ways in which we can make this work. Many different angles will need to be looked at in reaching this goal.

GRADUATION

I would like to wish the graduating class good luck in their futures. This has been a class with many accomplishments. I will miss this group as their graduation will create a huge void in our school. I have certainly been proud to be associated with them.

This is the time of year that brings along many celebrations. I would like to urge our students and their parents to use good sense in the activities that sometimes go along with these celebrations. I am, of course, referring to alcohol use by students. Absolutely nothing good comes out of teenagers drinking. At best nothing negative happens to them. This is the time of year that I worry the most about the safety of our kids. I sincerely hope this worry is all for naught. Parents, please do your part in ensuring the safety of our students.

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL RICK LESTER

Spring is here and this is a really busy time of the year at JCC. Our spring sports are doing well and I congratulate all our teams and student groups competing at this time.

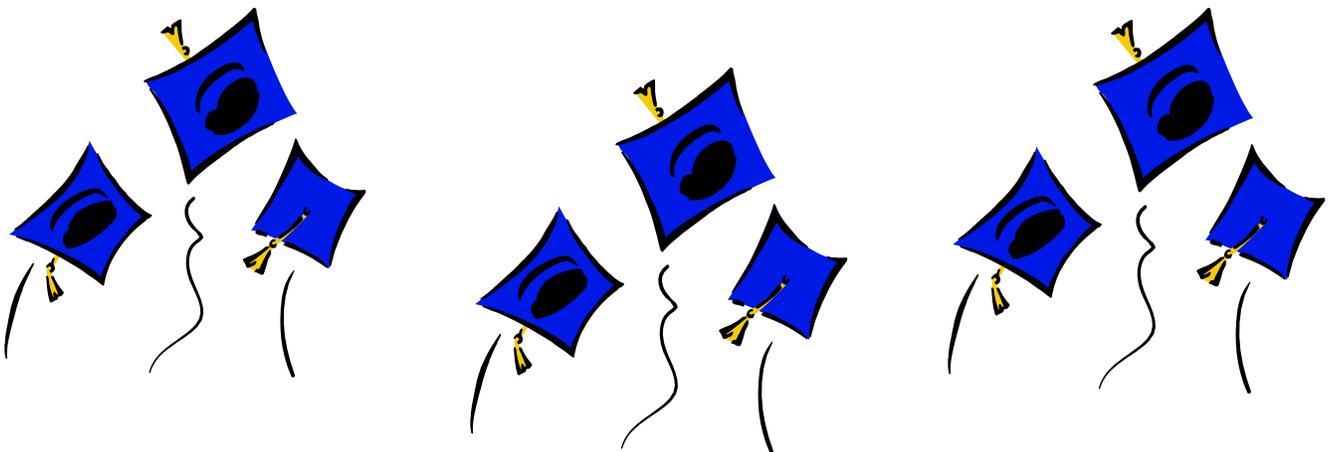
We have just completed our NeSa testing. All our students did real well. I appreciate each parent's support in having their students in school and encouraging their students to work hard during the week of testing. We should have the NeSa test results this coming fall.

As we began to wind down our school year. I want to remind students and parents that this is also the time for our semester exams. It is important that students enhance their studying with good sleep and eating well in preparation for taking these exams.

I know our JCC seniors are counting down their final days of high school. I would like to thank my seniors for their leadership and congratulate them on their academic and extra-curricular successes. I wish each senior the best in their future endeavors.

Finally, below is a list of some important dates for our seniors. Please be mindful of these dates. Let's finish our year with a strong effort and complete our 2013-2014 year at JCC on a positive high.

- Friday, April 25, 2014 – at 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria I will meet with the seniors to handout senior check-out sheet, the seniors will have the remaining two weeks to complete their check-out sheet, which is plenty of time.
- Friday, May 2, 2014 – the last day for seniors (this will be a regular full day of school). Exams or unit tests must be done before this date.
- Monday, May 5, 2014 – seniors can start to officially check-out. Mr. Lester will check lockers and collect check-out sheets. This needs to be done before graduation rehearsal.
- Monday, May 5, 2014 – senior grades are due in the computer by 8:00 a.m.
- Monday, May 5, 2014 – I will verify and print senior grades and inform the Salutatorian and Valedictorian of their status.
- Wednesday, May 7, 2014 – seniors will have graduation rehearsal at 10:00 a.m. I will also hand out report cards at this time. After rehearsal I will have a lunch barbecue for the seniors at my house.



Middle School News by Principal Rich Bacon

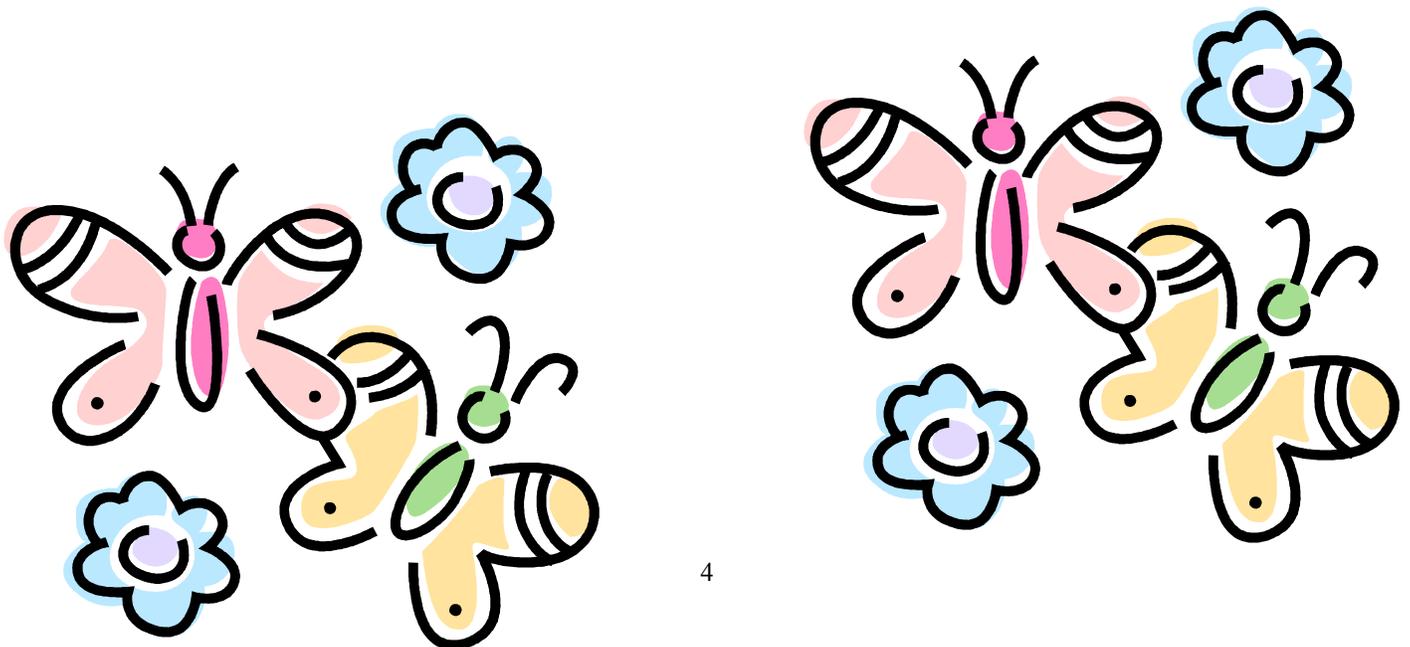
The Cook Site Elementary and Middle School Music Concert and Art Show will be held on Monday, May 19th, starting at 7:00. I hope many of you can attend, as I'm sure that Mr. Doran, Mrs. Fricke, and Mr. Wellensiek and their students will put on an entertaining show.

Elementary Track & Field Day will be Friday, May 16th for grades 4, 5 & 6 starting at 12:30. Parents are invited to come watch the fun and games.

The Middle School Honor Assembly will be held on Wednesday, May 21, starting at 2:00. Students will be recognized for academic achievements they have earned throughout the year.

Summer school will be available again for Middle School students in need of credit recovery due to poor grades or attendance issues. Summer school will run every week, Monday through Thursday, from 8:00-12:00 during the month of June. The cost is \$50/class with each family capped at \$100. Students who are candidates for summer school will be contacted some time during the month of May.

As the end of the school year approaches, we'll need to turn our attention to the requirements students need to meet before they are allowed to leave for the summer. Each Middle School student will need to check out with the office on the last day of school, May 21st. Each student will receive a check out sheet. All teachers, coaches, and staff will need to sign the check out sheet before it can be turned in to the office. Before this checkout sheet can be signed, students will have to have all school materials (textbooks, library books, uniforms, equipment, padlocks, etc.) turned in, and all bills, fees, and fines must be paid. Any lost or damaged items will need to be paid for. Both their school locker and their gym locker will need to be cleaned out and all personal items must be taken home. Students will not receive their report cards until everything on their checkout sheet has been taken care of. Please have your child check on these items prior to the last day, so he/she doesn't have to make an extra trip back to school to get their checkout sheet signed. Also, any student who has been absent for more than the eight days allowed during second semester must make up that time in Saturday school before the last day of school.





Elementary News

Follow me on Twitter for news and updates: @JonRother

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



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- May 1—4th Grade attending Farm Safety Day.
- May 2—Tecumseh Site Track & Field Day, 1:00 p.m.
- May 8—Kindergarten Field Trip to Lincoln.
- May 14—Andean Folk Music Concert for Grades K-5, Tecumseh Site, 2:30 p.m.
- May 15—NO SCHOOL! District Track Meet.
- May 16—Cook Site Pre-school visiting Tecumseh @ 8:30 a.m.
- May 16—Cook Site Track & Field Event.
- May 16—Elementary K-3 Concert and Kindergarten Graduation, High School Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- May 20—Cook Site Pre-school Graduation, New Gym, 10:30 a.m.
- May 21—1st Grade Field Trip to Omaha Zoo.
- May 22—LAST DAY of SCHOOL! 11:00 a.m. dismissal.

Staying in Stride, or getting a leg up!

If your summer gets as busy as ours, it's hard to keep up with everything, let alone trying to get the kids to do anything academic. However, the summer can be a great time to help your student stay academically on track or to help them get caught up. The good news is, you don't have to hover over your child's shoulder to get it done either. Here are some ideas:

1. Download some apps on the device that practices some academic skills. There is no shortage of these. Let your child know that they can play games after they have spent a predetermined number of minutes practicing their academic skills.
2. Reading. During softball, baseball, 4H or vacation road trips, have your child bring their

books along (or device with books downloaded). When it's dark outside, encourage reading. The more they read, the more fluent they become. The more fluent they become, the more they comprehend. It's a cycle!

3. Also, when vacationing, bring maps or bring up Google Maps, and have your child follow where you are and where you're going. Have them identify landmarks. This will give them a great sense of Geography.
4. Have them practice buying items with cash. This will help them to identify the different bills and coins. It will also help them with their ability to figure out how much something costs, how much they have, and how much they should get in change.
5. Give them a job to earn a little cash. The sense of responsibility this brings

is rewarding in itself. Children love having their own money. And, they get an idea for what it takes to earn money to spend.

It is amazing how quickly a child can pick things up when they are taught by a loving adult, and they receive real world practice and application of their skills. Not only are they getting one-on-one attention from someone, they are getting it from the people they love most in their lives; their parents, grandparents and family. These experiences are priceless. If you could only see the pride and joy on your child's face when they puff out their chest and boast to the class what they learned from their special someone, you would see the monumental impact you are having!



March Thunderbirds!

Kindergarten—Catherine Wendt, Harley Lubben, Jack Waring, Marisol Mandl, Abby Mejia, Saige Rother, Tyler Wright, Charlyn Bobadilla, Kaiden Dorn, Danny Kongmanyvong, Hope Larsen, Madison VanLaningham
1st—David Campos, Jocelyn Prado, Kali Drake, Keegan Jones, Madison Jansen, Memphis Newcomb, Salena Conley
2nd—Kyle Bartels, Michael Bernadt, Ava Buggi, Jadeyn Grobler, Wyatt Ludemann, Sunnie Rother, Keven Silos, Kollin Strayhorn, Sergio Valles, Tyler Nonnamker, River White, Arely Cabrales, Priscilla Cabrales, Cameron

Daniels, Lorie Sofia Durst, Daisy Gardner, Marco Hernandez, Ava Klein, Kaitlynn Plager, Bailee Sterup, Maya Straka, Shaylie Thiemann
3rd—Karen Canseco, MacKinze Gordan, Christian Harrifeld, Hayden Huskey, Jacob Liscomb, Melissa Lowther, Kimberly Orozco, Cameron Schuster, Brandon Speckmann, Aiden Weber, Kenze McVay, Ivan Arellano, Katelyn Beethe, Erika Cabrales, Tucker Drake, Kaiden Maynez, Daisy Ortiz, Chayce Oenbring, Kaylin Smith
4th—Ava Berkebile, Marisol Bobadilla, Jennifer Castor -Cruz, Stephanie Cruz, Gina Golden, Saydee

Hardesty, Madelyn Harrifeld, Masheala Maynez, Madison Pingel, Isabella Wolter, Fransisco Xayaphonesongkham, Jordan Albrecht, Jazmin Cabrales, Treyton Holthus, Matthew Jansen, Lane Othmer, Emma Walters, Kobe Wilken
5th—Kenia Barrientos, Kathia Castor, Chloe Curry, Jack Leuenberger, Morgan Moran, Miguel Orozco, Zadie Plager, Dalton Berkebile, Cheshire Burger, Devin Conley, Jason Kettelhake, Kylie Kleespies, Kyle Laue, Katie Little, Hayley Neemann, Saylor Rother, Ruby Valles

Counselor News by Shelley Moles

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

2014-2015 ACT TESTING DATES AND REGISTRATION:

To help with planning for next year, ACT testing dates and registration deadlines for the 2014-2015 school year are listed below. Please notice that the registration deadline for the September test date is the first Friday after school begins.

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
Saturday, September 13, 2014	Friday, August 8, 2014
Saturday, October 25, 2014	Friday, September 19, 2014
Saturday, December 13, 2014	Friday, November 7, 2014
Saturday, February 7, 2015	Friday, January 9, 2015
Saturday, April 18, 2015	Friday, March 13, 2015
Saturday, June 13, 2015	Friday, May 9, 2015

Reminder – students must electronically submit a photo with the application and the admission ticket will have the student's picture printed on it. When students take the test, they must have photo identification so test proctors can match the picture to their printed admission ticket.

All students must also indicate the school they attend when registering. Johnson County Central High School's **school code number** is **282 319**.

Students may register online at www.actstudent.org. Online registration is possible 24/7 on any computer connected to the internet. A MasterCard or VISA must be used to pay fees online. (Fee Waivers are available for juniors and seniors who qualify- see Mrs. Moles for waiver eligibility).

The www.actstudent.org site also offers FREE practice test questions, FREE ACT Question of the Day, FREE Test tips, FREE “Preparing for the ACT” booklet in PDF format, and FREE Test Descriptions. The ACT Question of the Day may be a painless way for students to prepare for the type of questions on the ACT during the summer!

PERU STATE COLLEGE EARLY ENTRY ONLINE CLASS ENROLLMENT:

Juniors and seniors of 2014-2015 have until August 1, 2014 to enroll in online courses offered through Peru State College in the Fall 2014 (August 18-December 12). Online courses available and credits available are: English Composition (3), American History Before 1865 (3), Introduction to Psychology (3), Principles of Sociology (3), and Teacher Education: Principles & Practicum (3). Please see Mrs. Moles for more information and enrollment forms if interested in taking an online class through PSC this fall. Enrolling early will allow students to become familiar with the online format and purchase the required text before classes begin on August 18.

American History Before 1865 and Introduction to Psychology will also be offered in the traditional classroom format at Johnson County Central. Students may enroll shortly after school begins.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN ADVANCED SCHOLARS ONLINE CLASSES:

Juniors and seniors of 2014-2015 have until August 20, 2014 to enroll in online courses offered for high school students through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Students must have a cumulative GPA of B or better, an ACT composite of 22 or higher, and approval of counselor or principal. Students expenses are \$45 application fee and \$100/credit hour, books, and class materials. See Mrs. Moles for a list of courses available and for more information or visit online.unl.edu/advancedscholars.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS:

The Johnson County Central Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 12 new members at the National Honor Society Induction Banquet on Monday, April 7, 2014.

Master of Ceremonies and National Honor Society President Leah Tubbesing welcomed all the inductees, former members, parents and family, administrators and faculty. Following a delicious potluck dinner, Lieutenant Governor Levon Heidemann spoke to the group about positive leadership and giving back to the community.



New members inducted were senior, Kylie Crane (*not pictured*), juniors, Melissa Bausch, Michael Clark, Erika Hunzeker, and Cody Rieken, and sophomores, Spencer Dorsey, Mitchell Faris, Ashleigh Kapke, Grant Moles, Bryan Murphy, Rudy Pooch, and Natalie Roddy. Congratulations to these new members!



Mrs. Moles recognized senior members for their leadership, dedication to scholarship, service to the school and community, and character. Senior members receiving an honor cord to wear at graduation were: Kylie Crane (*not pictured*), Grant Badertscher, Lauren Klaasmeyer, Tiffany Neukirch, Michaela Pooch, Ivy Rutledge, Tyler Speckmann, and Leah Tubbesing.

President Leah Tubbesing thanked everyone for their attendance and congratulated new members. Pictures followed.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES:

Latina Summer Academy: Food Matters: The Science of Nutrition and Exercise will be held June 22-27, 2014 at the College of Saint Mary in Omaha. This one week opportunity for 9th and 10th grade Latinas will encompass food, nutrition and wellness activities using art, science and computer technology. Participants will discover their potential, experience college life in the residence halls, take educational field trips, enjoy swimming, try self-defense, meet with Latina community leaders and use technology to document projects. Cost for the program is only \$25 and due with the completed application by May 10, 2014. Please contact Mrs. Moles for an application or contact Maria Luisa Gaston @ 402-399-2611 or mgaston@csm.edu for more information.

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

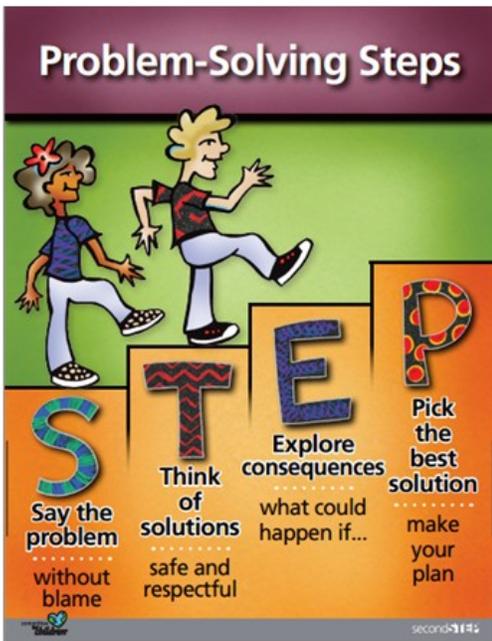
Unicameral Youth Legislature: is June 8-11, 2014 and is open to all high school students. The Unicameral Youth Legislature is the ultimate opportunity to learn what it is like to serve as a state senator. Students will discover the unique process of our nation's only unicameral by sponsoring bills, conducting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



Elementary Guidance

By Marsha Bacon

The last lessons in the Second Step program deal with problem-solving. Elementary students learned the 4 steps to problem solving:



1. Say the problem (without blame).
 2. Think of solutions (that are safe and respectful).
 3. Explore consequences.
 4. Pick the best solution (for all people that are involved).
- Students practiced these problem-solving steps by creating scenarios which they had to solve a problem. The upper grades made posters to explain the steps they would take to solve their problems.

Problem-solving is an important skill in school and in life.

Students need to feel confident that they can handle situations that are not always easy. These lessons provided students with the tools to make a plan and solve their problems for themselves.

In addition to problem-solving, we have also been working on the difference between "include" and "exclude." Students did role-playing to practice how to ask someone to play if they were standing by themselves, how to introduce themselves and others and also how to accept invitations. These role-playing activities reinforced the importance of empathy, which is a skill taught throughout the school year. Empathy, the ability to feel or understand what someone else is feeling or thinking, is an important skill for students to use in all areas of life.

Grades K-2 will continue into the spring with lessons encouraging kindness and empathy as well as reflection on individual strengths and future plans in their "All About Me" books. Students in grades 3-5 will learn about Internet Safety and Digital Footprints as well as transitional information as they prepare for the following grade.

Middle School

The middle school weekly lessons also focus on empathy and treating others well. Students need to understand that these behaviors carry over into online activities, not just when they are talking to someone face-to-face. In the fall, students at the Cook site grades 5-8 participated in a presentation by Karen Haase, an attorney, about benefits and consequences of the Internet and Digital Citizenship. This spring, we are continuing with online educational lessons that have focused on Digital Footprints, the legacy one leaves by their posts and comments on the Internet. Did you know that 90% of college campuses have an officer assigned to search these Internet venues: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Vine, Snapchat, Edmodo, Blackboard, Skitch, and Evernote among others. Students need to be aware of possible consequences to their online behaviors, the trail they are creating which is referred to as their Digital Footprints.

INTERNET SAFETY RULES
Middle School • High School

- 1 I WILL THINK BEFORE I POST.**
 - I agree not to post information and images that could put me at risk, embarrass me, or damage my future, such as
 - » cell & home phone numbers
 - » home address
 - » sexual messages
 - » inappropriate pictures and videos
- 2 I WILL RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE ONLINE.**
 - I will not
 - » post anything rude, offensive, or threatening
 - » send or forward images and information that might embarrass, hurt, or harass someone
 - » take anyone's personal information and use it to damage his or her reputation
- 3 I WILL BE CAREFUL WHEN MEETING ONLINE FRIENDS IN PERSON.**
 - I agree to
 - » ask my parent or guardian's permission
 - » have a parent or guardian accompany me
 - » meet in a public place
- 4 I WILL PROTECT MYSELF ONLINE.**
 - If someone makes me feel uncomfortable or if someone is rude or offensive, I will
 - » not respond
 - » save the evidence
 - » tell my parent, guardian, or another trusted adult
 - » report to the website, cell phone company, cybertipline.com, or the police

Topics that will be covered with the Internet Safety lessons include; Digital Footprints, When Are You Sharing Too Much? Cyber bullying, and Online Predators; Who is on the Other End of the Computer?

These lessons combine facts and information as well as short videos to reinforce appropriate online behaviors. The lessons remind students, there is no delete button-once something is posted on the Internet-it is there forever. The questions we ask students to ponder include; what legacy are you creating by your Internet behaviors? How could your postings and comments affect your future? What impression are you making?

Students are growing up in a brave new world, very different from the one in which their teachers and parents were raised. It is important to educate them about Internet Safety so they can be informed Digital Citizens.

Mrs. Niedermeyer---Library Media Specialist/6th grade Language Arts

It's almost time for summer vacation! Once again, the importance of reading all year long needs to be stressed. Reading impacts all subject areas of education. Even though summer is almost here, please remember that reading should be an important part of everyone's summer activities.

Enjoy the summer weather and read outside. Reading stimulates your mind, and offers wonderful adventures and information without ever leaving home. Just because school is out, it doesn't mean that reading and learning should stop. Reading a few minutes each day can make a huge difference. Consider reading to a younger sibling, discuss what you've been reading with your parents or another friend or classmate.

Young readers who don't read over the summer are likely to lose crucial ground educationally. One summer off can sometimes mean a whole school year of struggling with academic performance. Research indicates that children who don't read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress, and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect.

Enjoy your summer vacation, but don't forget to keep reading whenever you can!

High School Social Studies by Steve Nolte

Finally spring is here and in the social studies department we have been busy! World History students are currently studying WWI. They are learning about the different weapons and conditions that soldiers faced in this complex war. Students will be making propaganda poster in a foreign language, so they can understand this war from the prospect of a different nation. After this unit, we will finish up the year studying 20th century world dictators. Geography has been studying Africa, for the past month. Students are realizing how much poverty is in this region. Students just completed a project on the different ethnic groups of each country. This was very interesting due to the fact of some of the traditions that these cultures have. As always geography students will participate in an international food day. Here students research a country's food culture and bring in an usual item. Modern US History has just finished the 1970s. Some topics that were covered; Watergate, Jim Jones and Jonestown, Disco, and Iran Hostage Crisis. Students have a project over any topic that occurred in the last 25 years. I hope everyone has a great spring and an enjoyable summer!

Drivers Education

June 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10

Time: 8:00 – 11:00 am at the High School in Tecumseh

Age Requirement: Must be age 13 by June 2

Cost: \$175 (payable to Johnson County Central Schools)
Must be paid by first day of class June 2nd

*Please pay Julie Damme @ the MS office or Kerri Miller @ the HS office.

The \$175 pays for 20 classroom hours and 5 driving hours. The driving hours are arranged around the student's summer schedule. Students must attend all classroom meetings. All class materials, including textbooks, will be provided the first day of class.



**JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PO BOX 358
TECUMSEH, NE 68450**

**ANNUAL REPORT
APRIL 2014**

This annual report for the Johnson County Central Public Schools district was compiled as one of the requirements of the Nebraska School Accreditation Standards to be met in Nebraska Department of Education, Rule 10. It is distributed annually via the school district newsletter to all school patrons.

SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL INFORMATION

History

Johnson County Central Public Schools came into existence as a result of a merger between Tecumseh Public Schools and Nemaha Valley Schools in May, 2007.

Accreditation

Johnson County Central is fully accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education. Each fall our school completes reports to indicate accreditation standards have been met. A thorough self-study involving school staff, students and district patrons must be completed to meet Rule 10 Requirements. The School Improvement Team is currently working on the self-study. Johnson County Central also has attained North Central Accreditation.

Activities

Membership is maintained in the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) which governs Nebraska high school extra-curricular activities. NSAA assigns schools to various classifications for competition based on each member school's fall boy-girl enrollment count in grades 9-11 and the number of schools involved in each activity. This year NSAA has placed Johnson County Central in the following classifications: Track, Speech, Play Production, Music, Softball, Golf, Cross Country, and Wrestling (Class C); and Football, Basketball, Volleyball (Class C-1).

Johnson County Central is a member of the East Central Nebraska Conference. Other members include Conestoga, East Butler, Elmwood-Murdock, Freeman, Louisville, Malcolm, Mead, Palmyra, Weeping Water, and Yutan. Auburn will join the ECNC in the 2014-15 school year. JCC also takes part in MUDECAS activities. Other member schools in MUDECAS include Bruning-Davenport, Diller-Odell, Exeter-Milligan, Falls City Sacred Heart, Freeman, HTRS, Johnson-Brock, Lewiston, Lourdes Central Catholic, Meridian, Parkview Christian, Palmyra, Pawnee City, Southern, and Sterling,

Size of District

The district encompasses 296.7 square miles with 188.2 square miles in Johnson County; 8.2 square miles in Nemaha County; 91.5 square miles in Otoe County; and 8.8 square miles in Pawnee County.

Facilities

Three main facilities are utilized by the district. The high school is located in Tecumseh. Also located in Tecumseh is a PK-3 elementary facility. In Cook a PK/4-8 facility is utilized.

The elementary building in Tecumseh was completed in 1931. The high school building was constructed in 1964-65. The main part of the building in Cook was finished in 1958, with additions completed in 1999.

Most asbestos was removed from all school buildings many years ago. Except for some non-friable asbestos in floor tile and in above ceiling duct work, the buildings are asbestos free. Pipe insulation that contains asbestos in the high school building has been coated according to regulations.

Faculty/Support Staff

The students of Johnson County Central are served by 41.75 teachers, 5 special education teachers, two full time Title 1 Reading and Mathematics teachers, two Library/Media specialists, two Guidance Counselors, one Alternative Education teacher, three building Principals, one Superintendent of Schools and the following support staff members: 5 bus drivers, 1 full-time head cook and 6 part-time cooks, one full-time maintenance person, four full-time secretaries, 15 teacher aides, one bookkeeper, one technology aide, and 1.5 school nurse. Johnson County Central contacts with an outside source for custodial services.

School Board

The school district is being governed by a six member Board of Education. Each member's term of office is four years and members are elected at-large. Members of the current Board of Education are: Susan Borchert, Mike Gerdes, Teresa Goracke, Barb Gottula, Greg Hunzeker, and Mike Remund. Board officers for 2014 are Greg Hunzeker (president), Susan Borchert (vice-president), and Barb Gottula (treasurer). Superintendent Jack Moles serves as the Board secretary, while Laurie Badertscher is the appointed board recording secretary.

Strategic Planning/Mission Statement

The mission statement of the school is: **JCC: Journey of Excellence; Creating Lifelong Learners; Citizens for Tomorrow**

The following governing beliefs have been adopted by the school:

- Demonstrate exceptional educational instruction and learning.
- Present a safe and drug-free setting that fosters the desire to learn.
- Encourage progressive relevant student involvement.
- Respect the contributions of all.
- Integrate technology throughout the curriculum.
- Focus on developing problem solvers in the classroom.
- Stress global perspective and the appreciation of diversity.
- Promote the value of the arts and extracurricular endeavors as integral parts of the curriculum.
- Prepare students to contribute positively in the family, school, community and the world.
- Instruct and demonstrate respect for the environment.
- Establish a partnership of service between school and community.

Instructional Goals and Objectives

The primary goals and objectives of the Johnson County Central Public Schools shall be to provide all the children of the district with the best education possible, wherein each may develop wholesome attitudes, ideals, and concepts for better living in our democracy.

Education in Johnson County Central must serve the individual pupil in the light of his/her capacities and abilities and provide a suitable and well-balanced learning environment in the areas of physical, mental, emotional, cultural, social, moral, and spiritual maturity.

The school shall be concerned with students acquiring knowledge in their subjects, but also taking into consideration the interest of the children themselves, their growth, interests, needs and unique personalities.

It is the primary responsibility of Johnson County Central to provide pupils the nature and meaning of democratic values and to help the children develop a loyalty to those values through personal commitments.

ACHIEVEMENT TESTING

This information is being reported as required under provisions of Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) Rule 10: Regulations for the Legal Operation of Schools & Johnson County Central Board of Education Policy.

Elementary & Jr-Sr High Student Performance on Northwest Evaluation Association (MAPS) Assessments (grades 4, 8, 11)

GRADE	LOCAL AVERAGE READING	STATE AVERAGE READING	LOCAL AVERAGE MATH	STATE AVERAGE MATH
GRADE 4	66%	56%	62%	54%
GRADE 8	51%	56%	51%	55%
GRADE 11	59%	61%	59%	61%

ACT TEST

YEAR	LOCAL AVERAGE	STATE AVERAGE	NATIONAL AVERAGE
2010-11	24.0	22.1	21.1
2011-12	21.8	22.1	21.1
2012-13	21.1	21.5	20.9

ACT LOCAL AVERAGES BY AREA

YEAR	ENGLISH AVERAGE	MATH AVERAGE	READING AVERAGE	SCIENTIFIC REASONING AVERAGE
2010-11	24.2	23.0	24.6	23.2
2011-12	20.3	22.7	22.0	21.6
2012-13	20.3	22.1	20.9	21.3

The results of a single appraisal and reporting of a single piece of numerical data does not wholly indicate class group performance; it is only one measure of educational assessment. A comprehensive study of the individuals in a class as they score nationally and also locally are required for an appropriate assessment of student achievement, especially as followed throughout the student's academic career.

With these figures, as with any other statistical data, it is imperative that too many conclusions not be drawn from a single number. For those persons wanting further information, please contact Johnson County Central.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

This information is being reported as required under provisions of Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) Rule 10: Regulations for the Legal Operation of Schools & Johnson County Central Board of Education Policy.

BUDGET INFORMATION

The anticipated budget of expenditures for the 2013-14 school year was \$8,268,963. The actual revenues and expenditures for the 2012-13 school year are listed below:

Revenues

Local	\$4,598,407	77.4%
County	\$69,382	1.08%
State	\$1,122,624	17.5%
Federal	\$333,287	5.2%
Other	\$10,972	0.2%

Expenditures

Instructional Service	\$4,111,819	63.6%
Support Services	\$289,410	4.5%
General Administration	\$463,312	7.2%
Office of the Principal	\$374,761	5.8%
Operations/Maintenance	\$441,132	6.8%
Pupil Transportation	\$207,009	3.2%
Summer School	\$5,291	0.1%
State Categorical	\$152,233	2.4%
Federal Programs	\$366,921	5.7%
Transfers	<u>\$50,391</u>	0.8%

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$6,462,279

SCHOOL DISTRICT VALUATION AND LEVIES FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
VALUATIONS	\$369,451,826	\$410,588,823	\$461,422,456	\$518,371,436
LEVIES				
Gen'l Fund	0.984848	1.005051	1.014443	1.013274
Special Bldg.	0.60606	.040404	.035506	.036634
Bond	.183420	.141023	.130569	.114993
QCPU Fund	.006074	0	0	0

The Bond Fund levy only applies to property in the previous Nemaha Valley district.

SCHOOL DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

School district enrollment for the past four years and current year enrollment were obtained from the state report filed with the Nebraska Department of Education each September and from the annual school district census.

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Preschool	57	48	48	53
Elementary	209	207	221	230
Middle School	116	120	125	120
High School	141	149	153	162
TOTAL	523	524	547	565

Enrollment by grade level and sex of student attending Johnson County Central

GRADE LEVEL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
Pre-School	33	20	53
Kindergarten	27	23	50
First	19	19	38
Second	20	18	38
Third	18	17	35
Fourth	14	26	40
Fifth	14	15	29
TOTAL ELEM.	145	138	283
Sixth	30	8	38
Seventh	21	16	37
Eighth	22	23	45
TOTAL MS	73	47	120
Freshmen	18	19	37
Sophomore	31	15	46
Junior	21	19	40
Senior	22	17	39
TOTAL HS	92	70	162
TOTAL MS/HS	165	117	282
TOTAL K-12	310	255	565

School Census Information

Every year Johnson County Central Public Schools is required to conduct a school census. We are making every effort to complete an accurate census, and your help would be appreciated. This information is used to determine State and Federal funding and for long term planning.

Head of Household _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

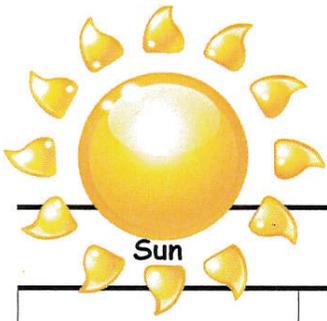
County of Residence _____

Please complete the following information for everyone living in your household from birth to age 18.

Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth	Boy or Girl	School Attending

Please return your completed form to Johnson County Central Public Schools
Attn: Susie Lacey
PO Box 338
Tecumseh, NE 68450

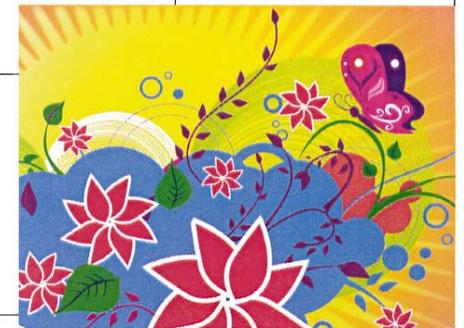
If you have any questions please contact Susie Lacey at 402-335-3320
Thank you for your assistance with this project.



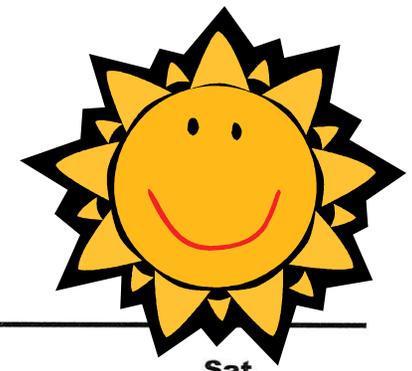
May 2014

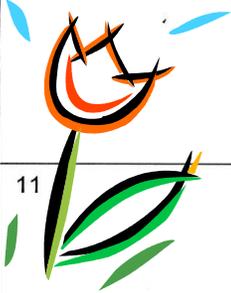
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 HS Honors Day @ 1:00 V Golf @ Kirkman's Golf Course 4:00 pm JH Track @ JCC 4:00 pm	2 <i>Senior's Last Day</i> K-3 Field Day @ Tecumseh 1:00 pm Spring Play @ Aud. 7:00 pm	3 V Track ECNC @ Yutan 9:00 am
4 Spring Play Matinee 3:00 pm	5 JH Track @ Tri County 4:15 pm HS Spring Concert & Art Show 7:00 pm	6 V Track @ Doane College 9:00 am V Golf @ Grandpa's Woods 10:00 am	7 Senior Graduation Rehearsal 10:00 am	8 KG Field Trip to Lincoln Zoo V Golf @ Tec CC 9:00 Chorus to Wicked in Omaha	9 V Track @ JCC 9:00 JH Track ECNC @ Louisville Senior Art Show @ HS Café. 5-7 pm	10 Graduation @ JCC HS 2:00 pm
11 Mothers Day	12 JH & HS Instrumental Music Clinic @ Elmwood Murdock 9:00 am	13 JV & V Golf @ Fire- thorn in Lincoln 9:00 JH Track @ Auburn HS 4:00 pm	14 8th Grade Orientation @ HS 2:30 pm 6th Grade Field trip to SAC Air & Space Museum	15 NO SCHOOL V Track Districts @ JCC	16 4th—6th Grade Field Day 12:30 K-3 Spring Concert & Kindergarten Grad. 7:00 pm	17
18 Drug Free Family Fun Walk @ Sterling Park 1:00 pm	19 MS Spring Concert 7:00 pm	20 Golf Districts Cook Pre-Kindergarten Graduation @ 10:30	21 1st Grade Field trip To Omaha Zoo	22 Last Day of School Out at 11:00	23 Teacher Workday State Track @ Burke HS	24 State Track @ Burke HS
25	26	27	28 State Golf	29 State Golf	30	

Summer Vacation



May 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>In The operation of the child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or handicap. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write to the Secretary of Agriculture.</p>				<p>1 Hamburger WG Bun Fries Salad Bar Veggies Fruit Rice Crispy Bar Milk</p>	<p>2 Chicken Nuggets Cheesy Potatoes Salad Bar Veggies Fruit WG Roll Milk</p>	<p>3 K— 8 Fruits and Vegetables offered Daily</p>
<p>4 </p>	<p>5 Taco Salad Refried Beans Veggies Fruit Cake Milk</p>	<p>6 WG Corn Dog Salad Bar Peas Fruit Milk</p>	<p>7 Beef & Noodles / Mashed Potatoes Salad Bar Baby Carrots K-3 Blueberry Oat Muffin 6 - 12 Milk</p>	<p>8 Chicken Quesadilla Salas / Tortilla Chips Salad Bar Corn Fruit Milk</p>	<p>9 Cowboy Cavatini Salad Bar Green Beans Fruit WG Roll Milk</p>	<p>10 9—12 Fruit and Salad Bar of- fered daily</p>
<p>11 </p>	<p>12 Ham & Cheese / WG Bun Tri tater Salad Bar Veggies Fruit Cookie Milk</p>	<p>13 Ch. Burger Mac Green Beans Veggies Fruit Brownie Milk</p>	<p>14 Chicken Patty/ Bun Salad Bar Veggie Fruit Milk</p>	<p>15 Crispy Chicken Wrap Salad Bar Veggie Fruit Cookie Milk</p>	<p>16 Pizza Salad Bar Veggie Fruit WG Bread Stick Milk</p>	<p>17 All Trays must have 1/2cup of fruit or vegetables on their tray.</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19 Pork Riblet/ WG Bun Mashed Potato Casserole Vegetable Fruit Milk</p>	<p>20 Sub Sandwich Corn Chips Salad Bar Fruit Veggies Dessert Milk</p>	<p>21 Chefs Choice</p>	<p>22 Hot Dog Baked Beans Jell-O / Fruit Fruit Veggies Milk</p>	<p>23 Early Dismissal NO LUNCH</p>	<p>24 Menus are subject to change.</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 <i>Enjoy your summer break! See you in the fall!</i> <i>Kitchen Staff</i></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29  <i>Summer</i></p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>

Johnson County Centrals Senior Class of 2014

<i>Pedro Aldana</i>	<i>Diana Andrade</i>
<i>Sonia Arellano</i>	<i>Grant Badertscher</i>
<i>Mason Baum</i>	<i>Brent Beethe</i>
<i>Emma Berkebile</i>	<i>Timothy Berkebile</i>
<i>Hanna Borrenpohl</i>	<i>Kylie Crane</i>
<i>Alexis Dorn</i>	<i>Taylor Dudley</i>
<i>JaeLynn Edwards</i>	<i>Courtney Ettiste</i>
<i>Dalton Fisher</i>	<i>Erik Foss</i>
<i>Colton Gartner</i>	<i>Thomas Gerdes</i>
<i>Benjamin Goracke</i>	<i>Michael Grover</i>
<i>Matthew Harring</i>	<i>Madalyn Henne</i>
<i>Gionanni Hidalgo</i>	<i>Lauren Klaasmeyer</i>
<i>Gerald Kuhns</i>	<i>Justin Long</i>
<i>Kyle Morgan</i>	<i>Tiffany Neukirch</i>
<i>Brady Parrish</i>	<i>Christopher Pecha</i>
<i>Michaela Pooch</i>	<i>Luis Ramirez</i>
<i>Joy Rutledge</i>	<i>Ariel Sears</i>
<i>Tyler Speckmann</i>	<i>Spenser Sullivan</i>
<i>Leah Tubbesing</i>	<i>Michael Werner</i>

Congratulations!

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.

Summer Lunch Program @ The JCC High School in Tecumseh

Monday through Thursday

June 2 – August 7, 2014

11:00am–12:30 pm

Anyone ages 1-18 eats for free

An adult meal price is \$3.25

Programa de Almuerzo de Verano @ La Escuela Secundaria JCC en Tecumseh

Lunes a jueves

2 junio 2014 hasta 7 agosto 2014

11:00 am - 12: 30 pm

Personas de edades 1-18 comen gratis

Un precio de comida para adultos es \$3.25

