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SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles



SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles

As we begin a new calendar year, a great deal of my attention will be placed on two recommendations that I will soon make to the Board of Education. Most likely at the February Board meeting I will be making recommendations to the Board on the adoption of a new reading series and what the future of our elementary makeup should look like.

The adoption of a reading series will be the culmination of a long process that we have discussed ever since the merger. The goal is to get all of our elementary grades using the same program. At present we do not have both sites using the same program. This causes us to be very disjointed in the teaching of reading. Having all of our students and teachers using the same program and the same curricular language is a huge step that simply needs to take place.

I informed the Board quite a while back that my plan of action was for me to make the one recommendation that the Board would get on the adoption of a reading series. My reason for that is that I thought the Board needed to have one recommendation and that it should be developed through a study of a wide variety of views. To have only one person make that recommendation, I believe, falls on my shoulders. I am using several different sources of information as I develop this recommendation.

By far the most weight will be given to input from the teaching staff. I place more weight on their input simply because they are the people who really have to make a program work. They have to buy in and support the program for us to have success. They have been given the task over the past couple of years of looking at different reading series and developing their recommendations, along with the rationale backing these recommendations. Over the past month I have spent time with the teachers at each grade level to receive their input. Also included in this process were our teachers in Special Education, Title I, and ELL (English Language Learners). The work of our teachers has been marvelous. I asked each group for a consensus recommendation and they were each able to develop that consensus. The teamwork demonstrated by them filled me with a great deal of pride as I know each individual teacher stands to lose something in this type of a process. They were able to do this because they all kept the same common goal: to select a program that is best for our kids.

The next part of my process is to have the same discussion with Principals Jon Rother and Rich Bacon. They will also provide me with their recommendation. Other sources of input that I am looking at are the views of reading experts, input from our ESU #4 staff developers Mitzi Hoback and Suzanne Whisler, and my own research.

Being an old high school social studies teacher in my previous life I have learned more about reading and the art of teaching reading than I thought I ever would. I have a greater understanding of what constitutes a strong program. I am confident that the direction we will head will enable us to improve reading instruction and, as a result, improve reading abilities in our students. One of the key goals that I am stressing is that I want to see us develop kids who really want to read. Thus, student interest will be vital to whatever program we will adopt.

The other recommendation I will be making to the Board will be what the future makeup of our elementary grade levels should look like. Over the course of the last couple of years we have asked two questions of ourselves: Can we be much more effective in teaching our students and can we be much more efficient in our use of staff if different grade levels were physically at the same site?

The Board has given Mr. Bacon, Mr. Rother, and I the directive to develop a recommendation for their consideration. The target date for this proposal to be first viewed by the Board will be the February Board meeting.

The logic behind having each of our elementary grade levels at the same location is that I believe we can provide more opportunities for our students to be together and let teachers corroborate more. We can allow students to work between classrooms more, rather than be in an isolated situation. We can also reduce duplication of materials and efforts by having grades at the same location.

The opportunity to be more efficient with our teaching staff would allow us to be more creative in our delivery of instruction to our students. One example of this is that I believe we could have a reading teacher that would work directly in the classrooms to allow us to spread out opportunities for our students. By dividing up two classrooms into three groups we can have smaller groups be involved in technology that is designed to meet the needs of students in reading. We can provide for some ability grouping instruction which can be beneficial to all students. We can also more efficiently assess on a frequent basis where our students are in their learning. An opportunity for team planning by the teachers would also be an advantage.

There are some logistical considerations that would have to be looked at as well. For example, we would need to look at where grades would be located and the rationale behind those placements. Transportation then becomes a bigger issue. We would also have to consider the placement of teachers. Of course, not all of them would be able to stay with the exact assignment that they have now.

Mr. Rother, Mr. Bacon, and I plan to have one or two meetings that would be open to parents so that we can receive input on this concept. We would also be able to provide information to parents at these meetings. Our plan is for these meetings to take place before the February Board meeting. The exact dates and locations will be announced at a later date. We will likely use the Alert Now calling system and the school web site to announce these meetings.

PRINCIPALS NEWS

Rick Lester, High School Principal

2011 – it's a new year and we at JCC want to usher in the new year by bringing the parents and patrons of JCC up to speed on our School Improvement or "AdvancEd" goal for JCC.

Since the second year after our merger, we've been working on JCC's AdvancEd and attaining our goal. The first step was to create a Steering Committee. The committee members include administrators and teachers from both sites. The Steering Committee created "Sub-Committees". The Mission Statement Committee included parents, teachers and students. Together they created our Mission Statement which you see on banners all over the school, including in the gyms. The Data Committee involved our teachers. They gathered Act test scores, State Standards and presented a picture of our district's strengths and weaknesses. The Target Goal Committee, which consisted of teachers, parents and students, studied the data presented and chose the AdvancEd target goal for JCC. JCC's AdvancEd goal is to "improve reading comprehension" throughout our district. The Profile Committee is creating an overview of our district for anyone to view the "makeup" of our school. The Steering Committee is now in the process of completing a major SARS report which summarizes our districts make-up and our academic and parental involvement. This report will be submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education and to the External Team.

As you can see this AdvancEd process has involved many, many hours by all committees. It is also a continuous process to improve our school district.

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We have a very important External Visit coming this March. The External Team, made up of educators from outside our district, will be spending four days in our community and school district. They will be evaluating our AdvancEd goal and the process in which we are working to achieve this goal.

We will also be meeting with our students and presenting assemblies with our teachers doing skits to get our AdvancEd goal spread through our student body so everyone understands our goal of "improving our reading comprehension" throughout the district.

I know this has been a large amount of information which I've condensed greatly. The importance of getting the district's AdvancEd goal of "improving our reading comprehension" throughout the district out to our parents, patrons and students is as vital to the success of the goal as it is to the success for our External Team evaluation upcoming this March.

As always, if you have any questions, I would be happy to assist you in any way.

Rich Bacon, Middle School & Elementary Principal

As we usher in the new year, I'm sure most of us have looked back on the past year and made a few New Year's Resolutions for 2011. This is a perfect time to reflect on ourselves and make some personal changes to make the New Year more productive and gratifying than the previous year. Most of our resolutions will probably be something like lose some weight, to work out, or to spend more time with family, but this is also a good time to make a resolution about reinforcing your child's positive study habits or establishing new study habits that will help your child be more successful at school. One of the most effective practices we can utilize is to have a homework routine to follow every day. Just like having a bedtime routine, a homework routine is predictable and helps children get into the habit of studying. Each student should have a set time and a place to study without distractions. That means the t.v. should be turned off and their MP3 players, video games and cell phones should be put away. Parents should make themselves available to answer questions and monitor progress during this study time. If studying is important to the parent, it becomes important to the child. Once a child has established this homework routine it becomes a habit and a normal part of their day.

We have a couple of changes coming during the 2nd Semester that parents should be aware of. We are changing all teachers' email addresses. The new email address for all staff members will be their firstname.lastname@jccentral.org. The second change this semester will be that all teachers will be posting their lesson plans on the school's website. This should make it easier and more convenient for parents to keep up with their child's homework schedule, get assignments when a student is ill, and keep track of any upcoming tests to help ensure their student is prepared.

At the conclusion of each season the Nebraska School Activities Association recognizes students who have been nominated by their schools based on their individual academic excellence and significant contributions made to their NSAA activity. To be eligible for this honor the following leadership and scholarship guidelines must be met:

A nominated student must be a varsity player or organizational leader who has played a significant role on the team or in the organizational activity.

A nominated student must have a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average, in all curricular subjects, of 93% or 3.7 on a 4.0 scale.

NSAA high schools may nominate a maximum of two students per NSAA activity program.

The following Johnson County Central students were recipients of the Fall 2010 Academic All-State Awards: Football – Wade Bartels, Daniel Moles; Girls Cross Country – Laura Johns, Shawnee Johns; Boys Cross Country – Brandon Martell; Volleyball – Brittney Lester, Chelsea Borrenpohl; Softball – Brittany Wolken, Emily Little; Play Production – Brittany Wolken, Madeline Beadell. Thank you and congratulations to these students for the example they've provided the rest of the student body, and their commitment, hard work, leadership, and success in the classroom and their extracurricular activity.

Jon Rother, Elementary Principal

As the school year approaches the half-way mark we find ourselves with much less snow than last year! The winter season is upon us, so too are the various illnesses that come along with it. Here are some things to remember:

- Students must be fever free for at least 24 hours before they can come back to school.
- If a student is absent from school due to an illness, they should not be attending school functions.
- Communicate with the classroom teacher about school work missed (What can be done at home and when is it expected back to the teacher?).
- Please remember, that although students can catch up on homework, the instruction time lost from the classroom is very difficult to replace.
- Call the school to tell us that your child will be gone due to an illness.
- Medication should be sent to the school nurse to be distributed by her.
- Cough drops are an exception; however, teachers must be aware that the student has them.

It has been a great half-year so far! I look forward to the second half!

COUNSELORS NEWS

Shelley Moles, Counselor

“Dedicated to excellence in education through career, academic, personal and social development for all students!”

“Sweet 16” Red Cross Blood Drive:

National Honor Society members hosted its annual “Sweet 16” Red Cross Blood Drive on December 22, 2010. Thank you to all the students, staff, parents, and former students who took time from their busy schedules and donated blood. We met our drive goal and had many first time blood donors. Each unit of blood donated may have helped save 3 lives!

Members of National Honor Society are: Shelby Strubel, Emily Little, Anna Kuhl, Zachary Kaster, Shawnee Johns, Laura Dieckgrafe, Chelsea Borrenpohl, Brittany Wolken, Michelle Vongphakdy, Daniel Moles, Brittney Lester, Laura Johns, Kassie Guenther and Madeline Beadell. Thank you to all the members of National Honor Society for the work they did in preparing for the blood drive and on the day of the blood drive. A special thank you to all the National Honor Society members who stayed to clean up and load after the blood drive ended and school was dismissed for the holiday break!

Seniors and their Parents – It's Time to Complete FAFSA!

Now is the time for seniors and their families to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to qualify for need-based scholarships, grants, loans and college work/study.

To complete the FAFSA, students and parents will need financial information from 2010. This includes Social Security Number, driver's license (if any), 2010 W-2 forms and other records of money earned, completed 2010 Federal Income Tax Return, 2010 untaxed income records, current bank statements, current business and investment records, and alien registration or permanent resident card (if you are not a U.S. citizen).

A parent and student will also need a Personal Identification Number (PIN) to be able to “sign” the completed FAFSA form electronically. To apply for a PIN, visit www.pin.ed.gov and click on “Apply for PIN”. (PIN numbers are life-time so students and parents should keep their PIN numbers to use in future applications. If parents already have a PIN number from a previous child’s application, they will not need to reapply.)

FAFSA applications may be accessed online at www.fafsa.gov. For assistance, parents and/or students may schedule an appointment with the EducationQuest office in Lincoln (1-800-303-3745) or Omaha (1-888-357-6300). The people at the EducationQuest office will help with the application and also submit the FAFSA application. Appointments should be made as soon as possible.

Filling out the FAFSA electronically speeds up the FAFSA process and cuts down on mail delays or problems.

The federal government and scholarship programs use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for **need based** financial aid. For help or more information, contact Mrs. Moles at 335-3328.

Summer Opportunities:

2011 Big Red Academic Camps: These career exploration camps are a chance for students to explore the UNL campus, meet people from across the country, spend time investigating an interest or potential career and have lots of fun. The camps are held June 12-17, 2011 and are intended for students entering grades 9-12 in the fall 2011. (Students who graduate

in May 2011 are also welcome to attend.) The camps available for 2011 and the tuition costs (if submitted by April 1st) are: 3D Animation/Virtual World Creation (\$475), Culinary Arts and Food Science (\$525), Entrepreneurship (\$525), Filmmaking (\$600), Geology and Paleontology (\$450), The Outdoors (\$450), Textile Design (\$500), Unicameral Youth Legislature (\$300) and Veterinary Science (\$600). Camps are residential camps - all food and housing will be provided for all participants throughout the duration of the camp. Online registration is available at bigredcamps.unl.edu or see Mrs. Moles for more information and a registration form.

Exploring Careers and College for freshmen and sophomores:

“Exploring Careers” and “Exploring College” are two publications that all freshmen and sophomore students will be receiving from Mrs. Moles. These are great resources for students and parents in beginning to explore careers and colleges at the freshman and sophomore level. The “Exploring Careers” publication lists skills and abilities, courses to take in high school and college, and activities to pursue for each career field and its career clusters. The “Exploring College” publication outlines for students the steps they can take right now to be prepared for educational opportunities following high school. These two publications help students begin to use the resources available through the Education Quest and Nebraska Career Connections websites.

NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) Testing

Marsha Bacon, District Assessment Coordinator

Tues., Feb. 1 & Wed., Feb. 2
Wed., Feb. 2

NeSA Writing Test (grades 4th & 8th)
NeSA Writing Test (11th grade)

Cheer News by Lisa Schuster

The JCC Cheer Squad has been busy with camps and competitions. They hosted the K-4 Lil' Pals Cheer camp on December 3rd. Twenty four young ladies prepared and performed 3 cheers and a short dance for the basketball game that night. On December 4th, the cheerleaders competed at the Capital City Midwest Regional Cheerleading Championships held at Southeast High School in Lincoln. They did a wonderful job earning a 1st place trophy in Nonbuilding/Nontumbling Class C Division and they won the Showmanship Award. This Showmanship Award was only given to one team of the 39 that competed. I am very proud of them for accomplishing this.

On December 17th they hosted the 5-8 Grade Jr. Camp. Seven young ladies participated in this activity and performed during half time of the basketball game that evening.

The Cheer Squad has been busy attending basketball games and the wrestling invite held at Cook. They will be competing at the Nebraska State Cheerleading Competition on February 20th held in Grand Island.



Jr High Boys Basketball, Head Coach Terry Kuhl

The JCC Jr High Boys had an outstanding season. We fielded three different teams and each group was very successful! The “A” Team placed second in the JCC Tournament, first in the Palmyra Tournament, and first in the Malcolm Tournament. The “B” Team placed first in the JCC Tournament, and second in the Malcolm Tournament. The “B” Team lost only one game the entire season which was a one point loss in the Malcolm Tournament, to end their season 8-1. The “A” Team finished the season with seven straight wins, to post an 8-3 record. The “C” Team competed very strong in each game, and were playing their best at the end of the season. Schools defeated by one or more of the JCC Teams this season included Auburn, Syracuse, Falls City, Freeman, Pawnee City, Palmyra, Weeping Water, West Point Central Catholic, and Malcolm. The 8th grade players have a lot of good thing to look forward to in the future. I’m sure Coach Hutt and the High School coaches are looking forward to having them in their program next season. I also look forward to the 7th grade players coming back next year, it should be an exciting team to watch. Jeff Robeson did a super job again this year as assistant coach. He puts in many hours and is very dedicated to the success of JCC Jr High basketball.

FFA NEWS, Mrs. Christy Hodges

I have been made aware of a new agricultural leadership training program for our students during State FFA Convention called the **Agricultural Issues Academy**. While the agricultural industry serves as our state's economic engine, we know that an increasing number of Nebraskans do not understand or appreciate the origin of their food. In an effort to create spokespeople for Agriculture, A-FAN (www.becomeafan.org), in cooperation with Nebraska's agricultural commodity groups and the Nebraska FFA Association, will host an intensive leadership training for our students.

At the Ag Issues Academy (which takes place on the first day of State FFA Convention on April 6), participants will attend round robin sessions where they will learn how to speak to lawmakers and communicate to the media. Representatives from the broadcast, news editorial and public relations media fields will present ways of telling agriculture's story. A trip to the Capitol accompanied by agriculture lobbyists will introduce participants to our state's Legislature where students will immediately put these new skills to work. Participants will also be expected to participate in the legislative breakfast Thursday morning.

Program Details:

Students will be selected through an application process. Participants will be selected and announced mid-February. Prior to attending the Ag Issues Academy participants must be available for a conference call/webinar on March 1 at either 7 am or 4 pm and will review materials related to the Misconceptions and Misinformation of Animal Agriculture, network with a local industry representative and begin building a knowledge base about a particular agriculture issue of interest to them.

On April 6, students must be present at the Cornhusker Hotel by 11:00 am to start the program. They will be finished by 5:00 pm for convention activities. All participants are also expected to attend the Legislative breakfast on Thursday morning.

To apply, go to www.neaged.org and select the Ag Issues Academy Application link!

Please let me know if you have questions!

christy.hodges@jccentral.org

6th Grade Reading, Mrs. Eleta Eisenhauer

4th hour sixth grade readers had the opportunity to draw names for a book partner at Thanksgiving time. Each group was asked to pick a Christmas story and read it to the class. Next they were to plan an activity for the class that would enhance the memory of the book for their classmates. Many traditional stories were shared and many creative projects were presented. Students were made aware of the variety of illustrations for one literary work through "The Night Before Christmas". They discussed synopsis using "The Christmas Carol" as the full length Dickens original was too lengthy for this project. Some chose to compare contrast between movie and book. "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer" had puppets and a script written as a readers theater play for classmates. Another group involved technology and compared two stories by the author Tommy De Palo. The Smart Board made it possible for the whole group to see the illustrations and text at once. We looked for common threads between same author stories and discussed that when we find a good book often times we are likely to enjoy other books by the same author. The presentation for "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" had atmosphere as the readers had carefully made a clay replica of a story scene. These girls also emphasized the message of the book and gave each classmate a piece of clay to design a package. Students were then challenged and told that since gifts aren't the importance of Christmas they should give away their clay package as a Christmas present and to report back as to how that experience went. Finally another group made us realize how setting the mood when you read a story adds to the magic of the story. They gave classmates hot chocolate with candy cane stirrers to enjoy as they read "The Polar Express".

When students pick their next free reading book we hope they might look for one from an author they have previously enjoyed, that they will read in a place that adds to their reading pleasure, and that the book they choose will help them grow in knowledge. Lets all plan to read and enjoy good books in 2011.

5th Grade, Mrs. Ashley Juilfs

Happy New Year from the 5th Grade! Wow, time sure flies. We completed one semester and are eager to get started on the next.

In reading, we read a variety of stories that corresponded with a theme "Try to See it My Way." The stories all involved kids who were struggling to fit in and life was a little different for them compared to their peers. It was a great way for us to see how others can feel, because we are not all the same. These stories taught us that not only are our ethnic backgrounds different, but so are our lifestyles and talents. To kick off the new year we will start by reading *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary. It too is a continuation of our past theme. We can't wait to get started.

In Social Studies, we learned about the discovery of our country and how it was started. We studied explorers from many different countries that all played a role in the development of our country. This semester we will continue our track through time and start discussing the colonies and how they began. We will learn about the many struggles they faced and how they overcame them all. It is hard for us to imagine how they lived compared to the way of life we are used to.

Last semester we had a chance to share our artistic and creative talents with the town. We sponsored a tree downtown on the square in Tecumseh for the holidays. We made ornaments out of pop cans. The cans were painted and decorated with an assortment of craft supplies. It was a lot of fun! We made a variety of different things ranging from Santas, penguins, reindeer, pigs, elves, cows, to even aliens. We hope you had a chance to see our display.

In Math, we continue to grow every day. Our main focus at the end of the first semester was on long division, multiplying by two and three-digit numbers, and fractions. As we start the second half of the school year we will continue working with fractions by comparing, subtracting, and adding them together. We also had a chance to discuss shapes and how they can be found all around in our environment. By using only shapes we were able to showcase our drawing talents by creating landscapes or still lifes. In some instances we had to stretch our imaginations, like we do when we see visions in the clouds. The pictures turned out great!

It is time we get back to work studying. Hope you all have a great New Year. We know we will.

Second Grade News – Mrs. Kayleen Doeden

Happy New Year from the second grade! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

At the beginning of the year, the second grade teachers began to set homework goals for the students. Each student has the opportunity to earn a reward when his/her homework is returned every day for five weeks. When all students return their homework for an established number of days, they can also earn a class reward. In December the second grade students from both classes at the Tecumseh site went on a walking field trip to the Tecumseh Chieftain. We were fascinated to meet the staff, see the computers on which many of the articles are written, and learn how the various machines are used to get the aluminum plates ready for print. Finally, we got to witness the presses running to print the newspapers. After the tour, each student received a paper of his/her own to take home. We would like to thank Ron, Bev, Michelle, Cynthia, Ann, and the Chieftain staff for the great tour!

Have you read any good books lately? We have enjoyed reading a variety of literature selections. The reading theme we just completed was about nature and included mainly informational text. For our Accelerated Reading program, many students like to read chapter books such as *The Magic Tree House* series that are examples of informative-narrative text. Some students enjoy informational books where they can learn facts about animals or people. Still other children like to read narrative picture books with the classic story elements. Through all of our A.R. reading, we have taken over 400 tests, earned 25 certificates and 208 points, and read over 423,000 words. Best of all, we are developing a love of reading!

In math we have learned all of our addition facts with sums through eighteen. We will continue to practice these as we begin to learn our subtraction facts. We will soon be introduced to skills such as addition of 2-digit numbers with regrouping, reading and writing 3-digit numbers, adding 3-digit numbers, congruent and similar shapes, and reading a thermometer. We are beginning to realize that math is all around us every day.

We wish you well in 2011!

2010-2011 JCC Speech Team Schedule, Tania Durre

Sat., Jan. 29	Mudecas @ SCC, Beatrice
Sat., Feb. 5	Syracuse Invitational
Sat., Feb. 12	Auburn Invitational
Wed., Feb. 23	ECNC @ Louisville
Sat., Feb. 26	HTRS Invitational
Tues., March 8	JCC Speech Showcase (Elem. Auditorium @ Tec.) 6:30 pm
Mon., March 14	Districts @ Malcolm
Thurs., March 24 - Fri., March 25	State Speech @ UNL-Kearney

Nurse's notes, Lisa Kuhl R.N.

Menactra Vaccine and Bacterial Meningitis

This is an article that I first brought to you back in 2007. I wanted to bring it back to inform parents regarding the Menactra Vaccine and Bacterial Meningitis. A child that contracts bacterial meningitis can look and act healthy one day, and be deathly ill the next. This story is regarding one family's heartbreaking introduction to bacterial meningitis and how it changed their life forever.

Lynn Bozof- A Mother's Story

Evan was a healthy, happy 20-year-old college student. He called home one day complaining of what he thought was a terrible migraine headache and extreme nausea. There was a family history of migraine headaches, but Evan had never had one. Lynn thought a migraine was within the realm of possibility. When, after a few hours, Evan was no better, she advised him to have his roommate take him to the emergency room. The emergency room doctors told Lynn and her husband by telephone that Evan probably had a little virus and they did not want to send him back to his dorm: the doctors said he should stay in the hospital over night; but there was no need for his family to make the three-hour trip- Evan would be fine.

At 8:00am the next morning, Lynn received a call telling her that Evan was in the intensive care unit with only a 5% chance of survival, suffering from bacterial meningitis. Lynn thought that since the infection was bacterial, it could be treated with antibiotics. They made the trip to the hospital, stopping along the way periodically to ask if Evan was still alive. When they arrived at this hospital in the college community, staff members were waiting to prepare them for how Evan looked. It was beyond Lynn's comprehension to see her son having trouble breathing, hooked up to machines, and very weak. He needed more advanced care than the first hospital was able to provide so he was transferred to a larger hospital 40 minutes away. He barely survived the ride. Over the next 26 days, Evan was in three hospitals. All his limbs had to be amputated due to gangrene. He lost kidney and liver function. All that the Bozofs could do was watch their son die. They didn't understand what was happening but focused on numbers- blood pressure, pulse, temperature as the gangrene consumed his body. One day, he had 10 hours of seizures that could not be controlled; these left him with irreversible brain swelling and finally he was removed from life support with his family at his bedside.

Evan was lost to a disease Lynn and her family knew almost nothing about. Later she learned that this disease is potentially preventable with a vaccine. Evan had been a healthy young man who had received every immunization that had been recommended; perhaps Evan need not have died. Lynn thought that if she had not known about the dangers of meningitis, others also lacked the knowledge that could save their children. The Bozofs decided to honor Evan's memory by focusing their energies on helping to prevent this from happening to other families, and thus the National Meningitis Association was founded.

This article was taken from School Nurse News, November 2006. Volume23, Issue 5.

This incidence of this disease is 1 case per 100,000 persons per year. This article is not meant to frighten parents, but to inform you of this devastating disease and the vaccine to prevent it. I would highly recommend talking to your health-care provider if your child has not received this immunization.

ELEMENTARY TECHNOLOGY

MRS. SMITH

Pre-School and Kindergarten using Technology

In Pre-school and Kindergarten we have just begun learning about technology. We are using the Smartboard (the kids like to call it the really big computer) in our classroom. We are using it to learn colors, shapes, numbers and letters. The children really like to move things around, draw, and learn, using this technology.

The Kindergarten class are using Desktops in their classroom, and Laptop Computers in Technology Class. We have learned some of the differences between Laptops and Desktop computers, and we have also learned a little bit about how the Smartboard works. At the beginning of the year we looked at internet safety rules, and we will be discussing this in more detail as the year progresses.

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Technology

In these grades we have discussed all of the topics from the previous grades, and we are now concentrating on our Spelling, Typing, Reading, and Math Skills.

Third grade will be working on Internet Safety and Digital citizenship activities during the second part of the year, as well as putting together a podcast.

First Grade and Technology

The First Graders are also working on their Technology Skills. Since this is a new program this year, they are also learning about the differences between Laptops and Desktop computers. They are learning about the Smartboard and how it works. I try to tie our activities in Technology class to what they are learning in the classroom. We are currently using the laptops to work on phonograms, and reading activities.

During the second half of the year we will be working on a podcast and we will be publishing it to their website.

Earlier in the year we worked on some internet safety activities, and we will continue to discuss this topic as the year goes on.

Fourth and Fifth grades, will be concentrating on how to search the internet, How to know the information is valid, and how to set up Smartboard activities. They will also be involved in a podcast activity.



Second Grade Technology Classes

The Second Grade Class has been working hard in Technology. In addition to working on some of the same activities as the earlier grades, they are also able to study their spelling words on their classroom computer, as well as at home on their website.

During the second part of the year we will begin working on their typing skills by creating scrapbook pages. These pages will be documenting some important events in their room.

Like the other classes, Internet Safety and Responsibility are key, and will be discussed more as the year continues.

Teacher Notes:

I have really enjoyed the first half of the year and working with all of the kids. They are all doing a great job in Technology Class and I look forward to continuing their Technology Education.

Mrs. Smith

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Br Chix Patty/Bun French Fries Fruit Veggie Milk	7 Fiestada Carrots / Celery Fruit Cookie Milk	8
9	10 Beef Fingers Mashed Potato Casserole Fruit B&B Milk	11 Cr. Chicken /Biscuit Corn Fruit Cake Milk Mrs. Doeden's 2 nd grade	12 BBQ Meatball Sub Chips Veggie Fruit Milk	13 Cheeseburger/ Bun Smiley Fries Veggie Frosted Grahams Milk	14 Burrito/ Salsa Rice Veggie Fruit Milk	15
16	17 Br. Pork Patty/Bun French Fries Veggie Dessert Milk	18 Spaghetti / Meat Sauce Fruit Veggie Garlic Bread Milk	19 Mini Corndogs Tri Tater Fruit Brownie Milk	20 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes /Gravy Veggie Dinner Roll Milk	21 Pizza Lettuce Fruit Cake Milk	22
23	24 Chefs Choice	25 Chicken Nuggets Starz Hash Browns Fruit Cookie Milk	26 Ham & Scalloped Potatoes Veggie Fruit Breadstick Milk	27 Chili or Chicken Noodle Soup Tec. Chili Cook Cinnamon Roll Cheese Stix Applesauce / Strawberries Milk Mrs. Bartels 2 nd grade	28 Egg & Cheese / Biscuit Sausage Applesauce Muffin Milk	29
30	31 Br Beef Patty/ Bun Curly Fries Veggie Fruit Milk					

2011

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 NSAA Moratorium - Gym Closed	27 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL	28 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL	29 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL 1:00 PM Girls Var BB Holiday Tourney 4:30 PM Boys Var BB Holiday Tourney	30 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL 1:00 PM Girls Var BB Holiday Tourney 4:30 PM Boys Var BB Holiday Tourney	31 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL	1
2	3 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL 6:00 PM Girls 9-10 BB vs Syracuse 7:30 PM Boys 9-10 BB vs Syracuse	4 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL 6:00 PM Music Booster Meeting 7:00 PM T-Bird Booster Meeting	5 7:30 AM Doughnuts for Dads - Cook Site 8:00 AM Teacher Workday 8:00 AM NO SCHOOL 7:00 PM PTO Meeting - All Elem Parents Invited	6 6:00 PM Girls Var BB at Wilber Clatonia 7:45 PM Boys Var BB at Wilber Clatonia	7 8:00 AM ACT Registration Deadline 3:30 PM Var Wrestling at Wilber 4:30 PM BGJV BB at Elm-Mur	8
9 8:00 AM Doane Honor Choir	10 8:00 AM Doane Honor Choir 8:30 AM Johnson Co Coalition Mtg 7:00 PM Girls Var BB MUDECAS vs Palmyra 7:30 PM BOE Meeting @ Tecumseh	11 9:00 AM District Leadership Skills Contest 5:15 PM Boys Var BB MUDECAS vs HTRS	12 7:00 PM Post Prom Meeting	13 12:00 AM Boys Var BB MUDECAS 12:00 AM Girls Var BB MUDECAS 9:00 AM Regional Coalition Mtg - Lincoln 5:30 PM Var Wrestling at Yutan	14 12:00 AM Girls Var BB MUDECAS	15 12:00 AM Boys Var BB MUDECAS 8:00 AM Academic Decathlon - Regionals 9:30 AM Var Wrestling at JayHusker Tournament
16 8:00 AM Jam at Gym Cheer Competition	17 7:30 AM Johnson Co Coalition Mtg 5:30 PM 9-10 BGBB at Wilber-Clatonia 7:00 PM Annual Tec Ball Association Meeting	18 4:30 PM JV VAR BGBB vs Weeping Water	19	20 4:00 PM JV VAR BGBB at HTRS	21 2:30 PM UNO Honor Choir 6:00 PM Girls JV BB vs AUBURN 7:30 PM Girls Varsity BB vs AUBURN	22 8:00 AM SAT Test Day 9:00 AM 5th & 6th Grade TBird Booster Tournament 9:30 AM Var Wrestling @ Louisville Tournament 2:00 PM UNO Honor Choir
23	24 5:30 PM 9-10 BGBB vs SOUTHERN 6:00 PM Girls Jr High BB at Freeman	25 9:00 AM FFA - District Leadership 4:30 PM JV VAR BGBB at Malcolm	26 9:30 AM 8th Grade to Holland Arts Center - Shakespeare	27 4:30 PM JV VAR BGBB vs CONESTOGA 5:30 PM Post Prom Soup Supper	28 3:00 PM Var Wrestling at Fairbury Invitational	29 12:00 AM Var BGBB ECNC Prelims 8:00 AM MUDECAS Speech 8:30 AM Girls Jr. High BB vs ICC Invite
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Johnson County Central Public Schools

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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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