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SUPERINTENDENT NOTES by Jack D. Moles



SAFETY AND SECURITY PROJECT

The most noticeable physical change in our schools will require changes in our normal operational modes. The Board of Education and administration saw a need to improve on the safety and security of our facilities to better provide for a safe environment for our students and staff. The Board backed a rather aggressive project. The project has two main parts: (1) security cameras, and (2) secured main entrances. We also needed to do some door work to make the secured main entrances possible.

The cameras have been placed in high traffic areas such as entrances, student locker areas, and high traffic hallways. There are also some outside cameras in high need areas. There are NO cameras placed in areas where there is an expectation of privacy, such as restrooms and locker rooms.

The purposes for security cameras are many. Some of the most commonly cited reasons for the installment of cameras are: (1) promote child safety, (2) protect personal property, and (3) protect school property against theft and vandalism. While security cameras cannot actually stop a person from attempting to hurt someone else or something, cameras are seen as a deterrent against such things taking place. Cameras are seen as a way to establish who has been in a particular area if there are issues at question. The sheriff's office will have access to the video which should help them if situations arise.

The second part of our safety and security projects is the designation of secured main entrances. During the school day all entrances to the buildings will be locked. Visitors will be required to gain entrance to the buildings through the main entrance of each building. Visitors will press a button to request admittance. School personnel may then allow access by electronically unlocking the door. Staff members will be able to gain entrance via the main entrances or a few other doors by using a card or fob access. As a result of this change we recognize that some of our student traffic patterns are going to be affected. We will have to make adjustments in how we move students from building to building. Another entrance we will have a card or fob entrance ability is to the weight room in the high school. Some patrons have come in after hours to use the weight room in the past. We will continue this, but now those patrons would need to check out a card or fob. We will likely charge a deposit fee for that service.

In undertaking this project the Board of Education and administrators want to say that this is not a situation where we do not trust our students and patrons. What it is intended to say is that we value the safety of our students and staff and want to make sure we do as much as possible to protect that safety.

EARLY ENTRY COURSES

As a result of hiring new teachers and making some teaching assignment changes we will soon be in the position to offer a number of “dual credit” or “early entry” classes to high school students. In this setting students take courses that are taught by our own Masters level teachers. Specific courses can be taken for both high school and college credit in this format. Most courses would be taken for credit from Peru State College, while some other credits might be attained through other schools like Southeast Community College. It may soon be possible for some of our students to graduate from Johnson County Central, already having attained around 30 hours of college credit. This would place the student at a big advantage when moving on to college. It would also serve to save mom and dad quite a bit in tuition payments.

High school Principal Rick Lester, Counselor Shelley Moles, and I recently met with several of our teachers to start moving in this direction. Kirk Faris (Math), Tina Richardson (Math), Kris Farris (English), Dr. Vicky Boone (Science), and Christy Hodges (Science) are all Masters level teachers and will eventually provide early entry classes. Nick Weber, high school Social Studies, has already been offering early entry classes such as Government and American History.

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL RICK LESTER

JCC’s Homecoming week comes early this school year – On Friday, September 19 our football team plays Fairbury at 7:00 p.m. after the game we will have the Homecoming Coronation followed by a dance in the high school gym until 11:30 p.m. Below is a list of the Homecoming week activities:

Dress up days:

Monday – Color Wars (*senior’s* – black / *junior’s* – purple / *sophomore’s* – blue / *Freshman* – pink / *faculty-staff* – rainbow)

Tuesday – Cowboy UP day

Wednesday – Be Famous (dress as any celebrity)

Thursday – Formal Wear day (wear that prom dress/tux)

Friday – Thunderbird day

Homecoming Parade / downtown pep rally at the square on Friday, September 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Parade participants:

- Cheerleaders with fire truck
- HS band
- Homecoming candidates in convertibles
- Kindergarten thru 8th grade students
- High school students
- Floats

Pep Rally:

- Thunderbird fight song
- Battle cry
- Recognize all fall coaches and teams
- Senior girl’s (who are on a fall sports team) – game
- Announce dress up day winners
- Skit from the Speech/Drama class
- Senior boy’s (who are on a fall sports team) – game
- Kiss the ??????? – FBLA
- Air bands (student council)
- Homecoming candidates – game
- Thunderbird fight song

Students will be dismissed from school (around 3:15 p.m.) when we return from the pep rally

Rich Bacon, Middle School Principal & Athletic Director

The 2014-2015 school year officially began with the Middle School walk-through and the Preschool and 4th and 5th grade Open House on Monday, August 18th. All of these events were very well attended. This year we welcome Karen Hunzeker to the Middle School. Mrs. Hunzeker will divide will teach 7th and 8th grade Math.

The doors opened and the bells rang at 8:15 on August 20th as 188 preschool and 4th grade through 8th grade students anxiously started the first day of classes of the new school year at Johnson County Central in Cook. As usual, the first day of school arrived with a great deal of anticipation and excitement for both students and staff. The start of a new school year is always refreshing as it provides everyone involved with the opportunity to get the year started on the right foot. Hopefully, that excitement will continue and will help our students to reach their goals and accomplish great things here at Johnson County Central Schools.

The Nebraska State Accountability assessment scores have been released by the Nebraska Department of Education and sent home. And, while we are always looking for improvement, we are generally pleased with the effort and results from last spring's assessments. Our students have shown growth from year to year as our test scores continue to improve. Our students and teachers should be commended for their hard work. Please contact the school if you haven't received your child's NeSA scores.

Junior High football, volleyball and cross country practices are underway with their first contests rapidly approaching. At the start of any season we should take time to think about the purpose of athletics in a Middle School setting. While everyone wants to win, winning should not be the main objective of any sports program at this level. Middle School activities need to encourage participation and the development of fundamentals that will help them succeed at the varsity level. Instead placing the emphasis on winning and losing, we need to focus on hard work, effort and teamwork. If students can learn to work hard, give maximum effort, and put team success ahead of individual glory at a young age they are learning skills that will help them succeed for the rest of their lives. Please support our young athletes this year by attending games and cheering their efforts, win or lose.

ImPACT Concussion Testing Program

Johnson County Central is utilizing the ImPACT Concussion Testing Program for all athletes grades 7-12 to help improve the school's and coaches' care for athletes with sports-related concussions. This program is being provided by Nebraska Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine, and Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center of Lincoln, through the Nebraska Sports Concussion Network. The "ImPACT Test", is an online computerized test that is specifically designed for managing sports-related concussions. The test measures brain reaction time, processing speed, memory, attention, and allows medical professionals to obtain a "snap-shot" of how one's brain functions in normal conditions. Athletes are baseline tested in the pre-season, and if an athlete sustains a concussion, they are re-tested. Post-injury scores are then compared to pre-injury, baseline scores. If differences exist between the baseline and post-injury tests, athletes will be restricted from activity until further test results return to normal. As post-injury scores return to baseline, or normal, this indicates an athlete is recovered sufficiently to resume a step-wise progression back into activity and full participation. This form of testing and return-to-play helps avoid prolonging the recovery from a concussion, and prevents athletes returning to play too soon before the brain has had time to fully heal, and risking serious or catastrophic injury.

This year Thunderbird athletes in 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th grades and any new athletes participating in contact sports (football, volleyball, softball, wrestling, boys & girls basketball, and track-jumpers) will be tested. The cost of the baseline testing is being funded and implemented by the Nebraska Sports Concussion Network. Post-Injury testing, if necessary, will be conducted by a physician trained in ImPACT listed on the network's website and usual office visit charges will likely apply. School personnel have been trained to conduct baseline tests at school, and all coaches will have taken an online Concussion Training for Coaches course in an effort to improve the recognition of potential head injuries. Additional information in recognizing head injuries is available for parents and athletes at www.NebSportsConcussion.org.

Johnson County Central would like to thank Nebraska Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine, Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, Johnson County Hospital and area doctors for making the ImPACT Testing Program available to our athletic programs, and helping us ensure we are doing our absolute best in caring for your sons and daughters.

Elementary News

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

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Monday, Sept. 1—NO SCHOOL!
- Sept. 15-19—Homecoming Week!
- Friday, Sept. 26—NO SCHOOL! Teacher Work-Day.

Water Bottles

- Water only. No additives please
- Please label your child's water bottle with a permanent marker.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR SIGNED HANDBOOK RECEIPTS.

And, We're Off and Running!

Now that the children are here, things feel "normal" again. It's really cool to see how much the children have changed. Sometimes I get so busy that I am caught totally off guard by the passage of time and realize that the students who were once our Kindergarteners are now 4th graders! It is truly something I revel at and feel a bit sad about too. I guess it's just a reminder to myself to never say, "I can't wait until.." and just be grateful and thankful for right now. Before we know it, our little ones will be big ones.

Well, enough of the mushy stuff and on to business.

Activities/Ball Games

During all school activities and ball games, elementary children should be accompanied and supervised by an adult. This is especially true of the playground during football games as there is a constant possibility of injury while playing or children fighting.

One way to look at attending activities with your child is for them to have a personal, learning experience with *you*. At activities:

- Children can learn about the sport or activity with *your* direct input.
- Your child gains a lifelong positive memory of being with *you*.

- Children learn how to positively support their school/team from *you*. (They also learn what not to do.)

Homecoming Week

We encourage our elementary students' participation in homecoming week. We just ask they follow a few simple rules:

1. Please, limit paint on the faces and in the hair. This tends to get rubbed off and make a mess.
2. The costume cannot interfere with your child's educational activities (writing, walking, speaking, etc.).

The Thunderbird Way

At the end of September, students will have accumulated "tickets" for demonstrating exceptional citizenship with the Thunderbird Way. As well as having our Thunderbirds of the Month, I will also be opening a Thunderbird Store where students can trade in their tickets for prizes or privileges. I believe this will be a fun experience for the students.

Here's how it works:

1. Students each have a Thunderbird card. Students keep their Thunderbird card as long as they are always being Respectful, Responsible and Safe.
2. Students earn tickets from staff through their positive behaviors.
3. At the end of the month, those who still have their Thunderbird cards are recognized as Thunderbirds of the Month.
4. Tickets are then drawn for special prizes or "cashed in".
5. The more positive behavior, the more tickets, the better chance of being drawn or "cashing in".

Counselor News by Shelley Moles

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

National Honor Society to Host Red Cross Blood Drive September 17:

National Honor Society members will host a “Sweet 16” Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, September 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Students, staff, parents and community members who wish to give to help save a life should contact National Honor Society members, Rudy Pooch, Grant Moles, or Spencer Dorsey to schedule a donation time. You may also call Mrs. Moles at (402) 335-3328 during school hours to schedule a donation time or register online at www.redcrossblood.com. One unit of blood given can help save up to three lives!

The entire donation process takes about 1 ¼ hours, from registration through refreshments. The actual donation takes about eight minutes. Drinking plenty of fluids the day of and the day before the donation and eating a good breakfast help ensure a positive experience. Please bring Red Cross Donor Card and/or Picture Identification. Students who are 16 will also need a signed parent consent form to be able to give.

Walk-ins are welcomed but appointments are preferred. Contact Mrs. Moles or register online to be a lifesaver!

NWEA-MAP Testing for grades 9-11 on September 3, 4, 9 and 10, 2014:

Johnson County Central students in grades 9, 10, and 11 will be taking the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests on September 3, 4, 9, and 10. Each student will take a Science, Math, Language Usage, and Reading test. These tests will help teachers and parents have a measure of each student's reading, science, math and language usage skills this fall. This will help students and teachers set learning goals for the school year. Then in the spring, each student will again be taking the MAP assessments to measure the student's progress.

This year JCC will be using the online version of the MAP assessments. This should make the testing a more positive event for students and teachers. Results of the fall testing will be available for parents to pick up at Parent/Teachers Conferences on October 30 and 31.

Time for College Fairs:

College fairs allow students (usually grades 9-12) and their parents to visit with representatives from many 4-year and 2-year colleges in one location. Military representatives are also available representing military academies and the armed services. Financial aid sessions at the college fairs offer information on applying for the FAFSA, scholarships, loans, and grants. These programs are FREE to students and parents.

Some tips to follow to make the most of your College Fair experience:

1. Prepare a list of questions to ask college representatives, such as the school's academic programs, admission application deadlines, or scholarship opportunities.

2. Determine what you are looking for in a college or university you plan to attend. This will help you decide which to look at more closely and perhaps follow-up with a campus tour. Take notes to keep track of the schools that interest you.

3. Before you go, register for a college fair barcode! If you plan to attend a College Fair or Educational Planning Program, register for a barcode that will streamline your visits with college representatives. Visit NebraskaCollegeFairs.org and select the event you plan to attend. Complete and submit a confidential online form providing details such as contact information, age/gender/ethnicity, year in school, academic information, extracurricular activities, and ACT/SAT scores. Print the barcode that appears on your screen. **Important!** Take the barcode to the College Fair(s) and/or EPP(s) you attend. College representatives participating in the barcode/scanner process will scan your barcode to retrieve your information-and you won't have to complete information cards!

Local area college fairs for this fall are listed below so you can schedule them on your calendar.

Omaha Area College Fair – Sunday, October 26 at University of Nebraska-Omaha, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Financial aid sessions by EducationQuest. FREE!

Lincoln Area College Fair – Sunday, October 19 at Southeast Community College-Lincoln, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Financial aid sessions by EducationQuest. FREE!

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Program:

Authorized by the Nebraska Legislature in 2007, the Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Program Act (LB 192) pays tuition and mandatory fees for qualified, low-income high school students to enroll in college courses from Nebraska's colleges or universities, either through dual-enrollment or early enrollment agreements with these institutions. High school student may apply for funding under this program by completing the ACE Student Application, which is reviewed by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE) for award consideration.

There are two basic criteria for high school students to qualify for the ACE Scholarship. Students must either be eligible to receive assistance under a variety of federal government programs or the student and his or her family must have experienced a recent hardship.

For students to find out more information on the ACE Scholarship and to complete an application, please go to www.ccpe.state.ne.us/PublicDoc/Cepe/Financial%20Aid/ACE/default.asp or see Mrs. Moles. Students must create an account, then complete and submit an online form.

Scheduling a Campus Visit:

Seniors and their parents may wish to schedule a campus visit to help make a decision about which college or university to attend.

Please schedule your visit in advance – some colleges do regular morning and afternoon tours, some only on certain days. Some colleges offer preview days for particular majors. Call the Admissions Office of the college you are interested in and request a campus tour or you may be able to schedule a visit online (Mrs. Moles is available for help). If possible, arrange for a meeting with faculty in your intended major or with coaches about a particular sport.

To be excused from school, seniors should bring a written request from a parent for the college visit that states date, the college visiting, and time of tour and submit it in advance to the Principal's office. Seniors will receive a make-up slip to let teachers know they intend to be absent. This allows missed classroom work to be made up before attendance.

Juniors and PSAT Testing:

The PSAT-NMSQT (Preliminary SAT –National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is scheduled for Wednesday morning, October 15, at Johnson County Central High School. The PSAT is an optional test. Juniors may choose to take the PSAT/NMSQT because it allows students to measure their skills in critical reading, verbal reasoning, writing and math problem solving, to compare their academic skills with those of other college-bound students, and to enter the National Merit Scholarship Corporation programs.

Juniors who are interested in knowing more about the PSAT test and its opportunities may request a copy of "Official Student Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT" from Mrs. Moles. They can then decide if they wish to take the PSAT and enter competition for the National Merit Scholarship.

High ability sophomore students may also take the PSAT by registering and paying the testing fee. Taking the PSAT as a sophomore may help students prepare for the PSAT /NMSQT as juniors. Sophomores who are interested in taking the PSAT should request an "Official Student Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT."

All students who wish to take the PSAT, need to register with Mrs. Moles by October 1 and pay the \$14.00 testing fee. A limited number of fee waivers may be available for qualifying junior students.

Financial Aid Parents Night at Southeast Community College Campuses:

Southeast Community College is hosting FREE Parents Financial Aid Workshops on each of its three campuses. Parents and legal guardians are invited to bring all Financial Aid questions to get assistance from the SCC Financial Aid Staff. Dates, times and location for the workshops are: Milford campus, September 4 from 5-6 p.m. in Dunlap A & B, Beatrice campus, September 11 from 5-6 p.m. in the Kennedy 334 Conference Room, and Lincoln campus, September 18 from 6-8 p.m. in the U104, 106.

Johnson County Central will be hosting the EducationQuest Financial Aid meeting for juniors, seniors and their parents at the high school on November 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Student Records and Release of Information:

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) is a Federal law that requires Johnson County Central School, with certain exceptions, to obtain a parent's written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a child's education records. However, Johnson County Central School may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless parents have advised the District to the contrary. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Johnson County Central School to include directory information from a child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

1. A music program showing a student's name and grade;
2. The annual yearbook;
3. Honor roll or other recognition lists;
4. Graduation programs;
5. Sports activity sheets, such as football, volleyball, or basketball programs showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEA) receiving assistance in the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses, and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want Johnson County Central School to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by September 15, 2014.

Please direct your request to Mr. Moles or your student's building principal. Johnson County School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Photograph
- Grade level
- Dates of attendance
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Honors and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended.

Parents and students wishing Johnson County Central School to release additional information contained in a student's education record to outside agencies need to present a signed, written request or complete the appropriate student record release form.

Requesting a High School Transcript:

Current High School Students applying for postsecondary institutions, educational programs and scholarships need to bring a written request from a parent to Johnson County Central School in order for a transcript or other information such as class rank, grade point average, or ACT/SAT score to be released. Transcript Request Forms may be picked up from the guidance office.

Graduates of Johnson County Central Public Schools, Elk Creek Schools, Nemaha Valley Schools or Tecumseh Public School need to submit a written request stating: a) information to send (such as a transcript of grades), b) the year of graduation and/or attendance (such as graduated 2010), c) name and address of institution or program to receive requested information and finally, the printed name and signature of the former student making the request. Requests may be mailed (Johnson County Central High School, Attn: Mrs. Shelley Moles, 358 N. 6th Street, Tecumseh, NE 68450) or given to Mrs. Moles in the counselor's office.

The Thunderbird Way

By Marsha Bacon, K-8 School Counselor

When at school or at school events, encourage your student to follow the Thunderbird Way. The Thunderbird Way program is beginning its third year at JCC. It is a pro-social behavior program that promotes positive behaviors, social skills, and problem solving strategies and is utilized by all JCC staff in grades PK-8.

Below is the Thunderbird Way poster that explains what the school expectations are in different areas in school. These posters can be found throughout the school; in classrooms, hallways and offices. Students are excited to be Learners as well as Safe, Respectful and Responsible Thunderbirds. We want our students to enjoy coming to school and to learn something new every day.

That is the Thunderbird Way!



Johnson County Central Behavior Expectations
"It's the Thunderbird Way!"

The Thunderbird Way: Will create a successful learning environment!

Area	Be Safe	Be Respectful	Be Responsible
<i>Classrooms</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to self 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow adult directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow school rules • Bring all necessary items to class every day
<i>PE/ Free Time</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use equipment appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play fairly with everyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow playground rules
<i>Hallways</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk on the right 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiet voices
<i>Restrooms</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash hands & put paper towel in the trash container 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give people privacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flush toilet & return to class
<i>Lunchroom</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to self 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use good manners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up

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Discover the Treasure in Learning! By Kathie Grotrian

The 2027 Kindergarten class have been very excited about starting school! All eighteen boys and girls in Mrs. Grotrian's class are busy learning about school and rules and getting used to a full day of learning and fun! On the first day the students went on a "Pete the Cat" Hunt and explored all the new places in our school building. We found the Music Room, the Nurse's office, the Lunchroom, Library, and the Computer Lab! It was a fun tour! "Treasures" was our theme for the first week of school. The students brought some of their special treasures to school and then we learned lots about each other by seeing what is special to us. This year we will explore Reading, discover Science, master Math, dig into Writing, hunt for History as we find the treasure in learning! We had a different "Treasure Hunt" every day to find special things. On Friday we used a map that we followed to find our special treasure. We are very happy and excited about starting our educational adventure called *School!*



Fourth Grade by Kelli Dorsey

We are all quickly adjusting to our busy school schedule. Each day includes Reading, Language Arts, Spelling, Writing, Math, PE, Music, Social Sciences, and Accelerated Reading.

For Language Arts, we are using the reading series Reading Streets. It includes Reading, Spelling, English, and Writing. Our first story is "Because of Winn Dixie" and so far everyone loves it. We have a spelling test every week with a new list coming home on Mondays and a test each Friday.

Our daily schedule gets pretty busy. In Math, we are learning many new concepts using Saxon Math. We are adding and subtracting with missing numbers, reviewing place value, and working on reading and writing large numbers.

Daily students have Accelerated Reading time where students read independently and take comprehension tests on the computer, it is amazing by the end of the year how many points they will have accumulated.

During Social Science time we have begun reading and discussing the history of Nebraska. We live in an amazing state!

For literature we are reading Jennifer Murdley's Toad, where students learn that it is more important to be beautiful inside than out.

We are off to a great start in fourth grade and are looking forward to a super school year!

Take Me Outside: The Importance of Outdoor Play for Your Young Child

by Lisa Othmer-Preschool Teacher

For many reasons, young children are spending increasing amounts of time watching television, playing video games, and using a computer. While these types of activities are acceptable in moderation, it is important to ensure that this engagement with electronics is not depriving children of the opportunity to be outdoors.

The opportunity to be outside promotes and strengthens many aspects of learning and development. The outdoor environment can have a calming effect on children and help them be more focused and less distracted. Furthermore, time spent in nature benefits young children in the following ways:

- Enhances thinking skills
- Increases creativity and imagination
- Promotes greater ability to handle negative stress
- Heightens resistance to depression
- Decreases symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Prevents a growing problem of childhood obesity
- Fosters fine and gross motor development
-

Today, more and more children are contained and controlled by cramped living conditions; high-stakes academic instruction; grueling schedules; and by tense, overworked parents. Outdoor environments fulfill children's basic needs for freedom, adventure, and simply being children.

Outdoor play is one of the things that characterizes childhood. If you think back to your own childhood, I am

VOLLEYBALL OUTLOOK 2014 by Coach Justesen

6 returning letter winners

7 seniors: Hanna Carnagey, Kelsie Kaster, Shawna Othmer, Whitney Speckmann, Kori Speckmann, Kaylea Speckmann, and Lindsay Weber

4 – Juniors: Natalie Roddy, Keelee McClintock, Brittany Neukirck, Cyndy Reves

3 – Sophomore: Marissa Borrenpohl, Tashayla Dorn, Madi Panko

6- Freshman: Paige Kraus, Sierra McClintock, Macey Pietzyk, Maddie Moran, Lisbeth Serrano, Hannah Swanda

Assistant Coaches: Coach Bensen and Coach Ellicot

The 2014 JCC volleyball team has 20 girls out for volleyball. The girls have worked hard over the summer and the first two weeks of volleyball to get ready for the season. We are very excited for your first game!

We will focus on high efficiency of passing and serving for our 2014 team goals. Everyone on the court will impact our success. Our team goals include 90% serving and 80% - 85% passing accuracy and team unity. Kori Speckman, Hanna Carnagey, and Lindsay Weber will be big outside hitters for us. Keelee McClintock and Shawna Othmer will be our big middle blockers and hitters. Kelsie Kaster, Natalie Roddy and Madi Panko will be our defensive specialists. We also have several other under classman that could have an opportunity to see court time as the year progresses. Our seven seniors are great role models and will strong leaders on our young team.



Reading Street by Mrs.Gail Hutt

I would like to welcome students of JCC back to school. I look forward to working with you and helping you on your journey to progress in reading. We are starting our fourth year of Reading Street for students in grades K5.

There are five critical areas of reading instruction that are necessary for children to become successful readers. They are phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and text comprehension.

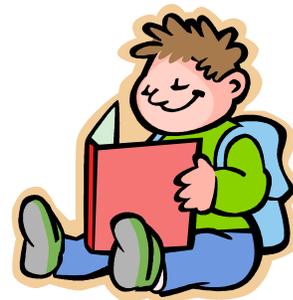
In Reading Street our students learn that sentences are made up of words and words are made up of a sequence of letters that make sounds. This is phonemic awareness. Then the students learn the letter sound relationships for all the consonants and vowels.

We also have phonics instruction. Phonics is the blending of sounds to decode words. In Reading Street phonics instruction is connected to the spelling words.

The next area is fluency. Fluency is the ability to read the text accurately and at a rate that flows and isn't choppy. Fluent readers also read with expression. As the teachers assess the students individually on their fluency rate, some may need to repeat readings. This helps to increase reading speed, word recognition and oral reading expression. The students practice with meaningful text at their appropriate reading level. We have leveled readers for the students. The first two weeks of school we are assessing students to identify their reading level.

Vocabulary is taught through everyday experiences as well as through explicit vocabulary instruction. Kindergarten and First amazing words are taught for oral vocabulary. In Second and Fifth grades students will use the words in writings, reading and discussions.

Our last area is comprehension. Ten comprehension skills are taught at each grade level. Comprehending text improves with lots of instruction. The students are presented with questions that practice the comprehension skills.



News from the Horizons Classroom-Tecumseh site

Welcome Back! Summer went fast for many, but we are ready to get back to learning and helping others. In our classroom we continue to work academically learning new concepts and gaining more knowledge in already familiar areas. We are also very busy helping others around the school by completing jobs such as collecting recycling bins from all the classrooms, delivering milk and snacks to elementary, washing cafeteria tables, as well as the kitchens laundry towels. Not only are we learning to help others, but also how to prepare meals for ourselves in our classroom kitchen. This year we are going to be adding a fun new adventure of working with some local businesses a couple days a week to gain more experience and opportunities to learn skills need for future living. We are looking forward to the excitement and challenges that learning offers us again this school year. We want to wish everyone an awesome 2014-2015 school year.

2014 JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL SOFTBALL

No.	Name	Grade
1	ERIN HUNZEKER	10
2	MACKENZIE ELTISTE	9
3	HOLLIE GARTNER	9
4	TIA PARRISH	9
5	MELISSA BAUSCH	12
6	ERIKA HUNZEKER	12
7	AVA ASCHEMAN	10
8	SAMANTHA FRANCOIS	10
9	GABRIELA ALVARADO	9
10	LYNDEE WENZL	12
11	SYDNEE WENZL	11
12	BECCA BERNADT	12
13	LAYTON SULLWOLD	12
14	ALYSSA STRUBEL	12
15	SAMANTHA KUHL	9
17	COURTNEY KLAASMEYER	10

HEAD COAH: RANDY MILLER
ASST HEAD COACH: KAREN HUNZEKER

JCC Softball by Randy Miller

Asst Coach: Karen Hunzeker

6-18 last years record

With seven returning starters, 6 of these seniors, they should be, and have to be the strength of this year's team.

All the returning starts have to play well for us to be competitive this season but our strength will be our pitcher, Melissa Bausch and catcher, Erika Hunzeker, they both have to have career years for us.

We will have to have a couple of underclassmen step up and contribute early as well. Mackenzie Eltiste and Tia Parrish have played well so far in practice, time will tell on how they perform at the high school level.

Our conference will be tough, looks like Cones-toga and Cass County Central could be very good this year and the addition of Auburn to the conference will only make the conference better.



School Improvement Process

Johnson County Central Schools will be starting a new cycle in the school improvement process. During this school year we will establish a new steering committee, form multiple committees to gather data, and determine a goal for improving student learning in our district. The committees will include individuals from the school setting as well as patrons from the district. As we progress through the steps, articles will be included in the monthly newsletter to keep everyone informed. The following information outlines the process we will follow.

School improvement is a requirement of Rule 10, *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*. Regulation 009.01A of the Rule establishes the general requirement for the development and implementation of a school improvement process that “promotes quality learning for all students” and that - in public schools - incorporates multicultural education. (Nebraska Department of Education, *The Nebraska Framework*, p. 2, July 2011)

“The basic purpose of the continuous improvement process is to conduct an on-going process for reviewing the educational performance and growth of students and, in those areas where performance is lower than expected or preferred, to institute a process of examining the reasons, setting improvement goals, identifying strategies aimed at improving the learning goal area, and verifying the performance gains.” (Nebraska Department of Education, *The Nebraska Framework*, p. 5, July 2011)

Below are the steps outlined in the Nebraska Department of Education Framework for schools to follow during the school improvement process.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT LEADERSHIP

- Step 1: Establish a Steering Committee for the Continuous Improvement Process
- Step 2: Build understanding and Commitment to the Purpose and Process of School Improvement
- Step 3: Develop the Timeline
- Step 4: Create Committee Structures
- Step 5: Update the Mission

CREATING THE PROFILE

- Step 1: Determine Data Sources
- Step 2: Include Student Performance Data
- Step 3: Consider Perceptual Data
- Step 4: Consider Program Data
- Step 5: Include Demographic Data
- Step 6: Organize and Present Data
- Step 7: Reflect on and Analyze Data
- Step 8: Check the Profile for Recommended Components

SETTING THE GOALS

- Step 1: Prioritize the Areas of Need
- Step 2: Determine the School Improvement Goals
- Step 3: Research Effective Practices

PLANNING TO IMPROVE

- Step 1: Develop Action Plan Strategies
- Step 2: Reflect on Strategies and Interventions
- Step 3: Write the Action Plan
- Step 4: Establish Baseline/Post-Intervention Evaluation Data

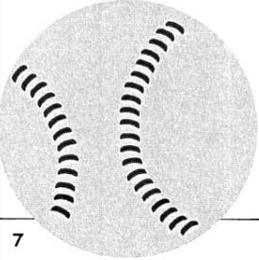
IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

- Step 1: Help all Staff Develop an Understanding of the Goals and Strategies
- Step 2: Monitor the Implementation
- Step 3: Determine Effectiveness of the Intervention
- Step 4: Recognize Progress, Affirm Successes

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 NO SCHOOL! Labor Day</p>	<p>2 Goulash Salad Bar Fruit Dinner Roll WG Milk</p>	<p>3 Hot Dog WG Bun Starz Hash Browns Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk</p>	<p>4 Chicken Patty/ WG Bun Fruit & Veggie Bar Cookie Milk</p>	<p>5 Fistada Salad Bar Fruit Veggies Milk</p>	6
7	<p>8 Cream Chicken/ WG Biscuit Peas Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk</p>	<p>9 Hot Ham & Cheese /WG Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>10 Popcorn Chicken Bowl Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk</p>	<p>11 Max Cheese Stix Salad Bar Fruit & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>12 Meatball Sub Fruit & Veggie Bar Brownie Milk</p>	13
14	<p>15 Corndog Mac & Cheese Fruit & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>16 Sloppy Joe/ WG Bun Tater Tots Fruit & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>17 Crispy Chicken Wrap Salad Bar Fruits & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>18 Ch. burger/ WG Bun Baked Carrots Fruits & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>19 Cheese Pizza Salad Bar Fruit & Veggies Milk</p>	20
21	<p>22 Chicken Teriyaki Fried Rice Fruits & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>23 Br. Pork Patty/ WG Bun FF Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk</p>	<p>24 Beef Enchilada Tortilla chip/ salsa Fruit & Veggies Milk</p>	<p>25 Spaghetti / Meat sauce Green Beans Fruit & Veggies Garlic Bread Milk</p>	<p>26 NO SCHOOL!</p>	27
28	<p>29 Ch Burger Mac Green Beans Fruit & Veggies WG Bread Stick Milk</p>	<p>30 BBQ Meat Balls Cheesy Potatoes Fruit & Veggies Dinner Roll Milk</p>				

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NO SCHOOL	2 Johnson Co. Coalition Mtg @ JCC HS Lib.8:30 am JV & V SB @ JCC (fairgrounds) 5:00 pm	3	4 V Golf @ Syracuse CC 3:00 pm V VB @ JCC HS 5:00 pm JV & V SB @ Wilber- Clatonia 5:30 pm	5 V XC @ Tecumseh CC 9:00 am V Golf @ Hidden Acres V FB @ Southern HS 7:00 pm	6 V SB @ Auburn City Rec. Complex 9:00 am
7 	8 JH FB @ Freeman 4:00 pm V SB @ Weeping Wa- ter 4:00 pm JV FB @ JCC 6:00 pm FFA Recruit Mtg@ 7	9 V G @ Tecumseh CC 4:00 pm JV & V SB @ JCC Fair- grounds 5:00 pm V VB @ JCC 5:30 pm	10 Husker Harvest Days@ Grand Island	11 Drug Free Regional Mtg.@ Lincoln 9:00am V XC @ Camp Calvin Crest 4:30 pm V SB @ JCC FG 4:30 C, JV&V VB@JCC	12 MS Band @ Humboldt 11:00 am V FB @ Wilber-Clatonia 7:00 pm	13 ACT Test Day JV VB @ Syracuse HS 8:30 am.
	15 HOMECOMING WEEK V VB Mudecas @ SCC JV & V SB @ JC Fair- grounds 5:00 pm JV FB @ JCC	16 V VB Mudecas @ SCC V G @ Stone Creek Golf Course 9:00 am JH FB @ JCC HS 4:30 JV & V SB @ Malcolm	17 NSH Blood Drive @ JCC HS Gym	18 V VB Mudecas @ SCC V G @ Tec CC 9:00 am V XC @ Hidden Hills 4:30 JH VB @ Wilber-Clatonia 4:30 JV & V SB @ JC FG 5	19 Homecoming Parade 2:00 pm V FB @ JCC 7:00 pm Homecoming Dance 9:00	20 JH VB @ Louisville HS 8:00 am
21 	22 V G @ Kirkmans Cove 9:00 am C & JV VB 4:30	23 V XC @ Branched Oak Lake 4:30 pm JH FB @ JCC HS JV & V SB @ JC FG 5:00 V VB @ JCC 5:00 pm	24 FBLA Leadership Conf. @ Omaha 8:30 am	25 JH VB @ Syracuse HS V XC @ Hebron CC 5:00 JV & V VB @ JCC HS 6:00 pm	26 No School Teacher workday V FB @ Syracuse HS 7:00 pm	27 V SB @ Auburn City Rec. Complex V VB @ Louisville HS 9:00 am
28 HS Band Marching Exhibition @ Syra- cuse 7:00 PM	29 V G @ Auburn CC 9:00 JH VB @ Tri County 4:30 JV VB @ JCC 5:30 JV FB @ JCC 6:30 pm	30 JH VB @ JCC MS 4:00 V VB @ Louisville HS 5:00 JH FB @ Conestoga 5:00 JV & V SB @ Syracuse 5:00				

Johnson County Central Public Schools

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402 335-3328 Principal @ Tecumseh
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402 864-4171 Principal @ Cook
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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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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.

*School lunches are to
be paid in advance.
Thank You!*

Lunch Prices 2014-2015

Elem. (K-5) \$2.25 ea.

\$45.00 (20 days)
\$22.50 (10 days)
\$11.25 (5 days)

Middle School (6-8) \$2.75 ea.

High School (9-12) \$2.75 ea.

\$55.00 (20 days)
\$27.50 (10 days)
\$13.75 (5 days)

Breakfast Prices (\$1.60 per breakfast)

\$32.00 (20 days)
\$16.00 (10 days)
\$8.00 (5 days)

Milk .35

Orange Juice .40

Reduced Prices

Red. Lunch .40
Red. Breakfast .30

Ala Carte \$1.00 ea.