



THUNDERBIRD NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

SUPERINTENDENT MONTHLY UPDATE BY JON ROTHER



FFA Land Management

BY WES SCHMID & JON ROTHER

Volume 19
Issue 4

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Jon Rother
Superintendent
402-921-0187

Justin Damme
Principal (9-12)
402-335-7815

Marsha Bacon
Principal (4-8)
402-335-7885

Beckie Robeson
Principal (PK-3)
402-335-7839

Laura Rademacher
Director of Student Services/
Special Education
402-335-7851

Garrett Collin
Activities Director
402-736-5757

JCC

At the October 8 Regular Board of Education meeting, JCC FFA students Levi Othmer and Wes Schmid, along with sponsors Mrs. Christy Hodges and Mr. Connor Bartels, presented a proposition to the board. The proposition is that JCC's FFA would manage the farming of the 52 acres of land the school is purchasing. The board voted to execute the purchase of the property North of the current football field and track in Tecumseh. The school will make payment and take ownership of the property in January of 2026.

Levi and Wes gave the board projected expense numbers as well as income based on average rates from the area. FFA students plan to use the field for educational experiences such as soil sampling, making decisions on fertilizers, seed, herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, population rates, and analyzing harvest data.

We are unsure at this time if FFA members will be able to run the equipment, but members will gain the experience of making the managerial decisions that farmers and landowners conduct on a regular basis. *If anyone in the community would like to partner with the FFA chapter to help get this project started, feel free to reach out.*

Expenses	Price/Acre	Price	Projected Income \$4.00/bushel	
Seed	\$125	\$4,900	150 bushel / acre	\$23,400
Planting	\$18	\$702	160 bushel / acre	\$24,960
Annyhdrous or 32-0-0	\$140	\$5,460	170 bushel / acre	\$26,520
Starter	\$43	\$1,677	180 bushel / acre	\$28,080
Pre-Emerge	\$60	\$2,340		
Post-Emerge	\$75	\$2,925	Projected Income \$4.50/bushel	
Harvest	\$45	\$1,755	150 bushel / acre	\$26,325
Insurance	\$13	\$507	160 bushel / acre	\$28,080
Rent	\$150	\$5,850	170 bushel / acre	\$29,835
Total	\$669	\$26,116	180 bushel / acre	31,590

Superintendent's Article continued on Page 2

The Nebraska Association of School Boards

As quoted from their webpage (<https://members.nasbonline.org>) the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) "...is a private, nonprofit organization that provides programs, services and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans since 1918."

NASB representatives advocate for Nebraska's schools at the legislative level. Particularly, they are monitoring the presentation of bills, or amendments to bills, that would cause local districts undue burden, increased expenditures or would take away from local control. Midway through the legislative process, NASB provides schools with legislative updates and an opportunity to meet with legislators in Lincoln to discuss bills being presented.

Another service JCC finds of value from NASB is Sparq. Sparq is an online tool that helps school districts organize and prepare board meeting agendas, publicize and archive board agendas and minutes, publicize and archive board policy, manage board goals and provides a platform for the board for teacher negotiations. As board agendas and policy are both on Sparq, policies can easily be attached to board agendas and reviewed by board members.

NASB provides training and education for Nebraska board members and administrators throughout the year. These include the Labor Relations Conference each fall to help board members prepare for the negotiations process. Also of value to the JCC board is the State Education

Conference each November. Board members have the opportunity to learn all things Nebraska schools along with board members across the state. Other opportunities through NASB include:

- ALICAP - insurance coverage for Nebraska schools.
- ALICAP Summer Safety Workshop.
- Board Leadership support.
- Board Candidate Workshops.
- Board President Retreat.
- Budget & Finance Workshops.
- Facilities & Construction Workshop.
- Legislative Issues Conference.
- New Board Member Workshops.
- School Law Seminar.

JCC is happy to have NASB as a partner and advocate!

JCC Veterans Day 2025

Tuesday, November 11

Johnson County Central Middle School Gym

Cook, NE - 10:00 AM

Presentation by Sergeant Wade Bartels

*1st Radio Battalion
United States Marine Corps
Camp Pendleton, CA
2011-2016*

Johnson County Central High School Gym

Tecumseh, NE - 10:00 AM

Presentation by Technical Sergeant Zachary Bauman

*Enlisted Accessions Recruiter
United States Air Force
343 Recruiting Squadron*

** All veterans and their spouses are invited to eat lunch at the school following the program. Meal is provided free of charge by the school.**

Chain of Command

The “chain of command” is the order in which parents, stakeholders, constituents, voters, taxpayers, students, athletes, staff and any other category of person with a concern should follow. (I do find it ironic that people aren’t expected to follow a “chain of command” with a compliment though!) Often when we have a concern, it just seems easiest to go “right to the top”. And, that really might be easiest. However, skipping several links in the chain of command can have some collateral consequences. The biggest is that it also diminishes communication. Communication is one of the most important tools we have at making change, building relationships, building trust and meeting goals. When we refuse to communicate, or quit communicating, the ability to build the relationships and trust to help us meet our goals erodes.

Sometimes, the chain of command is not followed simply due to frustration. Other times, the person with the concern has already built a relationship with someone further up the chain and feels more comfortable speaking with them. Some just don’t know who to call first, so they call the number that is available to them.

In any circumstance, it is always best to communicate first with the people directly involved. Face-to-face meetings are best. This way, we can hear intonation and see how the other person is reacting and feeling. Emails, texts and social media messages leave too much for individual interpretation. The intent of the message can quickly become lost by the reader presuming intonation and inflection. Whereas face-to-face, in-person communication allows the back and forth dialogue necessary to work as a team and come to consensus.

Teacher/Coach → Principal/Director → Superintendent → Board of Education

When to contact a teacher/coach?

- Any issue that has to do with your student (i.e. discipline, student work, grades, behavior, classroom concerns, parent/student/teacher relationships).

When to contact a principal/director?

- After you’ve contacted your student’s teacher(s) with no satisfactory result.
- If the issue concerning your student has to do with support staff (para-professional, nutrition/kitchen staff, janitorial staff, maintenance staff), or you would like to set up a meeting to discuss your student with support staff.
- Concerns about curriculum.
- Issues pertaining to the student handbook.
- Concerns about a program, sport or activity.

When to contact the superintendent?

- After you’ve contacted your student’s teacher(s) and the principal/director with no satisfactory result.
- When you have a question that concerns policy or budget.
- Any issue that has to do with the facilities.

When to contact a school board member?

- Issues concerning school board policy or finances.
- To file a complaint about the superintendent.
- Discussions about the overall direction of the district.

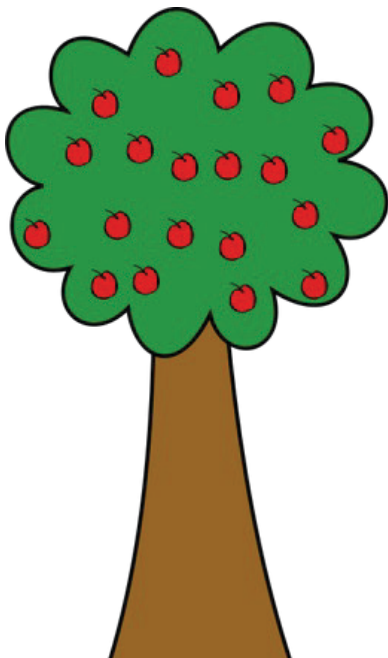
If you are ever unsure of who to contact first, please feel free to reach out to me for guidance. I would not see this as “skipping” over people in the chain-of-command, as I am always happy to help, give advice and point people in the right direction.

402-921-0187



Autumn mornings, apple picking, and warm memories being made in Kindergarten!!

Mrs. Borrenpohl and Ms. Gabriel's Kindergarten classes had a blast going to a fellow classmate's backyard for an afternoon experience of apple picking!! The leftover apples all got harvested for pig treats!! To kick off the fall season we had fun and enjoyed nature with apple picking and taking a trip to the pumpkin patch this year!



High School News

From Principal Justin Damme

Wow! Our first quarter is done. From the first day back in August, our students have brought energy, curiosity, and dedication to their learning.

High school students should have received their first-quarter report cards on Friday, October 17, 2025. Congratulations to all students who earned a spot on the 1st Quarter Honor Roll.

Please feel free to call or email your student's teachers if you have any questions about your student's academic standing. Reminder: Parents/guardians can stay up to date on grades through PowerSchool. When parents/guardians show interest in their child's academic performance, it will impact their child's desire to succeed. Here are a few ideas to help your student be successful.

- Help them set aside a specific time and place to study at home
- Listen to their concerns
- Praise their successes, let them know how proud you are of them
- Ask specific questions about their classes or projects

Our fall athletic programs are wrapping up their successful seasons as I write this. Our athletic teams continued to represent JCC with pride, effort, and excellent sportsmanship, and should be commended for their accomplishments this season. The football, volleyball, girls' golf, and cross-country teams all gave outstanding efforts and worked hard to improve throughout the season. A special thank you to the coaches for their support during this fall season.

Here's to a successful start and an even stronger finish to our first semester.

Thank you to the parents, guardians, and community members who are deeply invested in our school. Your partnership means everything to us.

If you ever have any questions or would like to speak with me, please don't hesitate to reach out. I can be contacted at justin.damme@jccentral.org or by calling 402-335-3328.



Vocal Music

By Emily Fricke

Greetings from the Choir Department. By the time you read this, we will be well underway with our school year. Our students have already performed their first concert, Pie Night on October 23rd. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our department with your donations to our music and pie fundraiser. Candle Sales were also a big success! Thank you to everyone who purchased candles this year! Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated. They help support our kids with honor choir fees, trips, equipment, and hotel costs for further away events.

Doane Froshmore Clinic - This year, we were able to have 9 students attend Doane Froshmore. This clinic is only for Freshman and Sophomores, similar to JCC's Freshmore Honor Clinic. Students get involved by getting to sing with students from other schools and performing a concert in the evening. Students who attended were: Heaven Adams, Xavier Arguello, Reese Carter, Eduardo Castor, Ulysses Duarte, Jude Longsine, Marvin Najera, Heidi Reyes, and Landon Toohey.

Crete Honor Choir - The following middle school students will be attending Crete Honor Choir on Thursday, November 6th in Crete, NE. Lydia Bilsend, Edith Blomstedt, Journi Brooks, Kaitlyn Clements, Naomie Henry, Emry Pollard, Saul Cabrales Pena, Hudson Harrifeld, Tim Johns-Hinrichsen, Klaire Crable.

ECNC Honor Choir - The following students will be attending ECNC Honor Choir in Auburn on Monday, November 10th. HS: Abby Blomstedt, Charlyn Bobadilla, Adree Case, Kael Fricke, Jesus Hurtado, Harley Lubben, Marisol Mandl, Josie McDonald, Kene Ofoegbu, Tony Orozco, Edgar Prado, Wes Schmid, Alex Thipphavong. MS: Lilyana Birdwell, Edith Blomstedt, Kaitlyn Clements, Lucymae Helmick, Sophie Kirkland, Tim Johns-Hinrichsen, Ada Goodrich, Kelly Kongmanyvong, Makenzy Russell, Carter Allen, Keygan Bailey, Brock Carter, Jude Fricke.

All State!!! This year, five HS students auditioned for All State Choir: Marisol Mandl, Jesus Hurtado, Kene Ofoegbu, Edgar Prado, and Tegan Topp. Auditioning for All State Choir is time consuming and nerve-racking. These students received their music last May, practiced alone at home over the summer, attended a workshop this summer at Wesleyan in Lincoln, and have continued to work into this school year in whatever free time they've had. Most of the audition comes from the music being learned but exact sections are unknown until the auditioning window. This window is two and a half days long and audition cuts are released the first morning of the window. It's a long but rewarding experience and the hardest audition any of these students will ever experience. Congratulations to sophomore, Kene Ofoegbu, for being placed at a Tenor 2 in the All State Choir!

High School Choir Stats:

Our students have been rehearsing for our fall & winter performances. We have 54 total singers in this year's high school choir. 33 are returning members from previous years. The choir consists of 18 Sopranos, 11 Altos, 10 Tenors, & 15 Basses. They can be broken down into the following grade levels: 13 Seniors, 10 Juniors, 22 Sophomores, & 9 Freshmen.

Middle School Choir Stats:

The middle school choir consists of 64 singers (31 seventh grade and 33 eighth grade students). Those 64 singers are broken down into the following voice categories: 21 Sopranos, 14 Altos, 22 Tenors, & 8 Basses. They are reviewing basic music theory and applying that knowledge to rehearsals.

HS Choir Officers:

The singers have elected their peers into leadership positions within the choir and this year's officers include: President – Charlyn Bobadilla; Vice President – Jesus Hurtado; Treasurer – Tony Orozco; Secretary – Wes Schmid; and Reporter – Amelia Britt. Congratulations to our officers!

Music Calendar:

1st Semester performances left include the following:

- Crete Middle School Honor Choir – Thursday, November 6 in Crete
- ECNC Honor Choir (MS & HS) – Monday, November 10 in Auburn
- High School Christmas Concert – Tuesday, December 2, 7:00 PM in Tecumseh
- 4-8 Grade Christmas Concerts – Friday, December 12, 7:00 PM in Cook
- K-3 Elementary Program – Monday, December 15, 7:00 PM in Tecumseh



Cook Site News

From Principal Marsha Bacon



The first quarter ended on Friday, October 10th and report cards have been sent home with students if parents were unable to attend parent teacher conferences along with MAP and NSCAS scores. The end of the quarter is an excellent time for parents to sit down with their children and discuss grades and homework. If your child did well during the 1st quarter, make sure you acknowledge this, let your children know you are proud of them, and most importantly, tell them that they should be proud of themselves. If the report card hasn't made it home yet, talk to your child. If that doesn't produce the report card, you may contact the school. Congratulations to all students who earned a spot on the 1st Quarter Honor Roll!

A special thank you goes out to Adam Badberg, Jason Brandt and Tom Dieckgrafe who are representatives from the Cook Volunteer Fire Department. We are very grateful that they came to school to speak to our 4th and 5th grade students about fire safety during Fire Prevention.

Red Ribbon week is the week of October 27-31st. The theme is Life is a Puzzle, Solve it Drug Free. Students will dress up with themed days throughout the week. The purpose of Red Ribbon week is to promote a healthy, drug free lifestyle. Students enjoy dressing up and learning about healthy lifestyle choices.

Junior high boys basketball and girls wrestling practices have started. Both groups have good numbers and are excited to get their seasons started. The junior high girls wrestling team will have their first competition vs. Auburn on November 6th. The boys basketball team will kick off their season with a game against Falls City Sacred Heart on November 18th. Other upcoming activities for middle school students to look forward to include "Pie Night" on October 23rd and the Crete Choral Clinic on November 6th.

Eighth grade students will be attending the UNL Sportsmanship Pep Rally on Monday, November 3rd. They will have an opportunity to listen to Husker student-athletes from UNL talk about the importance of education, sportsmanship, character development, teamwork and responsible decision-making. Students will stay to watch the Nebraska Women's Basketball Home Opener against Northwestern State at 12:00 p.m.

The Cook site Veterans Day Program will be held in the main gym on Tuesday, November 11th at 10:00. We are excited to welcome Wade Bartels as the guest speaker. Students in grades 4-6 will sing for the program along with select members of the band who will play the Star-Spangled Banner. The public is invited to attend the program. Individuals and families who would like to stay for lunch are encouraged to contact the office at (402) 864-4181.





Veterans Day Program

JOHNSON COUNTY
CENTRAL HIGH
SCHOOL GYM
TECUMSEH, NE

TUESDAY
11 NOV 2025
10:00 A.M.



Presentation of the Colors

Star Spangled Banner
Performed By: Members of the High School Choir

Pledge of Allegiance
Molly Weber, Student Council Vice-President

Welcome-Introduction of Guest Speaker
Saige Rother, Student Council President

Guest Speaker
Technical Sergeant Zachary Bauman
Enlisted Accessions Recruiter
United States Air Force
343rd Recruiting Squadron

Performance By: Elementary K-3 Choir
"Your Service to Our Country" -Karl Hitzemann

Special Presentation

Retirement of the Colors

Taps Performed by Tony Orozco



ALL VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES ARE INVITED TO EAT
LUNCH AT THE SCHOOL FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM.
MEAL IS PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE BY THE SCHOOL

Greetings From the Elementary!

The first quarter passed quickly. Soon, we'll see turkeys and winter scenes decorating our halls as teachers proudly display student artwork. We finished the first quarter with our Thunderbird Assembly and Accelerated Reader awards. Many students were recognized for their ongoing efforts to earn AR points and reach new reading levels.

Something different we're doing this year is recognizing students quarterly who strive to be exceptional leaders at school by being respectful, responsible, safe, and learners. These students set the standard for what it means to consistently demonstrate the characteristics of a Thunderbird. To ensure that all efforts toward becoming a Thunderbird are recognized, I announce students twice a month, nominated by teachers, who are working on specific skills and making progress toward being our quarterly Thunderbirds. First quarter Thunderbirds are recongnized on the next page.



Classroom Highlights

- **Preschool:** Preschool had visitors from the local fire departments come and discuss fire safety; the Johnson County Extension office brought a mobile petting zoo; students are starting a pumpkin exploration unit, and are working on numbers 1-10 as well as new letters.
- **Kindergarten:** Kindergarten visited Roca Berry Farm. The picked pumpkins, had a hayrack ride, and met friendly farm animals!
- **First-Grade:** First-graders visited the fire station and met some of our volunteer firefighters. Students learned about bunker gear and other equipment used on calls.
- **Second-Grade:** Students have been learning about double-digit addition, studying different types of nouns, identifying various genres of literature, and reading from *The Magic Treehouse* both as a read-aloud in the classroom and as part of their novel study.
- **Third-Grade:** Third grade students are learning multiplication facts and strategies for solving them, exploring research and expository writing, and partnering with the UNL Extension Agency for classroom activities and community events.

Important Dates

- **Monday, November 3:** Teacher In-Service, no school for students
- **Monday, November 10:** No School, JCC External Visit
- **Tuesday, November 11:** JCC External Visit, Veterans Day Program **10:00 a.m.**
- **Thursday, November 13:** Staff vs. Student Basketball Game **6:00 p.m.**
- **Friday, November 14:** One-Act Matinee performance for K-8 Students
- **Monday, November 17:** Teacher In-Service, no school for students
- **Tuesday, November 25:** Kindergarten Thanksgiving Program **3:15 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, November 26 - Friday, November 28:** No School, Thanksgiving Break
- **Monday, December 1:** Teacher In-Service, no school for students

Contact Info:

Please feel free to contact me at anytime during the school year
email: beckie.robeson@jccentral.org phone: 402-335-7839

Journey Together...Creating Opportunities...Committed to Excellence

1st Quarter Thunderbirds

November 2025



Third-Grade: Elizabeth Orozco, Penny Barnes, Freyja Walton, Addy McCoppin, Wren Bischoff, Victoria Chavez, and Leeland Bailey



Second-Grade: Gus King, Emmalynn Blecha, Izzabella Brown, Ryder Myers, Emerysnn Gartner, and Merida Britt



Kindergarten: Melonie Henderson, Marshall Trout, Joleen Fink, Owen Miller, Parker Collin, and Boone Lada



First-Grade: Arianna Jimenez, Leena Dinan, Vanessa Sterup, Norah McCoppin, Blythe Moore, and Brylee Dinan

Contact Info:

Please feel free to contact me at anytime during the school year
email: beckie.robesson@jccentral.org phone: 402-335-7839

Journey Together...Creating Opportunities...Committed to Excellence



Something to Think About...

The Power of Play and Reading: Building Strong Bonds and Bright Minds

As parents, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Two of the simplest yet most powerful ways to support your child's growth are through play and reading together.

Why Play Matters

Play is more than just fun—it's how children learn about the world. When you play with your child, you help them develop important skills like problem-solving, cooperation, and creativity. Whether you're building with blocks, playing pretend, or tossing a ball outside, you're encouraging your child's imagination and helping them learn to express themselves.

The Magic of Reading Together

Reading with your child every day builds language skills, sparks curiosity, and creates a love of books that can last a lifetime. Even a few minutes a day makes a difference. Let your child choose books that interest them, ask questions about the story, and talk about the pictures. This special time together helps your child feel loved and supported.

Tips for Making the Most of Play and Reading

- Set aside a few minutes each day for play and reading.
- Let your child lead the way—follow their interests and ideas.
- Use voices and actions to make stories come alive.
- Praise your child's efforts and creativity.
- Most importantly, have fun together!

By playing and reading with your child, you're not only helping them learn—you're building memories and a strong, loving connection that will last a lifetime.



Contact Info:

Please feel free to contact me at anytime during the school year
email: beckie.roberson@jccentral.org phone: 402-335-7839

Journey Together...Creating Opportunities...Committed to Excellence

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
QR Code for JCC Event Calendar on Google! 	ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE					1 Volleyball District Final TBD
2	3 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service CNA Tour of Johnson County Hospital - 10:45 AM Unified Bowling @ Sun Valley Lanes - 11:30 AM	4	5	6 Volleyball State Tournament TBD Middle School Choir @ Crete Choral Clinic - 9 AM JH Girls Wrestling @ Auburn - 4:30 PM	7 Volleyball State Tournament TBD Volleyball State Tournament TBD	8 Doane Fall Festival of Winds 8 AM Volleyball State Tournament TBD
9	10 NO SCHOOL ECNC HS/JH Honor Choir @ Auburn - 1 PM JCC School Improvement External Visit	11 Unified Bowling @ Arbor Lanes (Neb City) - 4 PM	12 Field Trip @ Glore Museum - 8 AM JCC School Board Meeting - 6 PM @ HS Computer Lab (Rm 204)	13 OPPD Public Meeting @ Elem Auditorium - 4 PM Staff vs Students Fundraiser Basketball Game @ HS Gym - 6 PM	14 SCC Beatrice Discovery Day 8:30 AM K-8 @ One Act Matinee @ Elem Auditorium - 3:30 PM JCC Striv @ Football Playoff Semifinal Broadcast -TBD	15
16	17 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service HS Winter Practices Begin ECNC Unified Bowling @ Sun Valley Lanes - 2 PM JH Girls Wrestling @ Weeping Water - 2 PM Winter Little Cheer Camp @ HS Cafeteria - 4:15 PM	18 ECNC One Act @ Palmyra - 9 AM JAG Tour @ Tarkio Tech - 9 AM JH Boys Basketball @ Falls City Sacred Heart - 4 PM Winter Little Cheer Camp @ HS Cafeteria - 4:15 PM	19 2025 SE Nebraska Job Expo HOSA Blood Drive @ JCC HS Gym - 8 AM Winter Activities Pep Rally @ HS Gym - 3:30 PM	20 NMEA Conference & All-State CNA Tour @ Bryan School of Nursing Unified Bowling Home Invite @ Harvest Bowl - 4 PM JH Boys Basketball vs Freeman @ MS Gym Cook - 4:30 PM	21 NMEA Conference & All-State ASVAB Testing (Juniors) Pre-ACT Testing (Sophomores) JH Girls Wrestling @ Falls City - 2:30 PM One Act Public Performance @ Elem Auditorium - 7 PM	22
23 One Act Public Performance @ Elem Auditorium - 2 PM	24 Unified Bowling @ Lanes End (Auburn) - 12:30 PM One Act @ Auburn Triangular - 6 PM	25 Kindergarten Thanksgiving Program - 3:15 PM JH Boys Basketball vs Pawnee City @ MS Gym Cook 4:30 PM Girls & Boys Basketball Varsity Jamboree Scrimmage @ Nebraska City - 6 PM	26 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break JCC Booster Club Trivia Night @ Cook Community Building 7 PM	27 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	28 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	29
30						

November 2025 Johnson County Central Lunch Menu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Menu Is Subject to Change Without Notice						
"This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider"						
2 	3 NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN-SERVICE	4 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Bug Bites Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	5 Chili Cinnamon Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	6 <i>National Nacho Day</i> Sloppy Nachos Breadstick Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk 	7 Turkey/Cheese Wrap Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	1 
9	10 NO SCHOOL 	11 <i>Veteran's Day Program</i> Cream Chicken over Biscuit Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk 	12 Hamburger/W/G Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	13 Sweet & Sour Chicken Fried Rice Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	14 Pizza Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	15
16	17 NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN-SERVICE	18 Chicken Tender Hot Veggie Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	19 Hotdog/W/G Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	20 Turkey Mashed Potato/Gravy Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	21 Chicken Patty/W/G Bun Potato Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	22 
23	24 Walking Taco Corn Breadstick Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	25 Chef's Choice Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk	26 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	27 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	28 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	29
30						

JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

2025-26 JCC HIGH SCHOOL FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

FRESHMEN:

Damian Andrade
Jackson Gottula (All A's)
Hadley Hartman (All A's)
Ashton Huskey (All A's)
Marley Jensen
Janel Leyva (All A's)
Jude Longsine
Diego Martinez
Reese McDonald
Marvin Najera
Brody Nichols
Heidi Reyes (All A's)
Kenna Thomas
TyLynn Wellensiek
Elliott Werner (All A's)

SOPHOMORES:

Reese Badertscher (All A's)
Gerardo Becerra
Leighton Beethe (All A's)
Nayeli Bobadilla (All A's)
Payton Brandt (All A's)
Angel Buchanan (All A's)
Abigail Burki (All A's)
Reese Carter (All A's)
Adree Case (All A's)
Grace Frederick (All A's)
Kael Fricke
Conner Gerking (All A's)
Sofia Golda
Chase Harrifeld
Dalton Henderson
Jesus Hurtado
Cooper Jones
Aaryn Kaster
Bodhi Klein (All A's)
Trey Lubben (All A's)
Kenechkukwu Ofoegbu
Anthony Orozco (All A's)
Stefani Peters (All A's)
Edgar Prado
Sophia Schmid (All A's)
Wesley Schmid (All A's)
Alex Thipphavong
Landon Toohey
Tegan Topp (All A's)
Riley Wellensiek (All A's)

JUNIORS:

Brayden Beethe
Abigail Blomstedt (All A's)
Trevor Bohling
Addison Borrenpohl
Amelia Britt (All A's)
Nevaeh Brown (All A's)
Zoey Bryant
Regan Campbell-Thies (All A's)
Anthony Campos (All A's)
Jonathan DeFreece
Maxwell Goracke
Connor Haufle
Andre (AJ) Rautenbach
Molly Weber (All A's)

SENIORS:

Ashley Beethe (All A's)
Isaac Beethe (All A's)
Charlyn Bobadilla
Ezekiel Burki
Draven Campbell
Wyatt Case
Jocelyn Duarte
Trevin Huskey (All A's)
Danny Kongmanyvong (All A's)
Harley Lubben
Marisol Mandl
Caden McDonald
Tan Nguyen
Levi Othmer (All A's)
Alejandra Reyes
Briana Robeson
Saige Rother (All A's)
James Stalions-Nixon
Aiden Strecker
Wesley Swanson (All A's)
Madison VanLaningham
Jack Waring (All A's)
Owen Weber (All A's)
Catherine Wendt
Cameron Werner (All A's)
Lee Xayaphonesongkham
Jonathan Young (All A's)

Honor Roll is granted to students with all A's and B's.
Honor Roll with Distinction (denoted by the **Bold**) is reserved for students with all A's.



Greetings Thunderbird Family

The fall season quickly flew by and at the writing of this article only volleyball sub-districts, district finals, and (hopefully) the state tournament remain. Here are a few highlights from a few of the fall sports:

Football: Finished with a 6-2 record

Volleyball: ECNC & MUDECAS Champs, undefeated 28-0 regular season, #1 state ranking

Cross Country: Trevin Huskey qualified for the state meet, placed 7th and set a new school record!

Girls Golf: ECNC Champs and Catherine Wendt qualified for the state meet!

We will dive a little deeper into awards and results in the December newsletter so let us take a look ahead to the winter season. High school practices are set to begin on Monday, November 17th and junior high boys basketball and girls wrestling has been practicing for about a week now.

Here is the list of coaches and activities that will be taking place this year.

Wrestling: Neil Bowman, Larry Kuhl, Brad Gabriel, Mendell Rulla, Carlos Prado, Tanner Erdman

Boys Basketball: Kirk Faris, Ben Swanson, Ryan Haughton, Keaton Kleespies

Girls Basketball: Garrett Collin, Justin Damme, Reid Genuchi, Zadi Plager

JH Boys Basketball: Keaton Kleespies, Casey Fricke, Marsha Bacon

JH Girls Basketball: Randy Miller, Jacy Pollard, Eryn Snethen

Unified Bowling: Skye Grafton, Maggie Rother

One-Act: Matt Dierking, Amy Little, Freedom Steele

Speech: Freedom Steele, Amy Little

Please reach out to a coach and tell them thank you for all the time they put in and sacrifices that they make to help our athletes be successful!

Good luck to our athletes and coaches as we get started on this upcoming season! Go Thunderbirds!

Garrett Collin



JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

2025–26 JCC MIDDLE SCHOOL FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

6TH GRADE

Harper Beck (All A's)
Quinlynn Beethe (All A's)
Nora Britt
Gabriella Brown (All A's)
Selena Cabrales
Rylin Campbell (All A's)
Alivia Gottula (All A's)
Maelynn Hamilton
Alan Herrle
Nathaly Hurtado Arellano (All A's)
Madilyn Jensen (All A's)
Evelyn Little (All A's)
Genesis Reyes
Harley Savago

7TH GRADE

Isaac Buchanan
Brock Carter
Jude Fricke
Ada Goodrich (All A's)
Audric Gradwohl
Prezleigh Hazen
Jackson Hill
Presley Juilfs
Kelly Kongmanyvong
Teegan Longsine
Mason McGuire
Ian Robeson (All A's)
Mackenzie Sell
Taytem Simon

8TH GRADE

Lydia Bilslend
Lilyana Birdwell
Edith Blomstedt
Lila Britt (All A's)
Lucas Cropp
Timothy Johns-Hinrichsen (All A's)
Corbin Kinnison
Sophie Kirkland (All A's)
McKenna Lade
Angel Lara Rojas (All A's)
Kyndall Meints
Kloie Neemann
Courtney Oltrogge
Emma Othmer
Brynn Weber (All A's)

Honor Roll is granted to students with all A's and B's.
Honor Roll with Distinction (denoted by the **Bold**) is reserved for students with all A's.



News from the SPED & Student Services Director

Learning can be difficult

What is MTSS?

MTSS is a Multi-Tiered System of Support: it is a three-tiered system. Tier 1 is to contain approximately 80-100% of students, tier 2 contains 5-15% of students, while tier 3 should contain 1-5% of students. Tier 1 is for ALL students in include High Quality Instruction and Common Expectations for all students. Tier 2 is for SOME students who may need additional support to be successful at school. Tier 3 is for few students who need more intensive interventions. This system is a process, which identify students and interventions for student through a monthly meeting of a student assistance team (SAT), at JCC this is call the MTSS team, they meet on in-service Mondays. If you students' teacher mentions MTSS, it is not a 'bad' thing, it is a way for teachers to collect data and ensure they are documenting interventions that are done with students. If you have questions, please reach out to Dr. Rad or your child's teacher.

Tier 3
Few Students Receiving Intensive Support

Tier 2
Some Students

Tier 1
Every Student

Strategies to help with READING

Students may struggle decoding (breaking words down into sounds), Fluency (reading smoothly), Vocabulary, Comprehension, or lack confidence in their reading abilities.

Ways to help in the areas are just to sit and read with your student. Having them read aloud lets you hear how they decode and their fluency. If they come upon a word they don't know have them sound it out or you can sound it out to model how to say the word. Even taking turns while reading shows students that you value reading.

The goal is not to read fast, it is to read confidently and to read for learning and comprehension.

Closed- Captioning is a good option too.

Strategies to help with Math

"Math is FigureOutAble" -Pam Harris
Math has always been my favorite subject, although I know it is difficult for many to do. The thing I do now for students and my own children is to make the problem into a story, add context, knowing WHY you are doing something is helpful for everyone's brain.

Practice Math Facts. There are a lot of games on the internet to find these. Card games like "Trash" or "WAR" help practice number sense. Sometimes just a regular deck of card and pulling 2 (or 3) cards and having your student add/ subtract/ multiply/ divide is a simple 10-min exercise ,that they can do together.

When you go out have your student use cash to buy thing and ask them how much they think it cost and how much change they expect to get back, it's not about being right to the penny, close counts.

The goal in math is to be able to take what you know, to figure out what you don't know.

Upcoming Events

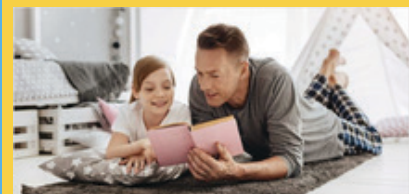
- Nov 11- Veterans Day- THANK YOU for your SERVICE
- Nov 10- ESU4 Agency Night- See flier for more information.
- Nov 27- THANKSGIVING
- March 26, 2026- JCC Submit & Shine night- see flier for more information

Even in a growth mindset, **failure** can be a painful experience. But it **doesn't define** you. It's a problem to be faced, dealt with, and learned from

CAROL DWECK

Parentalhelp

Resources



8 Ways to Help Your Child Struggling with Reading

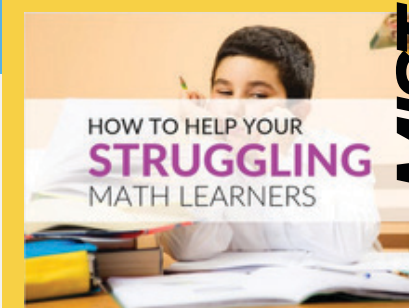
Learn how to recognize struggling readers early and how you can support your child to improve at home.
prodigygame.com



Essential Help on Reading: Strategies for Struggling Readers - Readability

Reading is a fundamental skill that serves as the foundation for academic success and everyday communication. Strong reading proficiency is essential for understanding textbooks, following instructions, engaging

ReadabilityTutor | Mar 13



8 Math Strategies for Struggling Students

Here are 8 math strategies for struggling students. There are lots of strategies that math teachers can use to support struggling students...

radlax.com

MISTAKES mean Learning is Happening

If you have questions email: Laura.Rademacher@JCCentral.org



COMMUNITY Agency Night

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 10**

4-7 PM

ESU4

**2301 DAHLKE AVENUE
AUBURN, NE**

**DROP IN
FIND SUPPORT
MAKE CONNECTIONS**

- **PLAN** – FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, AND AGENCIES WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS
 - **LEARN** – ACCESS SUPPORTS FOR COLLEGE, TRAINING, AND LIFELONG SKILLS
 - **WORK** – CONNECT WITH JOB SUPPORTS
 - **EARN** – DISCOVER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
- SUPPORT – FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, AND AGENCIES
WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS**

SUBMIT & SHINE



Apply for Nebraska Waivers

March 26, 2026 6:00PM- 8:00PM

JCC High School
356 N. 6th ST.

Tecumseh, NE

Join us to apply for waivers with support from transition staff. Learn about options for support for you child during and after school. This is for families and students who may need support for life skills or support for daily life functions.



REGISTRATION HERE

<https://pti-nebraska.org/>
<https://transition.ne.gov/>



Childcare will be available

by JCC Cheer

CREATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

PTI NEBRASKA AND SE NEBRASKA TRANSITION



OCTOBER 7, 2025

Parent Learning Opportunities

Community Agency Fairs are great ways to connect with outside agencies for before, during and after Transition. Looking at community supports and connections to fully prepare your child for adult life is essential to plan ahead. Agency fairs can bring in Vocational Rehabilitation, Service Providers, Recreational opportunities and college or trade school connections. Check the Statewide Events section for upcoming community Agency Fairs.

Tip of the Month - Functional Literacy in a Transition Activity

Transition Activity - "Plan a Daily Schedule"

This activity helps students practice functional literacy by creating a daily schedule.

Steps:

1. Explore a Sample Schedule – Students read and discuss a simple work or school schedule, focusing on times, tasks, and locations.
2. Create Their Own Schedule – Students plan a daily routine that includes real tasks like getting to work, attending classes, or running errands.
3. Use Real-Life Materials – Students read a bus schedule, job checklist, or class times to complete their plan.

Why It Matters:

This activity supports transition goals by teaching students how to read and use real-world information to manage their time, get where they need to go, and complete tasks independently.

Student Learning Opportunities

Chat n' Chow: Pre-Driving Skills

The National Safety Council, Nebraska's "pre-driving skills" are foundational concepts that encourage early learning and gradual development of defensive driving techniques, such as defensive scanning, hazard identification, and safe vehicle control. Join us for a 40 minute Chat n' Chow (live or recorded) and see if you are ready to take the wheel!

☞ Check out <https://bit.ly/ChatChowRegistration> for session dates and topics.

🔥 **Hot Tip:** Chat n' Chow brings transition activities to life!



OCTOBER 7, 2025

Regional Professional Development

- <https://bit.ly/GreaterMetroRegionTransitionEvents>
- <https://bit.ly/SERegionTransition25-26>
- <https://bit.ly/SlamaNEevents>
- <https://s.esu10.org/CentralRegionEvents>
- <https://bit.ly/ESU15-16TransitionEvents>
- <https://bit.ly/ESU13Transition>

Statewide Events - click the event date for more info

- September to April - Agencies and Anxiety Parent Series
- September to April - Chat n' Chow Student Series
- September 30, 2025 - Parent Community Fair in Columbus Highway
- October 9-10, 2025 - MTSS Summit: Navigating Literacy on the MTSS Highway
- October to February - Knowing to Doing Teacher Series
- October 14, 2025 - Central Region Transition Agency Fair
- October 29, 2025 - North Platte Community Conversations Event
- November 10, 2025 - ESU4 Community Agency Night
- November 19, 2025 - SE Nebraska Job Expo: Employment is for Everyone
- December 3, 2025 - Western Region Transition Summit - virtual
- March 17, 2026 - Central Region Transition Conference
- March 24, 2026 - Eastern Nebraska Transition Conference
- June 8-10, 2026 - Nebraska Career Education Conference

Newsletter Sign Up - <https://bit.ly/ThrivingForwardNewsletter>

Metro Region (ESU 2, 3, 19) Adrienne Kennedy

akennedy@esu3.org

SE Region (ESU 4, 5, 6, 18) Michalla Schartz

michalla.schartz@esu6.org

NE Region (ESU 1, 7, 8) Amy Slama

aslama@esu7.org

Central Region (ESU 9, 10, 11, 17) Blair Ryan

bryan@esu10.org

Western Region (ESU 15, 16) Megan Lantis

mlantis@esu13.org

Western Region (ESU 13) Jill Trautman

jtrautman@esu13.org



Agencies & Anxiety Parent Series Landing Page

Helping Families Navigate the Transition Maze



All Sessions
will be
recorded!

September 10 5:30-7:00pm CT	Hard Conversations-PTI Nebraska Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation
October 15 5:30-7:00pm CT	CTE Pathways; Why and How students benefit Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation
November 12 5:30-7:00pm CT	Functional Literacy for Transition Aged Youth Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation
January 14 5:30-7:00pm CT	ATP into Adulthood Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation
February 11 5:30-7:00pm CT	Enhanced Choice Model-ASD Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation
March 18 5:30-7:00pm CT	MTSS; Layered supports for all Students Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation
April 15 5:30-7:00pm CT	A Parents' Journey-Parent Panel Resources Folder --Find Recording and additional resources here! Event Evaluation

ZOOM link:
<https://esu6-org.zoom.us/j/97922581995>

**Please ensure you complete the evaluation linked
in each topic!**

JOHNSON COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PO Box 338
Tecumseh, NE 68450

PO Box 225
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

Website: www.jccentral.org

This newsletter is produced monthly to inform parents, district patrons and others about school events, classroom events, and student achievements in the classroom and extra curricular activities. This information is submitted by faculty and staff members. Information may be submitted to offices at Tecumseh and Cook.

The school reserves the right to edit information in the interest of space and content.

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Non-Discrimination

It shall be the policy of Johnson County Central Public Schools to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for discrimination concerns. Inquiries concerning any of the above, or Title IX and Rehabilitation Act Regulations (504) should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, 358 N 6th Street, Tecumseh, NE 68329; (402)335-3320.

Child Find

Children that are birth to 5 years old who are experiencing problems with speech language, cognitive, emotional and/or physical development or have a disability can receive services through Early Childhood Education Services. If interested or in need of more information please contact Rebecca Kling, Special Education Coordinator or Jon Rother, Superintendent at 402-335-3320.