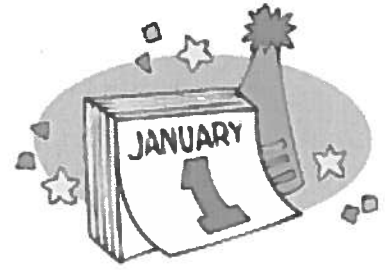


January 2018

# Superintendent's News

## Start of 2nd Semester

Wow! 2017 is history and we are well underway with the second semester and the beginning of 2018. I would like to wish each of you a very Blessed, Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2018. I continue to feel blessed to be a part of this community and have the privilege to work with a very dedicated staff, board of education and your wonderful children. As we begin the final semester of the school year I want to remind all staff, parents and students that by working together we can all accomplish more. It is imperative that as we dedicate ourselves to the improvement of education for our children that we all work very hard to keep the lines of communication open. Parents please communicate with your child's teachers and coaches if you have concerns. It is impossible for our staff to deal with student and parent concerns if we are not all willing to communicate directly and honestly with each other. As the administrator my door is nearly always open and never hesitate to give me a phone call. I am always willing to listen to your concerns, however our policy dictates that the first order in the resolution of a problem is direct communication between parent and/or the student with the teacher and/or coach about your concerns. If we are going to



hold true to our mission, vision and goals for the district we truly have to continually work together in this effort.

### Mission Statement

The Mission of Hay Springs Schools in cooperation with families and community, is to empower students within an emotionally supportive and physically safe environment with the academic, social, physical and technological skills to achieve success as responsible, self-disciplined citizens of a global society.

### Vision Statement

**“Empower Students to Achieve Lifelong Success.”**

### Hay Springs Goal

**All students will demonstrate an increase in math proficiency across the curriculum.**

As we return from our Christmas and New Year's break and time with family and friends I am reminded of how we are so blessed as Americans to have the diverse educational opportunities we provide for our children. As an adult when I reflect on the educational system that served me well in my youth, I readily realize that the education of today must be much more and continue to improve and challenge our students. With the advancement of technology, and the social changes that have taken place in our country our educational systems continue to play an increasingly important role in the lives of our children. Please know that the employees at Hay Springs are very dedicated to providing your children with the best possible opportunities to learn. If we do not have some struggling students, then we clearly do not have the bar high enough. It is my hope that the majority of our students are academically challenged on a daily basis. With challenges comes the additional need for encouragement and support from staff and parents.

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**Be the first to find and call the school or e m a i l hawk.contact.org with this issue's strange phrase and you will be the winner for this issue.**



## Superintendent's News

(Continued)

As our students move through our educational system and move on to additional educational opportunities or the world of work they will continue to deal with challenges in their life. How we confront our challenges in life has a great effect on the quality of life we will enjoy. I am extremely excited about having a presenter from the "8 to Great" program scheduled to present to our middle and high school students and our entire staff on March 8<sup>th</sup>. This presentation will take place in the morning for the students, with students being dismissed following lunch. The presentation for the staff will begin at approximately 1:00 pm.

We have a choice every day, to appreciate the opportunities we have in life or to dwell on our challenges. If we can get in the habit of choosing to look at our blessings and opportunities, we will be amazed at how we begin to see many more positive things around us. The reality is things around us don't change, we are the ones who will change and when we look for good, we find it. It continues to be one of my goals to help our entire staff and student population focus on the many blessing we have in life and support each other in positive ways as we work together to pursue our Mission, Vision and Goals at Hay Springs School.

Our "After School Program" is in full operation for our K-6<sup>th</sup> grade students and seems to be very effective in providing additional academic assistance and some fun and experiential activities from 4:00 until 5:30 Monday through Thursday afternoons. The program begins with recess from 4:00 – 4:15 for the younger students, then from 4:15 until 5:00 all students will focus on academics with a snack at 5:00 followed by educational, experiential learning activities until 5:30. If your students are involved in this program please be prompt to pick them up at 5:30 at the cafeteria door. Our staff will not be providing student supervision after 5:45.

The Hay Spring January board meeting has been moved back to January 15<sup>th</sup> so there is still time to pick up an application to complete the term of the vacant position on the Board of Education. If you have any desire to serve in this very important role, please give it some serious consideration. Applications are available online or in the office.



**Legion Auxiliary for  
bringing in treats  
and goodies for the  
staff for American  
Education Week.  
We appreciated it!**

## Counselor's Notes

By Mrs. Marx

### Here are six ways that parents can help their children with reading:

Provide many opportunities for your child to read books or other materials. Read aloud to your child. Research shows that this is the most important activity that parents can do to increase their child's chance of reading success. Keep reading aloud even when your child can read independently.

Make time for the library.

Play games like Scrabble®, Spill and Spell™, Scattergories®, and Balderdash™ together.

Follow your child's interests, and find fiction and nonfiction books that tie into these interests. You can use a third-party site like [The Lexile Framework for Reading](#) to help find the right book for your reader.

Work crossword puzzles with your child.  
Give a magazine subscription as a gift.

The kitchen is filled with opportunities to teach fractional measurements, such as doubling and dividing cookie ingredients. Point out ways that people use math every day to pay bills, balance their checkbooks, make change, and calculate a tip at restaurants. When you're in up over your head, the first thing to do is close your mouth. Involve older children in projects that incorporate geometric and algebraic concepts, such as planting a garden, building a bookshelf, or figuring how long it will take to drive to your family vacation destination.

Children should learn to read and interpret charts and graphs, such as those found in daily newspapers. Collecting and analyzing data will help your child draw conclusions and become discriminating readers of numerical information.

While teachers play an integral role in the education of children, it goes without saying that parental involvement makes the biggest difference in a child's scholastic success.

### Here are five ways that parents can help their children with mathematics:

Spend time with kids on simple board games, puzzles, and activities that encourage strong math skills. Even everyday activities, such as playing in a sandbox or in a bath tub can teach children math concepts such as weight, density, and volume. Check your TV listings for shows that can reinforce math skills in a practical and fun way.

Encourage children to solve problems. Provide assistance, but let them figure it out themselves. Problem solving is a lifetime skill.

### The Basics of Being a Good Student

- Doing well in school should be your top priority.
- Study: There is no substitute.
- Always attend class.
- Do all of the homework and assigned reading.
- Develop self-discipline.
- Manage your time.



## Music Notes



By Raima Varvel

Congratulations to the following students for being selected for Honor Bands or Honor Choirs coming up in January & February. These are extremely valuable experiences for these students to have.

\* Spencer Kadlecek, Erin Kadlecek, Samantha Kearns & Joce Varvel for being selected for Oregon Trail Honor Band held in Gering on January 8th. Ciara McCance, Thomas Scherbarth & Hannah Wohl were selected as alternates. The concert will be held at the Gering High School at 5pm.

\*Payton Schoenhals for being selected for the UNK Honor Choir

\*Jessi Badje for being selected for the UNK Honor Band. These ladies will represent Hay Springs at UNK on Monday, January 22nd.

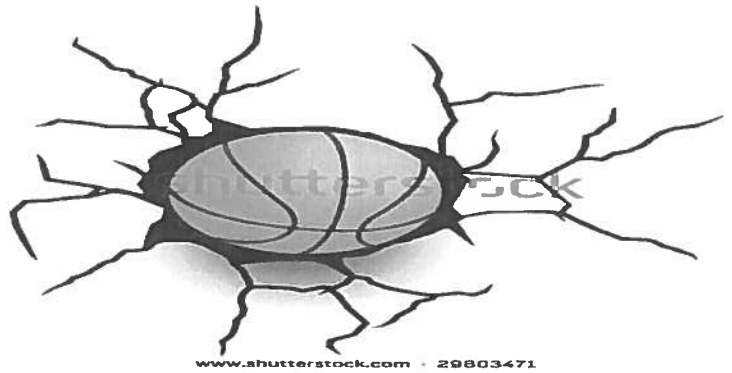
\*Payton Schoenhals for being selected into the High Plains Honor Choir at Chadron State College on Monday & Tuesday February 5th & 6th.

## Quiz Bowl Preview

By Coach Bounous

Test Your Knowledge

I have the honor of sponsoring the Hay Springs Quiz Bowl team for the third consecutive year. The team consists of some of the top achieving students in the middle and high school. The team has been very competitive in the past few years finishing in the top three at the PanCo competition the past two years. Last year the 7<sup>th</sup> grade won the Chadron competition and will compete again this year to defend their championship. Both teams will try to continue this success this spring and will compete in the Panhandle Conference meet held in Crawford this March. The middle school team will also compete in Chadron.



**Girls and Boys Basketball Senior Night**  
**Will be Saturday, January 13th, 2018**

**We ask that all senior parents meet in the locker room hallway before the varsity girls' warm-up begins - approximately 4:45.**

**Remember, we will be recognizing only the senior athletes and their parents.**

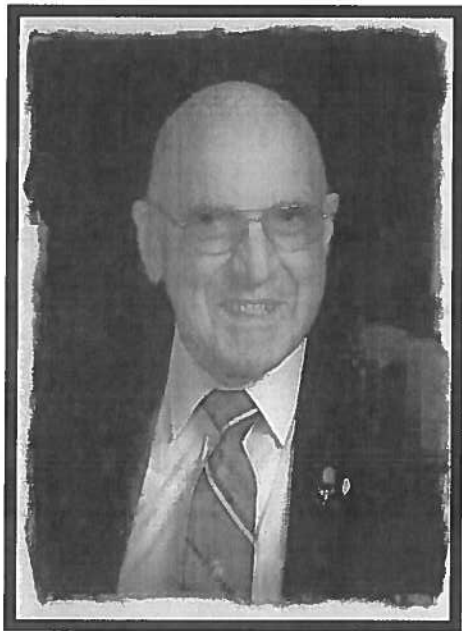
# Home of the Hawks!!



## Elder's Wisdom 2018

Honorees are Lloyd and Mary Ann Hunzeker!

Elders Wisdom program will be held March 29, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars!



# News from the Cafeteria

by Ms. Sandi

I hope everyone had a very joyful Christmas with family and friends. It's beyond belief that another year has gone by and we are starting a New Year! Many things will be happening at Hay Springs Schools so be sure to check and mark your calendars for the various events you may be interested in.

Here are a couple of events happening the next couple months:

***January 31st— Super Bowl Lunch***

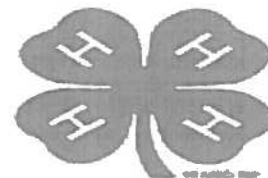
***February 14th— Valentine's Day Lunch***

Please be sure to contact the school at 638-4434 to let us know you will be attending.

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## 4H Opportunities

By Melissa Mracek



### **January Baking Basics**

The Hay Springs Baking Basics and Sewing group will meet on January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Hay Springs school. The group will work on making biscuits. Baking will start at 9 am and sewing will start at 11 am. The youth will need to pack a lunch. The fee for this workshop is \$5.

### **Beef Weigh in**

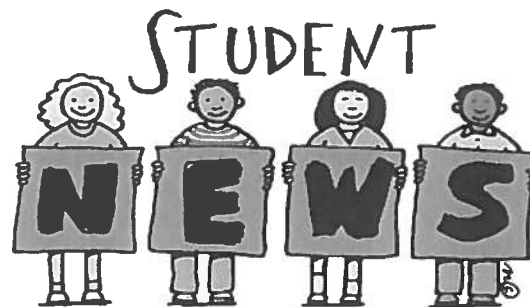
Sheridan County 4-H will be hosting their beef weigh-in at the Sheridan Livestock Auction on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3 pm. If you cannot make this weigh-in, please try to attend the Dawes County weigh-in on February 4<sup>th</sup> at Crawford Livestock.

### **Hay Springs Clover Buds**

Due to a conference, Hay Springs Clover Buds will be meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 5 pm at the school. The youth will experience sound through a hands on activity.

# STUCO NEWS

By Ms. Holtmeier



**Happy New Year from the HSPS Student Council!**

## *Food Drive*

Thank you families for your generosity! The School gathered 2003 items and \$87 during the annual food drive. Congratulations to the 7<sup>th</sup> graders who earned a 2 hour early out on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>! K-6 and 8-9 earned a 1-hour early out and the teachers earned a 1-hour late start on a scheduled teacher in-service day. Way to go!

## *Middle School Winter Ball*

Mark your calendars for March 2, 2018. The Annual Middle School Winter Ball is fast approaching! This dance is open to 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders that are eligible that week, and will run from 7-10:30 pm. The Student Council decided on a Cowboy-Cowgirl theme this year, so y'all need to wear some cowboy gear!! The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Prince and Princess will be voted on and announced during the dance. Parents, you are invited to join us and help chaperone if you'd like!

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The Caf teria will be hosting a special day each month. On this day, students are encouraged to invite someone to eat lunch with them. Adult Lunch is \$3.30 which includes the meal and unlimited Fruit & Vegetable Bar.

January's Special Day is  
Super Bowl Lunch Day  
On January 31st

PreK Lunch—12:00 noon  
Elementary Lunch—11:30 a.m.  
Middle/High School Lunch—12:25 p.m.

# EducationQuest Foundation

# College Planning Bulletin

*A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students*

January 2018

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## Winter break: a good time for college prep!

Take advantage of free time over the holidays to do some prep work for college. Here are a few things you can do!

### Seniors, complete your FAFSA

If you haven't already, complete your [FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Need help? Use our free [FAFSA Tools](#) or call us to make an appointment for free help: Omaha - 888.357.6300; Lincoln - 800.303.3745; Kearney - 800.666.3721; or Scottsbluff - 800.303.3745, ext. 6654.

### Juniors, prepare for the ACT

All Nebraska high school juniors will take the ACT college entrance exam this spring. Here's a [list of resources](#) to help you prepare.

### Search for scholarships

Use our free [ScholarshipQuest](#) tool to find Nebraska-based awards. You'll also find links to national scholarship sites.

### Update your Activities Resume

Our free [Activities Resume](#) is an easy way to track your extracurricular activities, accomplishments, volunteer work, and part-time jobs. The information is then readily available when you apply for scholarships and employment.

### Volunteer

In addition to giving back to your community, your volunteer work can lead to scholarship opportunities. Make sure you track your involvement on your *Activities Resume*.

---

## January "To Do" List

### Seniors:

- \_\_\_ If you haven't already, complete the [FAFSA](#).
- \_\_\_ Apply for scholarships; see [ScholarshipQuest](#) for Nebraska-based awards.
- \_\_\_ Update your [Activities Resume](#).

### Juniors:

- \_\_\_ Update your [Activities Resume](#).
  - \_\_\_ Check out [ACT prep resources](#).
  - \_\_\_ [Register](#) by January 12 for the February 10 ACT.
  - \_\_\_ [Register](#) by February 9 for the March 10 SAT.
-



# BUILDING READERS®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

Hay Springs Public Schools

## Celebrate 2018 with literacy resolutions!

Ring in the New Year by helping your child make resolutions that will strengthen her reading skills. Suggest that she resolve to:

- **Read more.** Your child could aim to read one book each week or each month. If she is already an avid reader, suggest she try reading a new genre each month.
- **Write more.** Ask your child to set aside time each day for some writing. She could write a poem, a letter, an entry in her journal—or anything else! If she has writer's block, show her a picture and ask her to write about it.
- **Learn more.** Challenge your child to learn (and use) one new word a day. She doesn't need a fancy "word of the day" calendar; a dictionary will do. By the end of the year, she'll have 365 new words under her belt.



*"Children should learn that reading is pleasure, not just something that teachers make you do in school."*

—Beverly Cleary

## Teach your child to attack tough words

What should your child do when he sees a challenging word? Attack it! *Word-attack strategies* help readers figure out the meanings of unfamiliar words.

Encourage your child to:

- **Notice pictures.** Photographs and illustrations can give him clues about unfamiliar words.
- **Identify chunks.** Have him look for familiar sounds—or "chunks"—within words, such as "call" and "ing" in *calling*.
- **Keep reading.** He should try reading the sentence again. Or read the next sentence for more information.
- **Make connections.** If the unfamiliar word reminds your child of another word, the two words may be related.

Source: "Reading and Word-Attack Strategies," Reading A-Z, [nswc.com/br-es-wordattack](http://nswc.com/br-es-wordattack).

## Include reading in your child's daily schedule

Teachers expect their students to read at home every day. To help your child take responsibility for this, make it part of his daily routine. He might read during homework time, for example, or in bed each night. Whatever time he chooses, make sure he's consistent. Keep interesting materials handy to build excitement. Enjoy a book yourself, too. Show your child that reading is a family priority.



## Check out children's magazines

Next time you're at the library, browse the magazine section with your child. Look for age-appropriate magazines, such as *Time for Kids*, *Highlights* or *National Geographic Kids*. Your child will learn more about a variety of topics—while building her reading skills at the same time.



## Reading aloud has endless benefits

There are so many reasons to read aloud to your child—even if he can already read beautifully! Reading aloud:

- **Reminds** your child how pleasant reading can be.
- **Improves** vocabulary and listening skills.
- **Helps** your child enjoy new literature.
- **Gives** you and your child chances to discuss stories and how they relate to real life.



Source: "How to Read Aloud," Education World, [nswc.com/br-es-aloud](http://nswc.com/br-es-aloud).

# Use DEAR to encourage reading at home



In some classrooms, saying, "Oh, dear!" doesn't mean something's broken. It means it's time to Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)! During DEAR time, everyone sits down for some uninterrupted reading.

You can try this activity at home, too. To have some DEAR time with your family:

- **Get ready.** Make sure everyone has something to read. You may want to plan a trip to the library ahead of time. Keep plenty of interesting magazines and books on hand.
- **Let everyone know.** Establish a reading time that's convenient for all family members. Write DEAR time on your family calendar. This helps your child see that reading is an important thing in your family.
- **Start small.** Start with a weekly, half-hour session. As family members get into the reading habit, DEAR time can become more frequent.
- **Take part!** DEAR only works if *everyone* in your family participates. So grab a novel or the newspaper, and enjoy some reading yourself. When your child sees you reading, he'll be more inspired to read himself.



Elementary School  
**BUILDING READERS**

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**Reading  
Extras**

# Share strategies to make report writing easier



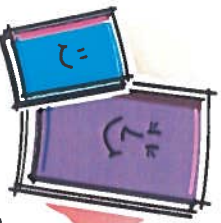
Writing a report can be a daunting task. If your child has a writing assignment coming up, help him get his thoughts down on paper. Encourage him to:

- **Start early.** Writing takes time. If the report is due next week, don't let your child put it off. Sit down right away and help him think through what he might write.
- **Get down ideas.** Ask your child to make a list of everything he knows about the subject of his report. He doesn't need to use complete sentences—a word or two will do. When he's made his list, he may be surprised to see how much he already knows.
- **Discuss ideas.** Ask your child to talk about his ideas. This will help him put his thoughts into words.
- **Start in the middle.** The first few sentences are often the hardest to write. Suggest that he get his main



- points down first. He can write the introduction later.
- **Put the draft aside.** The next day, have your child read what he's written. Discuss the parts of his report that work. Then, have your child think about what would make the rest even better.
- **Revise and rewrite.** Your child should check to see if words are spelled correctly and that he has used capitals and punctuation in the right places.

# Older students benefit from reading aloud, too



When was the last time you read to your child? Even though he can read on his own now, he can still benefit from reading aloud with you. When you read aloud to your child, he can:

- **Stop and ask** about a confusing concept or plot element.
- **Notice unusual grammar**, expressions or vocabulary.
- **Listen for the meaning.** Your child may be able to comprehend more if he isn't focused on decoding the words themselves.

To add some variety to your reading time:

- **Go to the library together.** Decide to read one book of your child's choice, then you can read one that you choose. After you finish each book, take time to talk about it. What would your child change if he were the author? What did he think of the ending?



- **Read all kinds of books.** Explore science fiction, historical fiction or a biography. You could also read several books in a series.
- **Look at the newspaper regularly.** Choose one article to read aloud to your child. Then, have him choose one to read to you. You can have a discussion about how current events will have an impact on your lives.

Elementary School  
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**Reading  
Extras**

# January Lunch Menu 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Menus are subject to change without notice	1	2	3	4	5	6
NO SCHOOL	Brkfst: Breakfast Burrito Lunch: Breaded Beef Patty	Brkfst: Egg/Sausage Biscuit Lunch: Meaty Nachos	Brkfst: Biscuits/Gravy Lunch: Chicken Patty/Smiley Fries			
7 Breakfasts include cereals/cereal bars/cheese sticks/fruits/juice/milk	8 Brkfst: Waffles/Dutch Waffles Lunch: Cheeseburgers	9 Brkfst: Bacon/Eggs Lunch: Fried Chicken	10 Brkfst: Breakfast Pancakes Lunch: Goulash	11 Brkfst: Cinnamon Roll Lunch: Turkey Sandwich	12	13
14 PBJ/Pizza is available each school day	15 Brkfst: Breakfast Sliders Lunch: Chicken Nuggets	16 Brkfst: French Toast Bake Lunch: Hamburger Gravy/Biscuits	17 Brkfst: Sausage/Hash browns Lunch: Taco Casserole	18 Brkfst: Egg Omelet w/Cheese Lunch: Cooks Choice	19	20
21	22 Brkfst: Pancakes/Sausage Links Lunch: BBQ Pork Sandwich	23 Brkfst: Scrambled Eggs/Bacon Lunch: Chicken Alfredo	24 Brkfst - Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Cheeseburger Casserole	25 Brkfst - Biscuits/Gravy Lunch: Chicken Strips	26	27
28	29 Brkfst - Egg/Sausage Biscuit Lunch : Mini Corn Dogs	30 Brkfst: Cinnamon Rolls Lunch: Mandarin Orange Chicken	31 Brkfst: Breakfast Burrito Lunch: Super Bowl - Meaty Nachos			

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
New Year's Day 1	G/BB @ Bennett County 5:30 pm (Girls Only) 2	3	4	**G/BB vs. Banner County 5:30 pm (Girls Varsity Only) 5	**JH B/BB vs. Sioux Co. 10 am G/B BB @ Leyton 1pm HS WR @ Garden Co. 6	7
Oregon Trail Honor Band @ Gering 8	G/B BB @ Gordon/Rush 4pm **JH B/BB vs. Oelrichs 5pm 9	10	G/B BB @ Cody-Kilgore 3pm 11	12	SENIOR NIGHT **G/B BB vs. Potter-Dix 3 pm HS WR @ Sandhills (Dunning) TBA 13	14
G/B BB PANCO @ Sioux County TBA 15	16	ASVAB Testing 1pm 17	**JH B/BB vs. Gordon/Rush 5pm 18	HS WR @ Chadron (2-day) TBA 19	HS WR @ Chadron TBA 20	21
UNK Honor Band and Choir 22	UNK Honor Band and Choir 23	24	G/BB @ Sioux County 4 pm **JH B/BB vs. Hemingford 5pm 25	**B/BB vs. Edgemont 5pm (Boys Only) 26	HS WR @ Ainsworth TBA 27	28
JH B/BB PANCO @ Edgemont TBA 29	**G/B BB vs. Hyannis 3pm 30	Super Bowl Lunch 31				

# JANUARY 2018



## NOTES:

Report Cards ready for pickup on Monday, Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

\*\* BOLD – Home games