

# Superintendent's News

## Beginning of the School Year Reminders

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**Reminder: All visitors must have a appt. prior to entering the building.**

As I prepare to share my thoughts on the beginning of the 2020-21 school year and the end of the 2019-20 school year I have to reflect briefly on the ending the 2019-20 school year. We were all subjected to changes that we have never experienced in the field of education or in our lives. Initially we were not allowed to have students in school and then were not allowed to have teachers in school. This changed not only the lives of our students and staff but the lives of parents' and guardians as well. Our students sacrificed all of our typical end of the year activities in the name of public safety. As I look back, I only wish that we as a school district had been given the opportunity to make a few more of those decisions locally. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your flexibility and understanding as we navigated through these uncharted waters. I am pleased to say that we have been happy with our MAP testing results at this point. Our students are for the most part on track academically in spite of the changes we endured. Our teachers stepped up to the plate and delivered educational opportunities to learn for our students. I have been involved in weekly zoom meetings with the Governor, the Commissioner of Education and Panhandle Public Health District since March and continue to follow their guidance

in my decision making process. We are committed to keeping our students in school this fall and will make adjustments as we see fit when changes occur. We are encouraging all staff and students to wear masks and practice social distancing in an effort to stay healthy and keep our school open. We are also asking that parents/guardians **please monitor your children's health** at home daily before sending them to school. If they have a fever or COVID symptoms, please keep them home until they are fever and COVID symptom free.

As I reflect on the upcoming year I will be paraphrasing from the NSAA Executive Director Jay Bellar's newsletter article. As I think about all the students we are so lucky to represent here at Hay Springs School, I am reminded of what an important roll school plays in these students' lives. I began to realize after going through the spring how vitally important the role of educational providers is to our students and their families. I began to think about how important a job it is to do anything involving today's youth. During this time of the year, I think a lot of us reflect back and think of our own lives. I'm guessing many of us in the business of education had pretty "normal" lives—but what does normal look like in the broad sense of all the students represented in our educational system. Normal. Normal family. Normal childhood. Normal life. Although these are frequently tossed around phrases when speaking of students,

it is worth taking a minute at the beginning of this year to reflect and remind ourselves that “normal” is not always the same for all students.

For many students, school might be where they feel the safest. The classroom might be where they feel the most at home. The court/field/stage might be where they feel the proudest. The few hours each day when these students are practicing might be the only time they can escape the negative in their life and just be “normal” kids.

At school, there are rules and expectations set by their coaches and teachers—there are pats on the back for a job well done and fair consequences that will teach and encourage them to do better next time. This might be where these students get the exact upbringing they crave. Their class, their team, their school might be their “family”.

What a powerful and awesome responsibility it is for schools; staff to have the privilege to be a part of so many lives each and every day. My hope for this year is that all of us work together to make a positive impact and difference in the lives of every student entrusted to us. With the grace of God, it is my hope that we can bring a sense of normalcy into the lives on every one of our Hay Springs students. Thank you to staff for your flexibility and dedicated efforts, to parents/guardians for your dedication to your students learning and to each of you and the board of education for your support and understanding over the past six months as we move forward. Together we can do this!

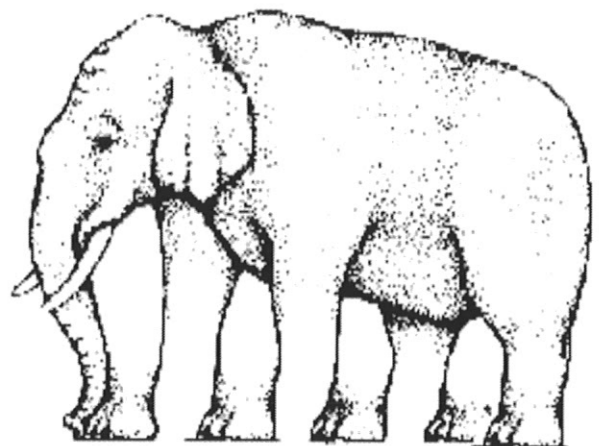
Sincerely,

Mr. Lechtenberg

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled to take place during the week beginning Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Teachers are being asked to schedule a time to visit directly with parents about their child’s academic progress. If possible we request these conversations take place over the phone or by way of a zoom meeting. If necessary, a face to face meeting can be scheduled at any time a parent or teacher makes a request. Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter, our ultimate goal is to do everything possible to keep our school community healthy and continue with in person learning.

How many legs does this elephant have?



**Homecoming is set for the week of October 5th**

[www.hshawks.com](http://www.hshawks.com)

# Principal's Playbook

By Mark Hagge

Dear Hay Springs Families,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well, following an awesome summer break! During the final months of the spring semester and during the summer, we received feedback from families about what worked and what didn't work during remote learning. Based upon the feedback received and the current Covid -19 situation in Western Nebraska, our district has chosen to return to an in school learning format this fall with protocols and practices in place recommended by the Panhandle Public Health District. The Hay Springs educational team believes strongly that the best place for our students at this time is in the classroom. We are committed to creating high level learning opportunities for students and helping students reconnect with their peers.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Hay Springs Public School system I would like to thank our entire community for their support and flexibility as we kick off the 2020-2021 school year. I am confident that the challenges we have been presented with will act as a catalyst for growth for our students, staff and parents. Our educational team is committed to communicating important information to our families. Please be sure to update your contact information (including email address) and sign up for our Remind message system in the front office. Moreover,

please check out our district's website ([www.hshawks.com](http://www.hshawks.com)) and facebook page for the latest happenings at Hay Springs Public Schools.

With a tremendous amount of Hawk Pride,  
Mark J. Hagge

## "SALUTE THE TROOPS"

*Hay Springs Public Schools will have our annual "Salute the Troops" night on Patriot's Day, September 11th, 2020, before the football game vs. Arthur County. Hamburgers, chips, and a dessert will be served free of charge to any Veteran and active-duty personnel wishing to attend. A free-will donation will be asked of everyone else. Veterans and people currently serving will be honored prior to the playing of the National Anthem. Please plan on attending this tribute to our heroes. The meal starts at 6:00 pm and kickoff is at 7 pm.*



Ways to help your school:



## New Faces to Hay Springs Public Schools

### Sarah Badje

Sarah is a new instructor for Math Grades 7-9, and Science and Exploratory Grade 6, and High School FCS.

Sarah graduated high school in 2011 from Chambers where she grew up and CSC in 2015 with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education and Middle School Education with focus in Math and Family Consumer Science.

She chose education after having an awesome experience as a student. "I loved my teachers and wanted to have the same positive impact on students that my teachers had in my life," said Badje. She previously taught at McPherson County for five years. She is married to Reid Badje, a HSHS alumni who is currently employed at Panhandle Drilling. The couple have an 18-month-old son Red.

She noted she is excited to be part of a good school and community and they like being closer to family. The couple have made their new home in Hay Springs. In her spare time she enjoys baking, reading and spending time outside.

### Stacie Palmer

STACIE is new to the school system but not the community. She admits to being a "military brat" because she was raised up all over! She previously worked for the Dept. of Health & Human Services for two years. She earned her CNS in 2009 at Scott Community College, then began a Medication Aide after studying at Western Nebraska Community College in 2014.

She is the new Preschool Paraprofessional. She says she loves helping children learn. "Helping children learn is very rewarding! My children also attend school here, so we all have the same schedule. It's great!"

She and her husband Jake, a diesel engine technician, have two sons, Bentley, 6, and Wyatt, age 5. In her spare time she enjoys reading and camping.

Fun Facts: She is one of eight children.

Favorite Food: Mexican

Favorite Music: Country

Favorite Quote: Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."

--Dr. Suess

# WELCOME LADIES!

## NPBIS (Nebraska Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports)

Hay Springs Public School has entered its third year of NPBIS (Nebraska Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports). PBIS is a universal school plan to establish a POSITIVE culture in our school community for students and staff. Research has shown that positive interactions with students directly impact positive school culture. PBIS also gives us continuity! Every staff member is using the same language in regards to behavior, building unity within our school community!

In June the entire HSPS staff attended PBIS Classroom training via zoom. This was an amazing opportunity to get all staff trained in best classroom practices. One of the mornings during our August staff training days was spent on restorative circles within the classroom.

PBIS is always adding and changing the way we are doing things. Keep an eye out in September for our newest addition “Student of the Month!”

We are again doing Super Passes for High School & Middle Level students. Here are the requirements for the Super Pass for 2020-2021 Quarter 1.

### Requirements

0 Ineligibility

1 or fewer Tardies

2 or fewer absences

0 office referrals

5 Hours of Community Service

Community Service forms can be picked up from Adriene in the office or Mrs. Heiting in the 1st grade classroom. Ms. Adriene is also compiling a list of businesses or individuals who have requested some assistance. If you're not sure HOW to serve, stop by and ask her how you can get involved! Once a form is completed, make sure to turn it into Mrs. Heiting in the 1st grade classroom!

### Middle Level

1. 1 free tardy
2. Drop lowest grade on daily assignment
3. Front of line for lunch
4. 1 free supervised period on campus (preapproved)

### High School

1. 1 Free Tardy
2. Drop lowest grade on daily assignment
3. 2 Open Campus Lunches
4. Free Half Day Off of School (pre-approved; responsible for all work missed)



***Complete sports schedules are located on [www.hshawks.com](http://www.hshawks.com)  
under the activities calendar tab.***

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## High School Volleyball

By Coach Merritt

The Hay Springs Lady Hawks volleyball team hit the floor running on August 10th. After months apart, the team was excited to be back together practicing. This year's team is 20 members strong and includes 9 returning letterwinners with a lot of experience and a fantastic group of underclassmen that will be asked to contribute to the team's overall success.

The team is patiently waiting their first competition when they will travel to Garden County to take on the Lady Eagles and the Hyannis Lady Longhorns on Tuesday, September 1st. The team also welcomes new assistant coach and teacher Mrs. Sarah Badje.

"I have high expectations for this team this year. This is our second year together and they all understand what I expect in practices and games. The sky's the limit if they continue to work hard and play as a team."

"TEAM OVER ME"

Come out and support your LADY HAWKS!

Coach Merritt



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## Junior High Volleyball

By Coach Marx

Our Junior High Volleyball team is made up of 12 girls this fall. We have 3 eighth graders, 3 seventh graders, and 6 sixth graders playing this fall. Within this mix we have a pretty broad range of skills and experience, but everyone has been working well together!

The last two weeks we have spent a lot of time focusing on fundamentals and I have already seen huge improvements in the girls! We are all really excited for this season to get underway with our first game at home on the 3rd!!

**Reminder:**

**Parents for safety reasons please keep children seated in bleachers  
during volleyball and football games.**

**Thank you!**

## Junior High and High School Cross Country

By Coach Marcy



Fall is here and that brings the Hay Springs Cross Country season! If you are up early in the morning and see a few kids running through town give them some cheers and encouragement! This year we have Freshman Ava McKillip leading our team as our sole high school runner! We also have our sole 8<sup>th</sup> grader Dylan Raymer; 7<sup>th</sup> graders Julia Russell, Andi Twarling, Parker Wellnitz; 6<sup>th</sup> graders Reese Varvel, Aubry Anderson, Alaina Raymer, and Ever Peters. We traveled to Scottsbluff and have our first meet under our belt. The kids ran hard in the heat, wind, and smoke from the fire! I look to see some medals this year and lots of improved times at every meet.

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## Music Notes

By Raimie Varvel



It is SO GOOD to get to be back to making music with your students! In an effort to keep students safe, the music room has made a few adjustments. All classes meet in the auditorium where we have plenty of space to socially distance from each other. All band students have covers for their instruments in an attempt to limit the amount of aerosols put into the room. We are also limiting our rehearsal time.

As of the time this article was due, we are not certain how to proceed with concert planning. As soon as a decision is made and a concert schedule is set, information will go out! Stay tuned...

**INSTRUMENT DONATION:** If you have an instrument that is just collecting dust, I would encourage you to consider donating it to the school for someone to use! Thank you in advance for considering it!!

High School Band will be again selling Little Caesars Pizza Kits from 9/7-9/24! If you are interested and no one has stopped by to see you give the school a call and we will make sure to get someone to you!

Upcoming dates:

Keep an eye out for dates in the near future!

### PE Class Reminders

- ◇ Please do not dress in a skirt or dress for PE.
- ◇ Remember that every student participating in PE needs to have a separate pair of athletic shoes for the Lister-Sage building.
- ◇ Students are encouraged to bring deodorant to use before PE.

**FCA News**

By Jim Varvel



The Hay Springs Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) booster club is preparing for another school year. The mission of FCA is to present to athletes and coaches and all whom they influence the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church.

The booster club has set up a tentative date to start up the huddle.

- \* Wednesday, September 9th- Huddle start with the Junior High and High School Students in Lister during lunch. This Huddle will continue on a weekly basis every Wednesday. You do not have to be an athlete to attend.

Due to Covid-19, summer camps were canceled but it remains our goal to help students attend FCA camp in Spearfish in the summer of 2021.

We would also like to recognize the wonderful coaches and athletic director who devote their time, talents and service to our athletes. Thank you for all that you do!

If anyone has any questions in regards to FCA or wants to become involved please don't hesitate to give me a call at (308)320-4445.

God Bless,

Jim Varvel

## New Team Sport - eSports -



Gamers check out the newest team sport to hit the Nebraska High Schools. Competitive eSports teams are alive in the Kearney area and on the east end of the state. Hay Springs would be the second school on the west end of the state to join along with Gering.

Games for the first semester competition are Starcraft II, Overwatch, and Rocket League. Two games are free to use, only Overwatch requires a purchase. Games are played online with no travel necessary. Mr. Reimann and Mrs. Matthews have volunteered to coach the players. (Who probably could beat us with one hand.)

If curious about what a college eSports setup looks like just ask the Robotics team who visited South Dakota School of Mines last spring. Yes, there is competitive eSports in college and you can get scholarships to play eSports at Concordia, Midland and Bellevue Universities here in Nebraska.

Watch the announcements for information about an organizational meeting.



# Hawks' Library News

## Happenings in the Library

### Changes in the Library

Over the summer several changes were made in the library. The Middle School/ High School collection has been moved to the Hawks Nest. There have been numerous new books added with some just hitting the shelves this week. Mrs. Marcy has taken over teaching the elementary library classes. Mrs. Matthews will be in the library during the morning.

To ensure safety and still give our students access to books, several changes have been made in the the circulation system. Both libraries now have hands free checkout systems. Students will return books to crates and the books will be quarantined for one week before being put on the shelves.

If you happen to come across any library books that spent the summer at your house send them to school with your student. There are NO LATE FEES.

### New HS/MS NonFiction

*New David and Goliath : underdogs, misfits, and the art of battling giants*

*Outliers : the story of success*

*The tipping point : how little things can make a big difference*

*Between the world and me*

*Born to run : a hidden tribe, superathletes, and the greatest race the world has never seen*

*McDougall, Christopher, 1962-*

*Through the woods*

*The firefly letters : a suffragette's journey to Cuba*

*Hurricane dancers : the first Caribbean pirate shipwreck*

*Fences : a play*

*A doll's house*

*Antigone*

*Persepolis*

*Darkroom : a memoir in black and white*

- Access for parents from home
- View Information about your student
- Sign up to receive email notification about your student
- Log in to Home Connect Website by using this link: [bit.ly/ARhome61](http://bit.ly/ARhome61)



(Username and password are the same as your student uses to log into his/her AR account at school.)

**Questions about Home Connect**

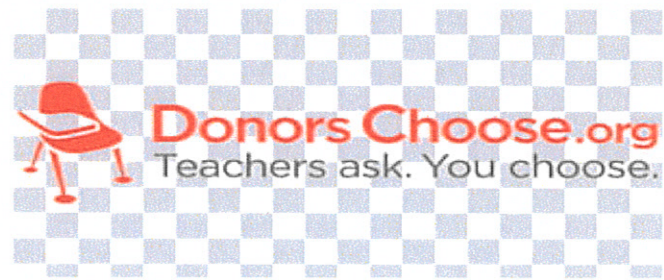
Contact Mrs. Matthews at school in the morning.

A book is a dream you hold in your hands.

— Neil Gaiman

## Donors Choose

By Mrs. Beguin



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DonorsChoose, the most trusted crowdfunding platform for teachers, donors, and district administrators, awarded Hay Springs High School English teacher Heidi Beguin, almost \$2000 in a flexible seating campaign she created in early August. "I wanted to try to find funds for flexible seating, in my classroom, without putting a financial strain on the school. I created a project a few years ago, through DonorsChoose, that was fully funded and my hope was that this one would be too." After she publicized the project on her personal Facebook page, and received a couple local donations (big thank you to Lisa Merritt and Malinda Smith), one other anonymous donor came forward to fully fund the project. "My classroom will soon be outfitted with six tall tables, each with two stools, giving twelve students the option to stand or at least sit in something other than the desks they sit in during most every class. Our kids sit a lot of the day, so I'm excited to be able to offer some other options for them." Before and after photos will be posted to our school's Facebook soon.

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## Farmers Grow Communities

By Mrs. Strotheide

Last fall, like I do every year, I entered the Farmers Grow Communities contest, sponsored by the Bayer Fund, and it was my LUCKY year! America's Farmers Grow Communities partners with farmers to support nonprofit organizations to strengthen rural communities. The program offers farmers the chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit of their choice. When I found out I had won in January, I was extremely excited! After talking it over with Rick, we decided to donate it to the nonprofit organization that means the most to me, Hay Springs Public School. I chose to split the money between the Elder's Wisdom program and the Veterans Day program, the two programs that I hold near and dear to my heart. I hope that this \$2,500 donation will allow these programs to continue for years to come. I feel they grow our rural community of Hay Springs by bridging the gap between generations and growing our youth through the wisdom of our elders. Farmers watch for the postcard in the mail and enter the contest, it might just be your LUCKY year.



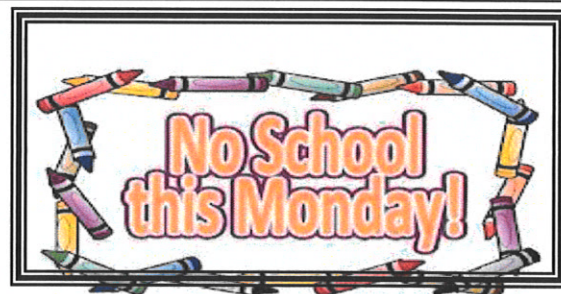
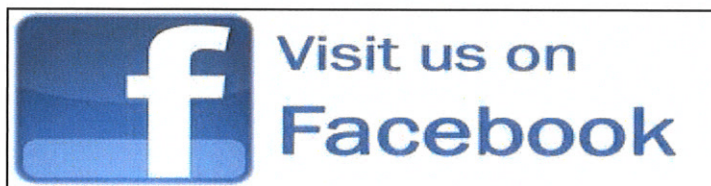
**September 7th**—NO SCHOOL

**September 11th**—Teacher In-service

**September 11th** - "SALUTE THE TROOPS"

**September 22nd**—Senior's ACT





September 7th, 2020

## **Juniors:**

### **National Merit Scholarship Program**

The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test ([PSAT/NMSQT®](#))—a test which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements. This year Hay Springs will be offering the PSAT/NMSQT test. When you take this test as a Junior in High School you will automatically be screened for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

The PSAT/NMSQT is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2020. If you are interested in taking the PSAT/NMSQT please register with Mrs. Marx by September 15th, 2020. Cost for the assessment is \$15, payable at the time of registration.

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## ***FAFSA INFORMATION***

EducationQuest Foundation, a free non-profit organization is coming to virtually help you complete and file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). An informational meeting will be held over Zoom.

***DATE: September 30th, 6:00 PM Mountain Time***

***Contact the school for the zoom link or go to the [educationquest.org](https://www.educationquest.org) for alternate dates.***

***If you need additional help with your FAFSA, please call EducationQuest at 800-666-3721 to setup an appointment. Appointments are needed to receive assistance.***

***These items are needed to complete the FAFSA***

\*FSA ID for parent and student – apply at [www.fsaidth.gov](https://www.fsaidth.gov)

\*Parent and student 2019 federal tax returns, \*W-2's and K-1 Form 1065, \*Value of checking/savings accounts and investments, \*Amount of untaxed income: social security, child support, \*Student's driver's license number, \*Student's Social Security number, \*Alien Registration Number of eligible non-citizens, \*Parents' birth dates, \*Student's birth date, \*Parent's date of marriage, separation, or divorce, \*Email addresses for student and parent.



## HSB COVID Guidelines for Spectators at Local Events

1. All home events will be capped at 50% indoors and 75% capacity outdoors (based on current directed health measures). Adjustments may be made upon further updates from the Governor's office or Panhandle Public Health.
2. Face coverings are recommended for all events regardless of whether they are taking place indoors or outdoors.
3. It is recommended that each spectator uses social distancing measures or wears a mask.
4. Please avoid congregating in large groups before and after events. Fans and parents are not allowed on the playing areas after games.
5. Concession stands will be made available.
6. Workers in the concession stand are encouraged to wear masks.
7. Please use social distancing while standing in line for concessions and when paying admissions to the sporting events.
8. We are posting our programs on social media for spectators and letting them view it on their own devices.

All guidance from the Hay Springs School Board, Directive Health Measurers, and Panhandle Public Health are subject to change at any time.

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To our wonderful Community and  
Security 1st Bank,

Thank you so very much for the supplies that were bought for our classes through The Tree of Love program. We are so thankful for the extras, they will be put to good use! Thank you again!



## Block Homes

Hay Springs has recently updated its Block Homes. Please share the following information with your children.

Block Homes protect children. They serve as havens of safety to any child in an emergency, when they see an alarming stranger, when they suddenly feel sick, when they have an accident, when they feel threatened by a bully, when they become lost, or during a terrible storm.

A Block Home is not a Police Station, a place to eat or use the bathroom. It is not a taxi service, a referee for squabbles, or a first aid station. The Block Home is like an insurance policy, there if needed, to protect our children.



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## What is Early Intervention?

If you have a concern about your child's development, or your child has been diagnosed with a health condition that will affect his/her development, he/she may be eligible for early intervention services.

The term "early intervention" is important because research shows that the first three years are the most important time for learning in a child's life. Providing developmental supports and services early improves a child's ability to develop and learn. Also, it may prevent or decrease the need for special help later. The goal of early intervention in Nebraska is to "open a window of opportunity" for families to help their children with special needs develop to their full potential.

The Early Development Network-Babies Can't Wait can help you and your family support and promote your child's development, within your family activities and community life. Nebraska's Early Development Network supports children birth through three years of age who have special developmental needs. The Nebraska Early Development Network program "connects" families with early intervention services, such as occupational, speech or physical therapy, to help infants and toddlers grow and develop and help their families in this process.

# WHAT DOES SELF-ISOLATION MEAN?

## STAY HOME

Stay home from work, school, and away from other public places.



For at least 3 days fever free, and improvement in respiratory symptoms and at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared.

## MONITOR YOUR SYMPTOMS

Monitor your symptoms each day. Symptoms include: fever, cough, and difficulty breathing.



## CALL THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider ahead of time and tell them that you have COVID-19.



## NOTIFY THE DISPATCH PERSONNEL

For medical emergencies, call 911 and notify the dispatch personnel that you have COVID-19.



## COVER YOUR COUGH AND SNEEZES.



Please go to [www.cdc.gov/covid19-symptoms](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19-symptoms) for information on COVID-19 symptoms.

## WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



## STAY AWAY FROM OTHER PEOPLE

As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available. If you need to be around other people in the home, wear a facemask.



## AVOID SHARING PERSONAL ITEMS

Avoid sharing personal items with other people in your household, like dishes, towels, and bedding.



## CLEAN ALL SURFACES

Clean all surfaces that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, and doorknobs. Use household cleaning sprays or wipes according to the label instructions.



# 10 ways to manage respiratory symptoms at home

If you have fever, cough, or shortness of breath, call your healthcare provider. They may tell you to manage your care from home. Follow these tips:

1. **Stay home** from work, school, and away from other public places. If you must go out, avoid using any kind of public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.



6. **Cover your cough and sneezes.**



2. **Monitor your symptoms** carefully. If your symptoms get worse, call your healthcare provider immediately.



7. **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



3. **Get rest and stay hydrated.**



8. As much as possible, **stay** in a specific room and **away from other people** in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available. If you need to be around other people in or outside of the home, wear a facemask.



4. If you have a medical appointment, **call the healthcare provider** ahead of time and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19.



9. **Avoid sharing personal items** with other people in your household, like dishes, towels, and bedding.



5. For medical emergencies, call 911 and **notify the dispatch personnel** that you have or may have COVID-19.



10. **Clean all surfaces** that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, and doorknobs. Use household cleaning sprays or wipes according to the label instructions.





# SEPTEMBER 2020



## Hay Springs School Cafeteria

\*PreK-12 Breakfast & Lunch Menus

\*All Menus are served with 3 choices of Milk & 4 choices of 100% Juice. Water is always available in the cafeteria area.

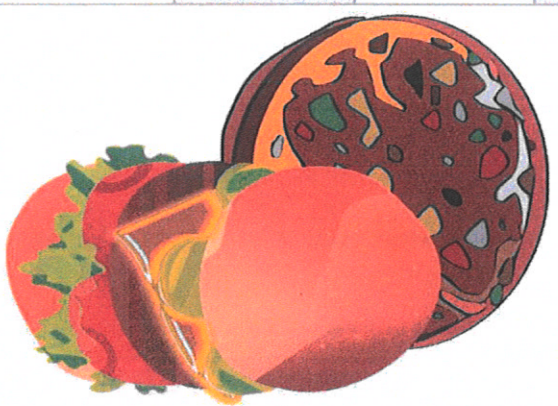
\*Fruit & Veggie Bar is offered with every meal. \*In addition to the item on the menu, there will be a choice for Chef Salad or PB&J.

\*BTS=Beef To School \*Menus are subject to change without notice.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Muffin/Fruit Cup/Cheese Stick Orange Chicken/Rice Fortune Cookie	2 Cereal/Yogurt/ Peaches Hot Dogs/Baked Beans/Corn	3 Omelet/Chex Snax/Grapes BTS Burger/FF	4	5
6	7 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	8 Pancake Sausage on a Stick Chicken Patty on a Bun/Baked Beans	9 Breakfast Burritos Spaghetti/Bread Stick/Green Beans	10 Breakfast Casserole/Apple Sauce/Muffin Chicken Fajita/Peas/Ice Cream Cup	11	12
13	14 Biscuits & Gravy/Orange Slices Taco/Corn/Tater Tots	15 Tornados/Apple Sauce/Cheese Stick Meatloaf/Mashed Potatoes/Green Beans	16 Breakfast Burritos/Peaches Pizzal/Apple Crisp	17 Breakfast Sandwich/Fruit Cup BTS Burger/Potato Tri	18	19
20	21 Cereal/Cheese Stick/Orange Slices Beef Enchilada Stacker/Corn	22 Pancake/Sausage Patty/Grapes Corn Dogs/Baked Beans	23 Omelet/Chex Snax/Cantaloupe Chicken Noodle/Mashed Potatoes/Steamed Carrots	24 Biscuits & Gravy/Banana Tater Tot Casserole/Green Beans/Roll	25	26
27	28 Breakfast Pizza/Apple Sauce Turkey Sub/Chips/Potato Salad	29 Pancake Sausage on a Stick/Peaches Pork Fritter/Mashed Potatoes/Green Beans	30 Tornados/Pears Lasagna/Bread Stick/Corn			

*"This Institution is an equal opportunity provider."*

NOTES:



# September Activity 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 HS VB dual @ Garden County 4pm	2	3 HS VB Tri. @ Cody/Kilgore 4pm *JH VB hm vs. St Agnes 4pm	4 HS FB – BYE Week CC @ Gering 11am	5
6 NO SCHOOL – Labor Day	7	8 *HS VB Tri. hm vs. Crawford/Hemingford 5pm JH VB @ Hyannis 4pm	9	10	11 *HS FB hm vs. Arthur County 7pm "Salute the Troops"	12 CC @ CSC gam HS VB @ Gordon/Rush Tourney 8am
13	14	15 *HS VB Tri. hm vs. Hyannis/Cody-Kilgore 4pm	16	17	18 HS VB @ South Platte 3pm HS FB @ South Platte 3pm	19 CC @ Alliance gam HS VB @ Hemingford Tourney TBA *JH VB & FB hm vs. Crawford gam & 10 am
20	21	22 CC @ Hot Springs, SD 10am SENIOR ACT	23	24 CC @ Gordon/Rush 4pm JH VB & FB @ Edgemont 4 & 5:30 pm	25 *HS FB hm vs. Minatare 1pm *HS VB hm vs. Minatare 3:30 pm	26 JH VB PANCO @ Crawford gam
27	28	29 *HS VB Tri. hm vs. Edgemont/Olerichs	30			

# BUILDING READERS®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

Hay Springs Public Schools

## Refresh your family reading routine at the beginning of the school year

There have been a lot of changes and disruptions this past year due to the pandemic. But one thing families can always count on is the power of reading.

Reading with your child every day is one of the best ways to improve his reading skills. To make reading an even bigger part of your daily lives, try these ideas:

- **Mix it up.** You don't have to wait for bedtime to read together. Read books any time—even in the morning at the breakfast table.
- **Celebrate what you read.** Hang a paper "reading tree" on the wall and add a leaf for each book your family reads. Plan a special dinner around a book's theme.
- **Explore library websites.** Together, look for ebooks related to your child's interests, read reviews and make a list of titles to check out.



### Turn your child into a book critic

When your child finishes a new book, encourage her to continue thinking about it by writing a short review. She can keep her reviews in a "book review" notebook. Make sure she includes the name of each book and its author.

In a review, your child should answer questions such as:

- **What did I like about this book?**
- **What do I wish were different?**
- **Would I recommend this book** to one of my friends?

Why or why not?

Expressing her thoughts about books will give your child practice writing. It may also motivate her to read more, think about what she's reading and develop important critical thinking skills.

### Teach your child textbook reading strategies

If your child has just started using a textbook for school, have her try these strategies:



- **Rewrite headings** into questions. Answering those questions can help your child review what she's read.
- **Pay attention to words in bold type.** This indicates that they're important.
- **Look at the images**, such as graphs and pictures.
- **Answer the questions** at the end of the chapter to check comprehension.

### Create a cozy reading nook

Help your child create a special place at home for reading. You don't need a lot of space—just be sure to include:



- **A shelf or basket** filled with a variety of appealing reading material.
- **Comfortable surroundings.** Consider a soft chair or a pile of pillows. Don't forget good lighting!

### Music enhances reading skills

Language skills grow when children sing along to their favorite tunes. And rhyming patterns in songs can help boost memory skills, too. To use music to build reading skills:

- **Read the lyrics** as you and your child listen to a song.
- **Talk about word endings** that make up rhymes.
- **Listen to music** (and sing along) in the car and while you do chores at home.



## Overcome reading challenges with perseverance and a positive outlook

Reading is part of many home and academic activities, so if your child struggles with reading, it can feel as if it affects every part of his life.

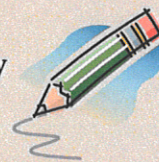
To help your child with reading difficulties:

- **Consult experts, including his teacher.** Ask about realistic expectations. Is your child reading at grade level? If not, what resources are available?
- **Use reading materials at home** that minimize frustration. For example, choose books that are easy to read and understand. They should have very few difficult words.
- **Stay positive about his learning.** Focus on how his strengths in other areas can help him with reading. Praise your child for his hard work.



### Have your child write letters

It's important to stay connected to friends and family—especially in times of social distancing.



Encourage your child to write and mail letters to friends and distant family members. Remind her to ask for a reply. Not only will she get mail, she'll also be developing reading skills.

### Make comprehension a key reading goal

To succeed in school, your child must understand the texts she reads. Here are a few simple ways to boost her comprehension:

- **Remind your child** to sound out tough words. Review common words so she can recognize them instantly.
- **Build your child's vocabulary.** Introduce new words through experiences, instruction and reading itself.
- **Ask questions** to get your child thinking about how the information relates to what she already knows.
- **Encourage your child** to think about what she reads. She can also make predictions about what will happen next or summarize a section she has read.



### For lower elementary readers:

- **Coronavirus: A Book for Children** by Kate Wilson, Elizabeth Jenner and Nia Roberts (Nosy Crow). Learn the facts about the coronavirus in this kid-friendly picture book.



- **The Invisible String** by Patrice Karst (Devorss & Co.). Help children overcome loneliness, separation and loss with this simple story about the unbreakable connections of loved ones.

### For upper elementary readers:

- **Fish in a Tree** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (Nancy Paulsen Books). This is an inspiring story about a girl who struggles with dyslexia.
- **Stanley Will Probably Be Fine** by Sally J. Pla (HarperCollins). Stanley finds a way to overcome his anxiety and conquer his fears in this award-winning book about bravery.



**Q:** No matter how much I try, my elementary schooler just doesn't like to read. What can I do to encourage him?

**A:** When children are still learning to read during the early grades, they can become frustrated. Rather than pushing your child to continually practice reading, focus on making reading fun!

Keep interesting reading material on hand. Read in new places, such as under a table. Don't use reading as a punishment. Soon enough, he may just be interested in picking up a book on his own.

### Building Readers®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

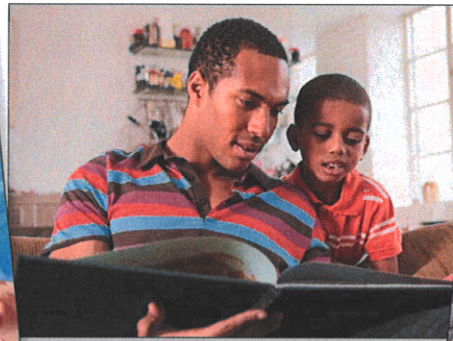
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# Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children  
do well in school*

Hay Springs Public Schools



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

## September 2020

## Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Visit an interesting place in your town this week. Then have your child create an ad to tell others about it.
- 2. Ask your child to read to you as you're cleaning up after a meal. Or read to your child as she cleans up!
- 3. Taste-test different types of apples with your child. Think of words to describe their tastes, such as *tart*, *sweet* and *mellow*.
- 4. Start a family savings jar. Have family members decide on what the goal will be and how they will each contribute.
- 5. Get some exercise with your child. Pick an activity you both enjoy, such as riding bikes or tossing a ball.
- 6. Take a walk and look for signs of autumn. See if your child can identify any of the trees you pass as you go.
- 7. Ask your child to tell you a bedtime story tonight.
- 8. Help your child find his best time to do homework. Some kids do best right after school, others after they have had a chance to blow off steam.
- 9. Help your child start a collection. Collecting can help children learn school skills such as organization and research.
- 10. Set aside a shelf or basket to store library books. You'll save money on overdue fines.
- 11. Ask your child to tell you something she learned today. Then tell her something you learned today.
- 12. Take turns picking a word and putting its letters in alphabetical order.
- 13. Have your child write a letter to a friend or relative telling about the beginning of the school year.
- 14. Help your child set a goal for the week. Write it down. Set one for yourself, too.
- 15. Glue a picture of your child to a piece of paper. Have him draw things around the picture that represent what is special about him.
- 16. Choose a Word of the Day. Challenge everyone to use it in a sentence. Make this a daily habit.
- 17. Talk with your child about what it means to be a good sport.
- 18. Discuss three ways you used math today. Ask everyone in the family to say how they used math.
- 19. Hang a map of your state or province on the wall. Let your child use a highlighter to mark places she's visited.
- 20. Have a special one-on-one breakfast with your child.
- 21. Plan a digital device-free night. Play games or read instead.
- 22. Ask your child to estimate how many times he blinks in one minute. Then check!
- 23. Teach your child a practical skill, such as sewing on a button.
- 24. Choose a place in your home for items needed for school. Help your child get into the habit of putting things there each day.
- 25. Ask your child questions after reading. "Why do you think that character made that decision?" "What would you have done?"
- 26. Does your child know how to call 9-1-1 in an emergency? Practice what to say.
- 27. See if your child can tie a bow behind her back.
- 28. Create an gallery of your child's artwork. Rotate the display frequently.
- 29. Help your child make an audio recording of a story.
- 30. At dinner, share the best and the worst parts of your day. Give each person a turn to talk.