



# WELCOME FALL!

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*Two special meals  
this month:  
Invite a Veteran &  
Thanksgiving Dinner!*



## Superintendent's News

As we turn our calendar to the month of November, I would like to encourage everyone to take time to stop, pause, and reflect on things they are thankful for. I am thankful for many things such as my amazing family and friends, the caring people of Hay Springs, the outstanding students and staff members at Hay Springs Public Schools. As a community we can be very thankful for the many things that Hay Springs has to offer. I hope throughout the month of November you take time to visit with others and discuss the ways in which you are thankful.

This month we close out the fall sports season (football, volleyball, cross country) and we start fresh with new seasons and activities. I would like to thank all the players, coaches, parents, and supporters who were able to come out and cheer on the hawks during their season. I would welcome all members of the community to come out and support our young athletes. They work hard and are dedicated to competing at their best abilities.

Like always, pay close attention to the calendar and the district website, [www.hshawks.com](http://www.hshawks.com) for current activities, times, and changes in the schedule. I would like to say

Happy Thanksgiving! May the start of your Holiday Season be spent with family and friends!

## Veteran's Day Program Planned

Hay Springs Public Schools will be hosting their annual Veterans Day program on Wednesday November 11th, 2015 in the Old Auditorium at 10:00 AM. This year there will be two honored veterans presenting. Chris Baer and Courtney Horack; both of whom are current Nebraska State Patrol officers. Each will give a presentation on their experiences serving in the United States military. The Hay Springs High School band and chorus will also perform patriotic music. The public is invited to attend to celebrate and honor our veterans on this ceremonial day. Veterans are invited to lunch following the program. Please RSVP with the office by calling 638-4434.

## Counselor's Desk

By Mrs. Cline

The last week of October, Hay Springs Students participated in Red Ribbon week, the theme was "A Minion Reasons To Be Drug Free." Monday kicked off our celebration with our Minion in the cafeteria and students made their own Minions too. Upper level grades learned about how Red Ribbon Week began and discussed Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a hero who was murdered in Mexico by drug dealers. "Kiki" is a hero and his story has brought about discussions of making good choices among Hay Springs students.

Monday: "Jam Out Drugs (wear your jammies to school)

Tuesday: "Stomp Out Drugs (wear crazy socks/favorite boots/shoes)

Wednesday: "Friends Don't Let Friends Do Drugs" (Twin Day-dress like your friend/teacher)

Thursday: "Scare Drugs Away" (wear your costume to school)

### Guidance Desk:

Elementary has been learning about Respect, Responsibility and the "Golden Rule." Students have colored respect posters and listed names of people in their lives of who they respect and or who are important to them. The next Character Counts pillar will be Trustworthiness. Character Counts has been very successful with Elementary students thus far and continues to build upon positive behavior. Students have enjoyed sharing and creating during Character Counts!

Middle school students discussed the speaker "All For One" who came and spoke regarding topics on Heros, Bullying, Texting while driving, and Attitude. Sixth through eighth grade discussed how making choices can affect your life from middle school through adulthood. Discussions on how each student can make a difference and lift up hope in ourselves, school and community. The main message behind our speaker and discussion is: "students need to value life and make decisions to protect it."

High school students have finished their activity resumes and began discussing making right choices for themselves. Using the speaker "All For One" and Red Ribbon Week themes with current events to address these topics. Each grade has been very active with discussions and continue to get involved with what's going in the news and tie it back to our community. It is fun hearing students discuss and learn from each other.

Please contact me if you have any questions at 638-4434 or [heather.cline@hshawks.com](mailto:heather.cline@hshawks.com)

### RED RIBBON WEEK DOOR WINNERS:

#### ELEMENTARY

**1ST PLACE GOES TO 3RD GRADE**

**2ND PLACE GOES TO 1ST GRADE**

#### ML/HS

**1ST PLACE GOES TO MR. BADJE'S CLASS**

**2ND PLACE GOES TO MS. BILA'S CLASS**

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

**NO SCHOOL**

**November 25 & 26**



**The school offices will also be closed.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE



We are excited to announce that we will once again be participating with Chadron Recreation with Hay Springs Girls and Boys basketball in grades 3-6. Sign-ups are happening now so if your child is interested please call (308) 320-4445. Practices will begin November 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30 in the Auditorium and will happen every Tuesday/Thursday. Our first game will be on December 5<sup>th</sup> and occur each weekend through January except through the Holidays. More information will follow once the teams and schedule become available.

### Santa's Bake Shoppe

**What:** Let's get together to make and decorate sugar cookies! It will be a ***Take Some - Share Some***. That is, you will take some of the cookies you made home to enjoy, and, others will be shared with Hay Springs' elders. We'll get a youth delivery team together to get the cookies out to our older generation.

**Where:** At the Hay Springs School Cafeteria



**When:** Sunday December 6th, 2015. Sugar cookie "construction" starts at 2:00 PM and we'll probably be finished by 4:00 PM.

### Do you love to hunt and fish?

This workshop will allow youth to explore the great outdoors while learning more about one of their favorite hobbies. Youth will learn about: Tracking animals, Animal Tracks, Camouflage, a Hunting Snack and much more!

Where: Hay Springs Schools Cafeteria

When: Friday, Nov. 6th 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Cost: \$10.

To register contact Melissa Mracek at 308-327-2312

## Music Notes

By Raimo Varvel



PANCO Honor Band will be held on Friday, November 6th at Crawford public school. All high school band members and any 6th, 7th & 8th grade students who have earned at least their blue belt in book 1 are eligible to attend. This will be a fun day where all the PANCO band students get together as one large band. They will rehearse all day and then perform a concert together that evening. We will be leaving Hay Springs at 8:15am; registration begins at 9am; rehearsal begins at 9:30am; with the concert, **which is open to the public**, at 6:30pm. Please plan to attend!

COMMUNITY CHOIR REHEARSALS—Come one, come all and sing in the Hay Springs Community Choir. Rehearsals are Sunday evenings from 6:30-8 pm in the Music room at the school starting on October 18th-December 6th. This ensemble will sing at the Nights, the Lights & Music concert on Friday, December 11th.

The Night, The Lights & Music Concert will be held on Friday, December 11th at 7:30pm in the auditorium following the Santa Soup Cook off. This concert will include High School/Middle Level Band & Choir, Middle Level Choir & the Community Choir. This will be a wonderful evening of many Christmas songs to get you into the Christmas Spirit! There will be a free will donation for this concert with proceeds going to the Hay Springs Music Department.

The Kindergarten-6th grade Christmas concert, "A World of Christmas," will be on Thursday, December 17th at 7pm in the auditorium.

"Semester Enrichment" opportunities. Remember 6th-/HS music students are required to attend ONE performance, OR write a paper on a composer, before the end of the semester. However students can attend as many as they wish, as long as there are open seats. *Please note that some of the dates have been changed and one removed—that is due to the school schedule between basketball games and Christmas concerts.*

*Sunday, November 8	CSC Concert & Community Concert	3:00 pm
*Thursday, December 3	Wind Symphony & Community Band	7:00 pm
*Tuesday, December 8	Vocal Jazz & Guitar Ensemble	7:00 pm

ASBC meets on Mondays & Wednesdays from 4:15-5:00 and is open to any 5th-ML student.

Make sure to mark these dates on your calendar:

Community choir rehearsals	Sunday's 10/18-12/6	6:30-8:00 pm	Music room
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**Weather can change quickly and winter is fast approaching!**

**Please keep a close eye on the weather and make sure your child has a hat, gloves, and coat with them each day!**



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## ONE ACT PREVIEW

By Coach Wiepen

The One Act play cast and crew have a hilarious comedy picked out for this years play. They will be performing, *The Great Nursing Home Escape*, by Nathan Hartswick. This play is set in a locked-down nursing home with a group of misfit "inmates." They come up with a plan to escape the nursing home and attend a baseball game. There is a group of comical characters such as, a ringleader, the grouch, the gossip, the airhead, the Casanova and a shy old gal that can be seen in every scene of the play. There is also a prim and proper nurse and a young night guard. This play is sure to create a laugh. The cast and crew have already been working hard to make it an exhilarating show for everyone. Please come and enjoy the show and support our One Act program. You are guaranteed a laugh! This years cast and crew include, Kaelob Marx, Emma Roberts, Mattie Johnson, Drew Letcher, Sam Kearns, Jessi Badje, Rebekah Holtmeier, Hailey Summers, Sydney Tlustos, Jadlyn Riggs and Tanna Badje. The One Act head coach is Shawna Wiepen and our volunteer coach is Meredith Bremer! Below is a list of important play production dates. We would love to look out into the audience and see some Hay Springs support during our performances! We also want to thank everyone who came out and supported us at our face painting booth during Friendly Festival. It was a huge success!

**Conference** - November 20<sup>th</sup> in Hemingford

**School Performance** - November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:20pm in the auditorium

**Public Performance** - November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm in the auditorium

**Districts** - November 30<sup>th</sup> through December 5th TBA

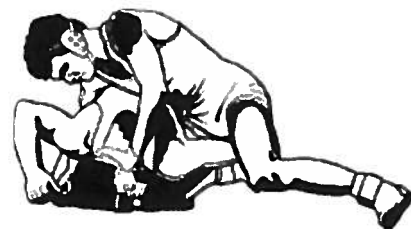
**State** - December 9<sup>th</sup> in Norfolk

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## JUNIOR HIGH WRESTLING PREVIEW

By Coach "Murph" Planansky

As usual we have a full schedule in a very short period of time. As one of the smallest schools in the state that offer wrestling (only school smaller is possibly Sioux County) numbers is a constant battle. We can win individual titles but not team titles. We have 7 wrestlers out, Bryce Running Hawk, Baiden Planansky, Zeke Wesley, Kaleb Miller, Baiden Planansky, Garrett Glines, and Charles Twarling. Our first meet is Saturday, Oct. 31st at Banner County, followed by the Gordon/Rush invite on Nov 3rd, Scottsbluff extravaganza on Nov 7th, Hemingford Invite on Nov 12th, and the Chadron Invite on Nov 14th. So we have 5 of our 8 matches in the next two weeks. With very little practice we will be using the meets as very real learning experiences for less experienced wrestlers. All-in-all we should have some very excellent results from our more experienced wrestlers who can compete at any level, as evidenced by the Scottsbluff meet and all bigger schools from Wyoming and Nebraska. Coaches this year are Ed "Murph" Planansky and Ed "Slim" Planansky.





## High Ability Learner (HAL)

By Mrs. Vander May

This semester HAL students will be discovering science with exploding, fizzing, erupting experiments and more!

Students will meet in the second grade room every second and third Tuesday of the month after school.

## 4th Grade Eggsperiment

By Ms. Meeks

Fourth grade did a great eggsperiment by taking an egg and finding a good way to insulate it to keep it from safe while dropping it off the back landing of our classroom. We had many creative students!!! Everything from stuffing the egg in a jar full of peanut butter, making a parachute for the container it was in, wrapping in bubble wrap, just to name a few things tried. We had some successes and some failures but each student learned a lot about the importance of safety and insulation.



## Jr. High Volleyball Wrap-up

By Coach Marx



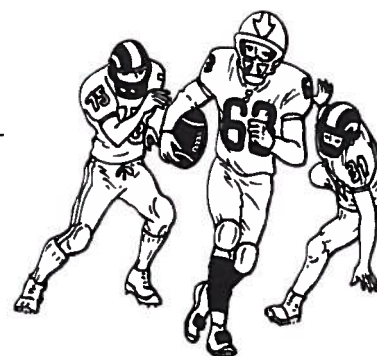
The season did not go quite as well as we had hoped record wise, but our season went very well in some other aspects. All of the girls made great improvements in their fundamental skills, which was my goal for this season. We had many different rallies where we were able to get a set up and kill, as well as having some girls get some blocks for us. The girls were also very adaptable too playing different positions. In order to help with this I also gave them a slightly different rotation every game; and they all did really well with this. I am very proud of each and every one of the girls this season in all that they accomplished. Even though we didn't win as many games as we would like to, we played some bigger class schools such as Gordon-Rushville and Valentine and played with them very well.

## JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL WRAP-UP

By Coach Ehrman

It was another successful season for the JH football team as the kids were able to go undefeated for a second consecutive year. Coach Hughes and I didn't know what to

expect for our first year of coaching the kids, but we had high hopes based on their performance from the previous year. We were very impressed at how well the kids adapted to the new coaching style and plays we threw at them.



Coach Hughes and I hope we were able to prepare the 8th graders moving on into high school football for what lies ahead and are looking forward to watching them on a bigger stage. As for the 7th graders returning and new kids moving up, we are excited to have the chance to continue to work with them and further their skills on the gridiron.

## Junior High Girls Basketball Preview

By Coach Summers

Hooray! It's the best season of the year! Basketball season. The Junior High Lady Hawks are being coached by Azure Summers and Stephanie Tlustos this year. Azure has about 8 years of basketball coaching experience with kindergarten age through middle level, and will also be coaching with the Youth Basketball program this winter. Stephanie is currently studying at Chadron State College to become a teacher and coach. Azure and Stephanie are both passionate about the game of basketball and are Hay Springs High School alumni. We are excited to work with a great group of players that includes 2 eighth graders, 7 seventh graders, and 4 sixth graders. It is our mission to teach solid fundamentals and instill a love of the game through respect, teamwork, and skill building. Please support the JH Lady Hawks by cheering them on and celebrating their growth victories this season! It's going to be a great one! .

## Counselor's To Do List

By Kim Marx

### Seniors...it's time to start the admissions process!

Admission deadlines will start hitting this fall. Follow these steps to stay on track:

- Contact your top colleges NOW and ask about deadlines and the process for applying for admission, college-based scholarships and financial aid.
- Apply to your top 3-4 colleges before the deadline. Along with your application, the colleges will require your high school transcript, class rank, GPA and ACT/SAT score. They may also request a list of your extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, an essay, and an interview.
- Update your *Activities Resume*. Because extracurricular activities are an important part of the admissions application, keep them up-to-date by using the [Activities Resume](#) at EducationQuest.org.
- Contact your admissions representative periodically to stay informed about deadlines and campus activities.

### Juniors...start researching colleges!

If you narrow your college choices by the end of your junior year, your senior year will be less stressful. Here's how to get started:

- Review [College Profiles](#) at EducationQuest.org for information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country. If you're interested in an out-of-state school, check out the [Midwest Student Exchange Program](#) to learn about options for discounts on tuition.
- Meet with college representatives who visit your school, and then visit the websites of the colleges that interest you to learn more about the schools.
- Once you've narrowed your choices, schedule campus visits. Try to visit in the spring of your junior year while colleges are still in session.
- For more tips, visit the [Selecting a College section](#) at EducationQuest.org.



# NEBRASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Lincoln, NE 68509-4987  
tel 402.471.3295  
fax 402.471.0117

To: Parents and Caregivers  
From: Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education  
Subject: Nebraska's Commitment to Every Student, Every Day  
Date: September 28, 2015

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), was passed in 1965 during the Lyndon B. Johnson administration as part of the War on Poverty. The act emphasized equal access to education, established high standards and accountability, and authorized federally funded education programs administered by individual states. Congress amended ESEA in 2002 and reauthorized it as the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. The law was scheduled to be reauthorized in 2007; to date Congress has not taken the necessary steps to update this law. In recent months, both the Senate and Congress have passed their versions of what they believe should be included in reauthorization of the ESEA. The next step is for members of both the Senate and Congress to form a Conference Committee to come up with a single plan for reauthorization. It is anyone's guess whether ESEA will actually be reauthorized by the end of this year.

When states and districts agree to accept federal funds, there are strings attached. Attached to NCLB Title I funding is the stipulation to have statewide assessments and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) decisions for every public school in the state. Under NCLB, the proficiency goal for school year 2014-15 for reading and mathematics assessments was set at 100%. According to the NCLB rules, every student - regardless of disabilities, English language proficiency, or other life-impacting circumstances -- must be proficient in reading and math as measured by state assessments. Because of this unrealistic goal, a number of Nebraska schools will be unfairly labeled as *Not Met* or *In Need of Improvement*.

The Nebraska Department of Education does not agree with the current federal policy. I do not believe that all of our schools are low performing. In fact, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) has granted waivers from the unrealistic expectations of NCLB. Common sense tells us that one child in one grade in one subject area scoring just below a "proficiency cut score" should not brand an entire school community as failing. Yet that is exactly what has happened under NCLB. As a result of this faulty logic, some schools or districts in Nebraska have not met the NCLB requirement for the 2014-15 school year.

In April, 2015, Nebraska submitted a request to the USDE, for waivers from several of the NCLB requirements. NDE has had follow-up conversations with USDE staff, but to date no formal response has been received. This means that for the 2014-15 school year, all NCLB requirements must be followed. NDE was hopeful that some of the requirements, such as the 100% proficiency goals for



reading and math could be waived, but our real hope is that reauthorization takes place very soon, so that all states will be relieved of the unrealistic and harsh consequences of the current law.

Nebraska educators are committed to each and every young person reaching his or her full potential and we are proud of the significant academic progress of our students. While not all students have reached proficiency, the use of targeted resources to assist struggling students and schools has had an impact which is seen in performance data not taken into account by NCLB. Our students, staff members, and schools are not failures. By many measures, they are demonstrating unprecedented levels of achievement. We continue to strive for improvement and excellence in our public schools.

We are committed to continuous improvement. Gains in student achievement are due to the collaborative efforts of teachers, staff, parents, and community members through high-quality instruction, effective leadership, and partnerships. We know that tests are an important part of teaching and learning, but we also understand that basing a student's achievement on a single assessment does not capture everything that is important for our children's learning journey.

As a state, our biggest challenge is finding better ways to engage and support the learning of every student, every day. Nebraska continues to develop and refine a system for Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT). The State Board of Education believes that Nebraska citizens—through the Constitution, the Nebraska Legislature, the State Board of Education, the Commissioner of Education, and other policy makers—are responsible for the total design of this education system. While acknowledging that this education system will be influenced by others, (federal government, other state leaders, and local policy makers) this system will be dependent on and driven by local boards of education, administrators, teachers, parents, communities, and students. This belief requires that we listen well, communicate better, and engage leaders and stakeholders across the state. The goal is to build a quality accountability system that is meaningful to Nebraska. The AQuESTT system focusses on six tenets which are part of two broader principles. We believe that each tenet is equally important.

STUDENT SUCCESS AND ACCESS

Positive Partnerships, Relationships, & Student Success  
Transitions  
Educational Opportunities & Access

TEACHING AND LEARNING

College and Career Ready  
Assessment  
Educator Effectiveness

As a parent or caregiver, we encourage you to look at your own child's individual growth and learning, along with evidence your school provides related to your child's progress instead of an outdated mislabeling requirement imposed by the federal government. We also encourage you to work with your local educators to ensure that every child is challenged and supported, learning, and thriving. Schools prosper when parents and caregivers are involved as the first teachers of their children.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				JH WR @ Gordon/Rush ville TBA VB District Finals	PANCO Honor Band @ Crawford	JH G/BB home vs. Sioux County 10 am JH WR @ Scottsbluff TBA
1	VB Sub- districts 2	VB Sub- Districts 3	FB Playoffs 4	5	6	7
CSC Concert and Community Concert 8	CSC Art Clinic 9	10	Veterans Day Program 10 am and Lunch 11	JH WR @ Hemingford TBA Picture Retake Day State VB Starts 12	13	JH G/BB home vs. Hemingford 10:30 am JH WR @ Chadron TBA 14
15	Start of HS Winter Practice 16	HS Choir to sing @ Pioneer Manor 12:45 pm 17	18	JH WR @ Morrill TBA JH G/BB @ Gordon- Rushville 5 pm 19	20	21
22	One Act School Performance 3:20 pm One Act Community Performance 7pm JH G/BB @ St Agnes 5pm 23	THANSIVING SHOOL DINNER 24	THANKSGIVING BREAK 25	THANKSGIVING BREAK 26	27	28
29	One Act – Districts TBA 30					

Happy  
Thanksgiving

## NOTES:

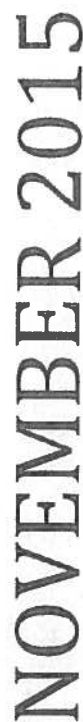
JH G/BB and JH Wrestling pictures after school

November 11<sup>th</sup>.

November 12<sup>th</sup> – All Student Retake Picture first  
thing Thursday morning.

**\*\*Please RSVP if you plan on eating with us on**

**Veterans Day or for Thanksgiving Dinner. \*\***



## Hay Springs School Cafeteria

- \*Breakfast menus**  
**\* PK - 12 Lunch Menus**  
**\*All menus are served**  
**with milk. Water is**  
**available in the**  
**lunchroom area.**  
**\*Salad Bar is offered**  
**daily unless posted.**

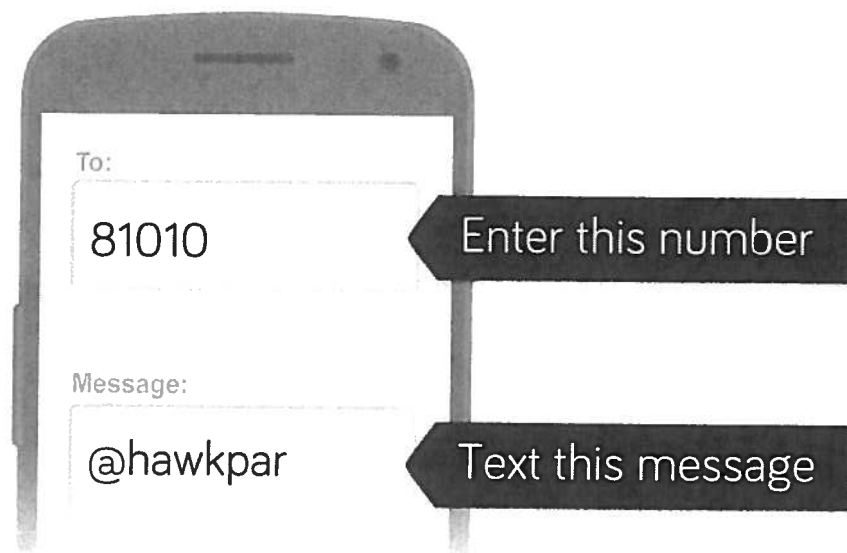
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# Mr. Cline would like you to join Hawk Parent/Student Notices!



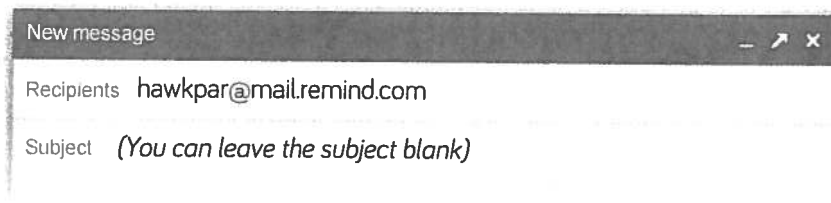
To receive messages via text, text **@hawkpar** to **81010**. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @hawkpar'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting **@hawkpar** to **(402) 513-3346** instead.



\*Standard text message rates apply.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to **hawkpar@mail.remind.com**. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



## WHAT IS REMIND AND WHY IS IT SAFE?

Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students & parents. Subscribe by text, email or using the Remind app. All personal information is kept private. Teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you see theirs.

Visit [remind.com](http://remind.com) to learn more.

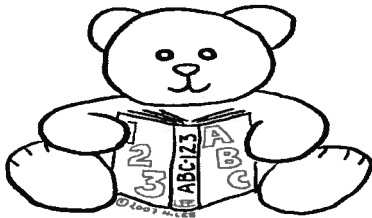
## **HAY SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

PO BOX 280  
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Hay Springs, NE 69347

Phone: 308-638-4434  
Website: [www.hshawks.com](http://www.hshawks.com)

**Thanks for your support!**

**Thanks to everyone for supporting the Fall Book Fair. We added 50+ books to the Library collection! Thanks again!**



**READING IS FUN!**

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<http://LeesDoodles.blogspot.com>

The Café'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 \$3.45 which includes the meal and unlimited Fruit & Vegetable Bar.

November's Special Day is  
**Invite a Veteran for Lunch Day**  
On November 11th.

We also will be hosting our annual  
**Thanksgiving Dinner**  
on November 24th

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

**Notice  
Lunch Changes**

**Hay Springs Public Schools Lunch program will be changing over Thanksgiving break. At this time it will not affect the way you will receive and pay your bills. Stay Tuned!!**