

February 2016

Superintendent's News



100th Day of SCHOOL!!!! This month the students at Hay Springs will be celebrating the 100th day of school on February 24th. The Elementary Teachers will be serving 100th day pancakes and planning lessons and activities for the day. Spend time this month talking with your child about finishing the school year with the same excitement and enthusiasm that he/she started the year out with.

Are you "Tweeting?" If not you are missing out on school updates, pictures, information, scores, news, legislative updates, and much much more! Follow us **@HSPublicSchool** on Twitter and use the hashtag **#hayspringshawks** when talking about us! Remember this is social media and your comments will be available for everyone to see, please practice good digital citizenship when tweeting.

If you are not on Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com> and click the "Sign up" button in the upper right corner to begin the process.

Legislature Update: All of the bills this session have been introduced. The Legislatures will meet for 60 days. The last official day is scheduled for April 20th. During the sessions stay up to date on all the news by visiting the Nebraska Association of School Boards website at www.nasbonline.org (then click under Government Relations Tab) or visit information provided by the Nebraska Council of School Administration at legislative.ncsa.org

Family Science Night: Mark your calendar for February 18th. Students from Chadron State College will be planning science activities. This will be a hands on event where students and parents travel to different stations to conduct experiments focusing on "Space." More information will be posted on the district website later on in February.

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WANTED: SUMMER CAMP SPONSORS

We are looking for individuals or community groups who are willing to teach a summer fun camp. Summer fun camps may be 1 to 4 days, mornings, afternoons, or full days. We are open to any camp ideas that you may have.

Assessment

WS

By Mrs. Marx



For teachers, thoughts of spring bring with them thoughts of testing. While testing does take time from classroom instruction, it can also be a valuable tool for teachers and parents. It allows them to see student progress, strengths, and weaknesses. It also helps teachers make instructional decisions for individual students and the whole class. Besides, it's required by law whether we like it or not.

Students in grades 4, 8, and 11 took the Statewide writing assessment the end of January or beginning of February. This is a writing assessment that measures student performance on state writing standards. It is given every winter.

Students in grades 2-11 will take the NWEA MAPS assessments in March. These are computerized assessments in reading, math, language, and science. Teachers will share the available results at Parent Teacher Conferences. If all of your child's scores are not available at conferences they will be sent home at a later date.

The legislature has also required that we start giving a state test in the areas of reading, math, and science. The reading test (NeSA-R) is required for students in grades 3 through 8 and 11. It tests vocabulary and comprehension and is an on-line assessment. This is a two day test that will be given in April. Students will also be taking the state math test (NeSA-M) and the state science test (NeSA-S). You will receive results from all of these tests in the fall.

Elementary students were benchmarked this fall and winter using AIMSweb fluency & comprehension and AIMSweb math. They will be benchmarked for spring before school is out.

Actual test dates have not been set for all tests at this time; however, your child's teacher should notify them of an impending test. You can help your child by remembering it is important for him/her to get a good night's sleep before testing and to eat a good breakfast. Also remind your child that these

tests are important and encourage him/her to do their best. If you have any questions about these or other assessments please talk with your child's teacher or contact Mrs. Marx at the school. She would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Guidance Corner

By Mrs. Cline

Wow! It's February already and our spring semester is going fast. Our elementary and middle school students have been learning and discussing bullying which has been very informative to both students and teachers. Several elementary classes have brought home handouts and booklets which I hope each of you have been able to review with your child. We are moving on to our Educational coloring and activity books for Kindergarten through fourth grade with topics covering "A Visit to the Police Station" and "Crime Prevention." Each of these books will be brought home to review with parents. I will be introducing a new curriculum called Health Rocks! for kindergarten through eighth grades. This a new curriculum which I hope finds students thinking about healthy living and how to make good choices in their lives.

Monday, January 25, 2016 retired State Trooper, Chuck Elley spoke to our student body 5-12th grades on the "Current Drug Trends." Several students said "he was informational and he scared them about drugs." The feedback from students and faculty has been positive and both agreed a topic needed to educate both students and faculty. I will be following up with each grade regarding Mr. Elley's presentation and ask parents to discuss his presentation with their student. Mr. Chuck Elley will be presenting "Gone Too Soon" on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 2:30 for those interested in coming. Please contact me with any questions heather.cline@hshawks.com.

Seniors please see www.hshawks.com for updates on scholarships and sponsorships.

Jump Rope for Heart

Rachel Mandelko



Jump Rope for Heart will begin February 1st thru February 29th for grades 2nd-5th. Parent letters and packets will go out on Monday Feb. 1 and will need to be returned no later than Feb. 3rd, no matter if your child is participating in the fundraising or not.

Last year our school saved 40 lives with how much money the students raised!! I am going to challenge our students to up that to 50 lives this year!! Remember you can donate to any of the students on line, check (make to AHA – American Heart Association), and or cash. Please help these students raise money to reach their goal.

Last year the organization gave each student ducks, this year the theme is PUPS! I have many pups for students that raise money. The pups are great incentives, because the students get them immediately when they raise the money.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Rachel Mandelko (308)638-4434 or email Rachel.mandelko@hshawks.com

GO HAWKS!!

Middle School Winter Ball

Student Council will be hosting the Middle School Winter Ball again this year. The Dance is open to 6th through 8th graders. There will be food, drinks and fun! We will be voting for a Winter Ball Prince and Princess from the 8th grade class for the 4th year. The High School has chosen, once again to forego this dance. There are a few Freshman and Sophomores that would really like to be a part of it, so they are welcome if they so choose.

Middle School Winter Ball

February 19, 2016

Theme: Glow In Dark!!

Casual Dress

Music by Larel and Megan

ELIGIBILITY WILL COUNT!!



Socks For Seniors

Ms. Holtmeier

Hay Springs Student Council, in conjunction with KSDZ, set up donation boxes in three local locations: Hay Springs School, Security 1st Bank and Sackers; to collect Socks for Seniors. The radio station then took the socks and divided them equally between Gordon, Rushville and Hay Springs. The project was a complete success! Our nursing home received enough socks for every woman to have 2 new pair, every man to have two new pair and 25 extra pair for the nursing home staff to use as needed!

A huge Thank you to the community of Hay Springs for helping to make this project such a success! See you next winter!

Sincerely,

Hay Springs High School Student Council



Firearm Hunter Education Course

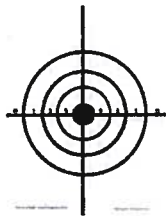
To be Offered @ Hay Springs Fire Hall

February 6, 13, 20 and 27

(Must attend all dates)

Participants must be at least 11 years old and register at HuntSafeNebraska.org

Call Rick Schneider with any questions 308-638-7638



Music Notes

Time Varvel

Congratulations to Daniel Hunzeker for being selected to this year's CSC High Plains Honor Band. The clinic will be February 1st and 2nd with a concert the evening of the 2nd at 5 pm at Chadron State College. This concert is open to the public, please consider attending!

ASBC will continue to meet after school on Mondays & Wednesdays from 4:15-5:00 and is open to any 5th-ML band student.

Upcoming concert dates to get added to your calendar!

*2/9/16-PEP BAND! (ALL 6th-HS band students) 6:30pm in Lister

*2/25/16-Preschool program at 6pm in the auditorium & the cafeteria

*3/7/16-PANCO Music contest in Hemingford (ML-who have earned their blue belts in book 1 & HS students)

*4/18/16-Pre Contest Concert at 7pm (ALL ML & HS Students)

*4/20/16-District Music Contest in Alliance (ML-who have earned their blue belts in book 1 & HS students)

*5/10/16-ML/HS Spring Concert at 7pm (ALL ML & HS students)

*5/17/16-4th-6th Spring Concert at 7pm

(K-3rd grade will perform at Elders Wisdom, a date has not yet been set, I will get that date out as soon as I know it)



Like our facebook page at **HS Hawks Music Notes** to keep up with what's going on in the music room.

Preschool Program and Fun Night



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The Preschoolers will be hosting a Nursery Rhyme program on February 25th starting at 6:00 in the auditorium. After the program families are welcome to join us in the cafeteria for a Baa Baa Black Sheep snack, graphing of our favorite dessert (pat-a-CAKE) or Christmas pie from Little Jack Horner, a craft with Humpty Dumpty and a science experiment with Jack and Jill's spilt water. Join us and don't get lost like Little Bo Peep's sheep.

100th Day of School

By Kyli Heiting



The 100th Day of school will be Wednesday, February 24th. Elementary teachers will be serving breakfast for all K-5 students at 8:00am on the 100th day of school. The 100th day of school will also be a pajama day! Feel free to wear your favorite pjs and slippers! Students are also invited to bring a collection of 100 objects to be displayed if they so choose.

4H Workshop Opportunities

My Clover Bud!

This science filled workshop for students between the ages of 5 and 7 will be held at the Nebraska Extension Sheridan County office on Saturday, February 13th from 9 until 12 pm. Youth will create a Love Potion, explore the world of slime, cook up a healthy snack, create a craft for their room and more. The cost is \$5 per person. This workshop is open to anyone interested, it is not exclusive to 4-H members. To register please contact the Nebraska Extension Sheridan County office at (308) 327-2312 or email Melissa Mracek at mmracek2@unl.edu.

Rabbit Project Opportunity

Nebraska Extension in Sheridan County is providing an opportunity for youth to become the owner of a rabbit. The group will meet once a month to learn about how to care for their animal, different breeds, how to show their animal and create a hutch for it. This program is grant funded so families will just have to pay for the feed and entry fee if the youth would like to show the animal at the fair. This project is open to youth from ages 5 to 18. Space for this project is limited so please contact the Nebraska Extension Sheridan County office at (308) 327-2312 or email Melissa Mracek at mmracek2@unl.edu if your student is interested.

Below is the schedule of meeting dates. If these dates do not work with your family we can schedule a separate time.

February 12th at the Hay Springs School from 9 to 11 am

March 18th at the Hay Springs School from 9 to 11 am

April 8th at the Hay Springs School from 9 to 11 am

May 6th at the Hay Springs School from 9 to 11 am

What is all this 4-H stuff about?

Come find out at the 4-H Festival on Sunday, February 21st at the Gordon City Auditorium from 12 to 4 pm. This event is free and open to the public. Sheridan County clubs will have a variety of activities available for youth to learn about 4-H projects and meet some of 4-H Club leaders. There will be a concession stand hosted by the Junior Leader Club to help raise money for their 4-H Exchange trip to Colorado. This will be a great opportunity to ask questions and learn about all the different opportunities that 4-H has to offer youth.

Track your Hunt Workshop

Missed the Track your Hunt Workshop when it was in Hay Springs? That is okay! We are offering it again on Saturday, March 27th at the Gordon Auditorium from 9 to noon. Participants will create and learn about animal tracks, camouflage and more! The cost for this workshop is \$5. To register please contact Melissa at the Nebraska Extension Sheridan County office at (308) 327-2312 or email her at mmracek2@unl.edu.

POP TABS

Just a friendly reminder to continue saving pop tabs. The elementary classes have a competition at the end of the year to see which class can collect the most pop tabs. If you do not have a child in elementary, please feel free to donate your pop tabs to one of the classes. The pop tabs are donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Omaha.

Test-Taking Tips for Elementary Students

Tests are important because they help the teacher evaluate a student's needs and progress, the student gauge his or her own level of mastery, and the parent monitor his or her child's progress.

Tips to give your child about taking tests:

- Relax. Just do the best you can.
- Your first choice is usually correct. Don't change an answer unless you have a good reason to do so.
- Be aware of key words such as "all," "now," "always," "never," "only," "exactly."
- In multiple-choice questions, don't skip the longest answer. It should be considered, since test writers want to be sure the correct answer is accurate—they may add lots of details to insure accuracy.
- Watch for negative words like "not," "no," "never."
- Look for information in some of the questions. This information may help you answer other questions.

You can assist your child prepare for testing by doing the following:

- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep before a test, and make sure your child eats properly the day of a test.
- Maintain a pleasant home environment and avoid unnecessary conflicts. Try to make the morning of the test a pleasant one. Do not add to your child's stress.
- Make sure your child has taken any needed medication.
- Ensure that your child is present during testing (children generally perform better when taking tests in their groups rather than at a make-up time).
- Get your child to school on time the day of the test.
- Wish your child good luck each morning of the test. Tell your child that he/she is special and that you believe in him/her!
- Remind your child the test is important. Encourage him/her to do his/her best.
- If your child is too ill to attend, please call the school office.
- If the test is on a subject for which you can review (such as a spelling test), help your child go over the material.
- Remind your child to listen carefully to the instructions from the teacher and to read the directions and each question carefully.
- Explain to your child the importance of using time wisely. If your child gets stuck on a question, encourage him or her to make the best guess and move on.
- Tell your child to attempt to answer all of the questions and not to leave any blank.
- Encourage your child to stay focused on the test, even if other students finish early.
- If your child is disappointed after taking a test, reassure him or her that there will be plenty of opportunities to improve and succeed.

FINANCIAL AID 101

Students and parents are invited to attend a financial aid presentation to learn more about the following:

FAFSA Forms ★ Scholarships ★ Pell Grants ★ Student Loans

- Bayard High School
Monday, January 25 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Kimball Junior & Senior High School
Thursday, January 28 @ 6:30 p.m.
- WNCC Alliance Campus
Wednesday, February 3 @ 6:30 p.m.
- WNCC Sidney Campus
Wednesday, February 10 @ 6:30 p.m.
- WNCC Scottsbluff Campus
Harms Advanced Technology Center
Saturday, February 13 @ 10:00 a.m.

DOOR PRIZES AT EACH EVENT – INCLUDING WNCC SCHOLARSHIPS!

Open and free to anyone looking to
attend any college, not just WNCC.

308.635.6011

wncc.edu

Start here. Get there.



Western Nebraska
Community College

Girls on the run is so much fun @YOUR School!

Inspiring girls to be joyful,
healthy and confident.

www.GOTRNebraska.org

Complete schedule and details online.

Tuition/fees vary by site based on community support.

Financial
aid is
available!
Apply online.

Join a Team Today!

Girls on the Run of Nebraska combines exercise, education, mentoring and "Girl Power" to promote healthy habits and self-esteem in young girls. An innovative, nationally standardized curriculum incorporates lessons on teamwork, goal-setting, communication and positive thinking with running activities to train for a 5K run/walk. A noncompetitive and supportive atmosphere encourages girls to work at their own pace to reach their goals.

At the end of the 10-week program, girls are encouraged to celebrate their progress by completing a joyful GOTR 5K with a parent-designated Run Buddy. The fun event is a great opportunity for little girls to accomplish BIG things. (GOTR 5Ks are optional; separate registration/fee required.)

Get Involved—Volunteer!

You don't have to be a runner to be a great GOTR coach. We're always looking for positive-minded, can-do women who want to build strong girls. Contact us to learn more!

“The topics of bullying, being assertive, perseverance and challenging yourself while always focusing on positive attributes are very important to instill in our daughter. This community-based organization that gives these messages is very much appreciated.”

—GOTR-Nebraska Mom



Spring Season

Late Feb./Early March to May

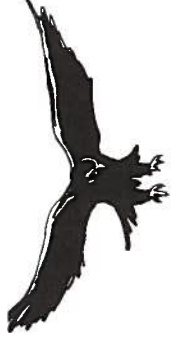
Online Registration

January 15 to February 16

- Girls on the Run is offered once a school year at your location.
- Team size is limited and filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Many sites fill fast, so register ASAP!
- Participants receive GOTR T-shirt and backpack with registration.

Live. Learn.
Dream. Run

FEBRUARY 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Menus are subject to change	1 Breakfast: Muffins/Cereal/Fruit Lunch: Taco Casserole/PBJ/Yogurt Meal	2 Breakfast: Sausage Biscuits, Oranges, Milk. Lunch: Chicken Alfredo/PBJ/Yogurt Meal.	3 Breakfast: Egg Muffin, Peaches, Milk. Lunch: Variety Soups, Bread Sticks/PBJ/Yogurt Meal	4 Breakfast: Fruit and Yogurt, Muffin, Milk. Lunch: Pizza/PBJ/Yogurt Meal	5	6
7	8 Breakfast: Waffles/Cereal, Milk Lunch: Cowboy Special/PBJ/Box Meal	9 Breakfast: Breakfast Burritos, Banana, Milk Lunch: Chicken Fajitas/PBJ/Box Meal	10 Breakfast: Sausage Muffin/Cereal/fruit Lunch: Pork Patty/PBJ/Box Meal	11 Breakfast: Biscuits N Gravy/Cereal/Milk Lunch: Spaghetti /PBJ/Box Meal	12	13
14	15 Breakfast: Egg w/ Cheese/Cereal/ Muffin Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Cheesy Potatoes/PBJ/Box Meal	16 Breakfast: Pancake on a stick/juice. Lunch: Burritos/Box Meal/PBJ	17 Breakfast: Scones/juice Milk/Cereal Lunch: Chicken N Noodles/PBJ/ Yogurt Meal	18 Breakfast: Bagel/Cereal/Juice. Lunch: Chicken Sandwich/PBJ/Box Meal	19	20
21	22 Breakfast:Cereal/pastry Lunch: Corn Dog, Tator Tots/PBJ/ Box meal	23 Breakfast: French Toast Stix/Cereal/Fruit Lunch: Tator Tot Casserole/PBJ/Box Meal	24 Egg Muffin/Cereal /fruit Lunch: BBQ Pork Sandwich, baked beans/PBJ/Box Meal	25 Breakfast: Pancakes, Eggs,Fruit Lunch: Mandarin Orange Chicken, Rice/PBJ/Box Meal	26	27
28 Breakfasts include: cereals/ cereal bars/ yogurt/cheese	29 Breakfast: Pancakes/cereal Lunch: Hamburgers/PBJ/Box Meal					
Fruit and Veggie bar is available each school day	NOTES: Milk is served with each meal					



Hay Springs School Cafeteria

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

