

Bison Banner

Central City
Public Schools
Newsletter

[http://
centralcityschoolsne.org/](http://centralcityschoolsne.org/)



**Dr. Candace Conradt,
Superintendent
April 2014**

**NO SCHOOL
April 3 & 4
April 18 & 21**

**Early Dismissal
April 17**



Superintendent's Message:

Excellence, a term that is often used in education - usually to describe attaining superiority in the classroom or on a field of competition. But I believe it is much more than that. Excellence is preparation and determination. It is tenacity and persistence. When you are prepared, determined, persistent and tenacious, you will excel...you will succeed. Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, once wrote, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." Developing the habit of excellence is something to which we should all aspire. According to the American Heritage Dictionary, a habit is a recurrent pattern of behavior that is acquired through frequent repetition.

Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) 2014 Reading, Mathematics and Science testing window for students in 3rd-8th and 11th grades is March 24-May 9, 2014. This month, as part of a habit of excellence, I am asking for your help on preparing our students for taking the NeSA tests. Let's encourage them to be determined and prepared. Let's challenge them to aim for success and watch them excel. As educators and parents, it is our responsibility to model the behaviors we want our children to display - to lead by example. Let's continue to develop habits of excellence in our lives so that our children will do the same.

We have worked all year long, not just for the state tests that will be taken over the next several weeks, but to make sure that our students are growing and improving. The real test is whether we can take a child from wherever he is when he comes to us and move him beyond that point in 9 months. That is how long we are in school each year. Some students may progress academically nine, ten, even 12 months in the same time frame.

We are challenged to do that everyday across the buildings of our school district. As the year speeds to a close, we do not want to have parents, administrators, teachers, or students thinking that because state testing is here we will stop teaching. We still have much to do and much more instructional time ahead.

CCPS remains committed to providing our students with the rigorous, well-rounded educational opportunities and experiences they've come to expect from Central City Public Schools. We remain steadfast in our commitment to educate, challenge and prepare each and every CCPS student with lifelong skills for the world around them. Thanks for supporting the school throughout the school year. Community and parent involvement is an essential component for student success.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Educationally yours,

*Dr. Candace Conradt
Superintendent*



HEALTHY TIPS FOR TESTING

Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) Testing season is fast approaching Central City Public Schools 3rd-8th and 11th grade students. Testing can be stressful! A healthy student has a better opportunity to learn and test better.

- ◆ Eight to ten hours of sleep are essential.
- ◆ A healthy breakfast helps the brain function, be sure to add a protein source in the breakfast, such as meat, eggs, cheese, milk, and yogurt.
- ◆ Encourage your student to eat at least 3 servings of vegetables and 2 servings of fruit per day.
- ◆ Testing stress may lead to complaints of headache or stomachache. Allowing your student to talk about the stress may decrease the symptoms.
- ◆ Brag on your student every chance you can. Nothing makes them feel better, than to know their parent is proud of them.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

An informational meeting for parents and guardians of children who are eligible to attend Kindergarten during the 2014-2015 school year will be held in the Central City Elementary Lunchroom on Monday, April 7, 2014 beginning at 6:30 p.m.



A child must turn 5 years old on or before July 31 of the school year in which he/she enters Kindergarten. The informational meeting on Monday, April 7th is for parents/guardians only. Information will be shared regarding the Kindergarten schedule, school readiness, registration, immunization requirements along with Kindergarten physicals, dental and vision exam requirements.

Please bring along current immunization records and birth certificate (certified copy) and also come prepared with your child's emergency contact information to complete the registration form. Immunization record and birth certificate are required for children to start the first day of school in August.

If you cannot come to registration on April 7th, please stop by the Elementary Office on Friday, April 11th from 9:00-2:30 p.m. and register your child.

Students, their parents, and employees of the Central City Public School District No. 4 are hereby notified that this school district does not discriminate on the basis of sex, national origin, handicap, or race and is required by Title IX, Section 504 and Title VI not to discriminate on the basis of sex or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning Central City Public School District No. 4's compliance with Title IX and Section 504 and Title VI is directed to contact: Central City Middle School, Phone: (308) 946-3056, who has been designated by Central City Public School District No. 4 to coordinate the school district's efforts to comply with Title IX, Section 504, and Title VI. Reference – Board of Education Policy 103 R3.

PAC News Release

The PAC (Performing Arts Center) advisory committee approved several improvements for the PAC including microphones, lighting, and electronic equipment at their meeting on Tuesday, March 4th. The advisory committee was established to monitor funds from private donations for the Performing Arts Center. Members include Candy Conratt and Dale Palser, representing CCPS, Chuck Griffith and Shannon Hannappel, representing Merrick Foundation, Tina Schnitzler and Suzanne Philippi representing the arts council and Cathy Blauhorn, representing out-of-district citizens.

Superintendent, Candy Conratt reported that the PAC 's schedule is very busy and many schools and outside groups are using the facility for a variety of uses. The Merrick Arts Council is also completing their first season this spring. She also relayed that restroom doors have recently been installed.

The PAC advisory committee meets 3 times per year to monitor facility use and approve purchases for maintenance and facility upgrades. Two funds support the facility, namely the Edwin and Bernice Lock fund and the PAC fund. These funds were established to pay for utilities, maintenance, equipment and building improvements. The combined principal of these two funds is currently over 2 million dollars.



Quotes from Candy:

"The Performing Arts Center, Bernice and Edwin Lock Theater has allowed Merrick County residents and students an opportunity to experience performances in an outstanding facility."

"Merrick County has been blessed with generous donors who have made this possible."

Quotes from Chuck:

"We are very pleased to help fulfill the wishes of the many donors that supported this project. Their desire to have an exemplary performing arts program has been fulfilled"

"More importantly, our students have the opportunity to perform and learn in a quality facility"



Central City High School Career and College Fair *Earn to Learn*

On February 18th Central City High School hosted its sixth annual Career and College Fair called ***Earn to Learn***. The Fair was rated highly by our staff and students. Comments like "it was educational", "it was fun", and "it taught me a lot about colleges and different career opportunities" were prevalent. Over sixty guest presenters volunteered their time and knowledge to our students during the Career and College Fair.

The keynote speaker, Mr. Jim Weeks, is the current Doane College Basketball coach. He spoke about being a positive leader and the importance of giving your best effort.

After the keynote speaker presented, our students participated in informational sessions presented by Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Sgt. Brett Strecker, CCHS Alumni Chelsea Huston of Wayne State College, Admissions Director Michelle Lubken of Central Community College, Admissions Representative Doug Meyer of Southeast Community College, and Extension Agent Tammy Stuhr. Our students heard from a variety of outstanding local and regional career awareness presenters about their specific occupations. Students spent time visiting with various college and military representatives in our gym. The event concluded with special drawings for the many prizes that were donated by the presenters, college representatives, and military recruiters.

The goal of the Career and College Fair is for students to become more aware of various careers and to develop an in-depth understanding of how education is relevant to helping them become successful. It is wonderful to have a

mixture of local and regional presenters highlighting their occupations and expertise.

Many individuals contributed to the success of the event and a special thank you also goes out to all of the high school personnel, Jennifer Lani, Sherree Stahn, Sandi Abbott, Brandon Detlefsen, Doug Soll, Dale Soll, Carolyn Kucera, Justin Anderson, and all of our other special presenters including: Phil Christenson, Larry Eastwood, Shauna Graham, Dave Spotanski, Dr. Bev Curry, Sgt. Paul Dion, Kim Wagner, Jeff Lindburg, Kelsey Vakiner, Chris Lenz, Lisa Foulk, Tammy Stuhr, Kristy Clarke, Dan Strecker, and Laurel Blodgett.

It is our intended goal to keep the Career and College Fair an annual event for our students. Central City High School appreciates the partnership between our community and the high school. The Career and College Fair was organized by Counselor Debra Anderson.



On a cold day in early March Central City High School National Honor Society students read to the children in the elementary during the activities for Read Across America. Read Across America has been celebrated at Central City Public Schools for many years.

National Honor Society member Shayleen is pictured reading to Mrs. Timm's class at Central City Elementary School.

NEA's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading. It is celebrated on the birthday of Dr. Seuss who was born on March 2nd.

MS Parents,

Every school deals with students struggling to stay focused and disciplined as the school year winds down. I don't blame them for starting to get anxious about summer break. We just wish we didn't have to start dealing with it the first day of the 4th quarter! As a faculty, we are restating our expectations and assuring students that, although it is the 4th quarter and it's starting to look and feel like spring and the end of the school year, there is a lot of teaching and learning that still has to happen. We are reasonable and understand that human nature of middle school kids this time of year makes it nearly impossible to maintain focus all day every day so we try to find a new balance of expectations and tolerance. Your encouragement and support is particularly vital this last quarter of school.

With this weather, we are also seeing some summer clothing in school. Shorts, tanktops, and flip-flops are becoming more prevalent. The student handbook provides some guidelines about appropriate dress but it basically does come down to my discretion. I do not particularly like being the "clothing police" but that is one of the reasons I get paid the "big bucks." I do expect a level of "good taste & modesty" as spelled out in the handbook. The handbook gives me quite a bit of discretion to determine what is appropriate and what is not. A couple expectations that I want to emphasize are: shirts which expose the shoulders and/or undergarments, including tank tops, are not acceptable. T-shirts with the side cut out of them are not acceptable. Shorts that are not longer than a student's extended arms/fingertips are not acceptable. I have had to share with the ladies that running shorts, which are appropriate for P.E., are not appropriate for the regular school day. These are the few common inappropriate choices that we might see in the middle school as the weather continues to get warmer. I expect and appreciate your support in helping us maintain a proper environment for learning.

If your child has come home and indicated to you that we wouldn't let them use the phone at school, they are probably telling you the truth. We get lots of requests to call home because they forgot something that they feel they need to survive the school days. Homework, permission slips, P.E. shoes, \$2 for the field trip are not what I consider "emergencies" and so we do not let them call home in the middle of the day, and expect you to come a running, with whatever they forgot. So in a way, I am doing you a favor. We are trying to teach them to be a little more responsible and if they aren't they may be a bit inconvenienced for not coming to school prepared. I am aware that many/most of our students have cell phones and so they might text/call you when they need you to bring them something. Our cell phone "policy" is, if we see it or hear it, they lose it. Of course, if there is an emergency, we will call or give them permission but for the most part, they are beginning to understand that our office phone is not for student use.

I want to conclude by encouraging you to contact us if/when your child comes home with some information that just doesn't make sense or is unsettling. Many times, you may need "the rest of the story." Please don't conclude that you are getting the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth from your child. Again, if it doesn't sound right, it probably isn't and you need to contact us to make sure we don't have a misunderstanding which jeopardizes our relationship. Home and school need to have a close, trusting relationship so that your child has the best opportunity to be successful.

Darron Arlt
MS Principal

ELEMENTARY SPRING MUSIC PROGRAMS

April 1—Kindergarten Program at PAC 7:00

April 29—Grades 1 & 2 at PAC 6:30

Grades 3&4 7:15





CENTRAL CITY ELEMENTARY NEWS

RODNEY ENGEL, ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Family Literacy Night

Thank you to the FLN Committee who put planned the outstanding events for Family Literacy Night! Another thank you goes out to the PTO for decorating the PAC for Family Literacy Night. The night was a huge success with many students and families attending. Following the presentation Julia Cook stuck around to autograph copies of her books that students, parents, and teachers purchased.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL: Students of Central City Public Schools will improve the lifelong skill of reading comprehension in all curricular areas.



Elementary Track & Field Day Set

The elementary track and field date has been set for Friday, May 9 with a rain date of Friday, May 16. More details will follow as we finalize the days schedule, start and end times.

Dates of Importance in April:

- April 3 - Teacher In-service no students
- April 4 - No School
- April 17 - CCHS Track Meet - Early Dismissal (11:15)
- April 18 - No School
- April 21 - No School
- April 29 - Elementary Spring Concert (1st & 2nd 6:30 PM - 3rd & 4th 7:15 PM)

NeSA Testing Reminder

NeSA Testing April 7-24.

Kindergarten Registration

Monday, April 7

6:15 PM Elementary Cafeteria

What is New in the Elementary?

Kindergarten:

In February Mrs. Speer's and Ms. Burns class created Valentine Kitties and took to Long Term Care and Cottonwood to share with residents.

2nd Grade:

We have our Virtual Field Trip with the Durham Western Heritage Museum in Omaha coming soon. They will be working on writing paragraphs for their first essay.

4th Grade:

Our Fireman will be working with the 4th grade to learn how to be safe and keep others safe.

Family Literacy Night

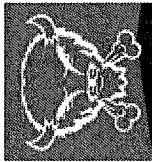


Don't forget to follow us on

Twitter!

CCPS Elementary





Central City

April, 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00pm Kindergarten Spring Program @ Performing Arts Center	2 1:00pm Quiz Bowl @ Fullerton, NE	3 No School - Professional Development	4 No School	5 Power Drive Team @ Lincoln, NE
6	7 6:30pm Kindergarten Registration @ Central City Elementary School 6:30pm D.A.R.E. @ Central City Performing Arts Center 7:00pm DECA Meeting @ Central City High School	8 10:00am GOLF-B/Varsity Away vs. Wood River Rural 1:00pm TR-Varsity Away vs. Sandy Creek Junior / Senior 1:30pm TR-Middle School Away vs. Wood River Rural	9 FFA State @ Lincoln, NE 10:00am GOLF-B/JV Away vs. Grand Island Northwest	10 FFA State @ Lincoln, NE 4:30pm GOLF-B/Varsity Away vs. Fullerton 4:30pm GOLF-B/JV Away vs. Fullerton	11 FFA State @ Lincoln, NE 10:00am TR-Varsity Away vs. Waverly	12 Prom @ Multiple locations Power Drive Team @ Hastings, NE
13 2:00pm PAC Event @ Performing Arts Center	14 4:30pm GOLF-B/JV St. Paul vs. Multiple Schools 4:30pm GOLF-B/Varsity St. Paul vs. Multiple Schools	15 4:30pm TR-Varsity York vs. Multiple Schools	16 NeSa Math Testing	17 NeSa Math Testing Early Dismissal (11:30am) 10:00am GOLF-B/Varsity Away vs. Adams Central Junior-Senior 2:00pm TR-Varsity Central City vs. Multiple Schools	18 No School	19 Power Drive Team @ Grand Island, NE
20 No School	21 No School	22 NeSa Science Testing 3:00pm TR-Middle School Away vs. Grand Island Central Catholic 11:00pm GOLF-B/Varsity Central City vs. Multiple Schools	23 NeSa Science Testing	24 1:00pm GOLF-B/Varsity Away vs. St. Paul 2:00pm TR-Varsity Away vs. Northwest	25 6:30pm FFA Banquet (PAC) @ Performing Arts Center/MS Cafeteria	26 Power Drive Team @ West Point, NE District Music Contest @ Central City High School, Central City Middle School, Central City Performing Arts Center 9:00am TR-Middle School Aurora vs. Multiple Schools
27	28 2:00pm TR-Varsity Away vs. Northwest 4:00pm GOLF-B/Varsity Schuyler Community 4:00pm GOLF-B/JV Schuyler Community	29 6:30pm 1st & 2nd Spring Program @ Central City Performing Arts Center 7:15pm 3rd & 4th Spring Program @ Central City Performing Arts Center	30 9:00am Quiz Bowl @ Seward, NE 1:00pm Spanish Club Meeting @ Central City High School			



April

Sun	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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18 DAYS=
\$29.70

1 Egg Tac Go
Pears

2 Pancakes
Peaches

3 NO SCHOOL

4 NO SCHOOL

5

6

7 Cereal
Applesauce

8 Omelet
Muffin
Pineapple

9 Sun Rise Pizza
Peaches

10 Peanut Butter
& Jelly
Sandwich
Pears

11 Pancake &
Sausage Bites
Mixed Fruit

12

13

14 Cereal
Mandarin
Oranges

15 Breakfast
Sandwich
Pears

16 French Toast
Applesauce

17 Breakfast
Cookie
Assorted Fruit

18 NO SCHOOL

19

20

21 NO SCHOOL

22 Cereal
Mixed Fruit

23 Breakfast
Pizza
Peaches

24 Biscuit &
Sausage
Sandwich
Pears

25 Muffin
Assorted Fruit

26

27

28 Cereal
Mandarin
Oranges

29 Omelet
Pineapple

30 Waffles
Pears



Cereal, yogurt
and fruit are
served every
day.

Choice of milks
and juices are
offered daily.

All meals are
subject to change.

Fruit & Veggie Bar & Milk Choices

All meals are served with choice of fresh and canned fruit and vegetables. Choice of milk available also.

April



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Elementary Lunch Choices
 Kindergarten & Gr 1
 Peanut Butter/Jelly Sandwich as alternate main meal every day.
 Grades 2-4 alternate main menu is Peanut Butter/Jelly Sandwich on Mon/Wed/Fri
 Chef Salad on Tues/Thur.

New USDA Nutrition Standards Implementation of The Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act's new nutrition standards begins this year. Your school meal program was already in compliance with most of the new requirements including fruit and vegetable servings and fat limits. We have adjusted our menus to offer the required whole-grain-rich foods, and to stay within the minimum and maximum number.

	17 DAYS=\$39.95 \$ ELEM 17 DAYS=\$41.65 \$ MS/HS	1 Macaroni & Cheese Meatballs in Marinara Sauce Peas	2 Chicken Nuggets Corn	3 NO SCHOOL	4 NO SCHOOL	5 ALL MEALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
6 Adults who wish to eat lunch should notify the school office before 9:00 a.m.	7 Deli Sandwich Potato Triangles	8 Pizza Mac Green Beans Chocolate Cake	9 Super Nachos Refried Beans Cinnamon Roll	10 Chicken Patty On WG Bun Oven Potatoes	11 Pizza Peas & Carrots	12
13	14 Pulled Pork On WG Bun Baked Beans	15 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	16 Mandarin Orange Chicken Rice Muffin	17 EARLY DISMISSAL	18 NO SCHOOL	19
20	21 NO SCHOOL	22 Taco on WG Tortilla Broccoli Peanut Butter Scotch Bar	23 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans	24 Chicken Alfredo Green Beans	25 Pork Patty Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Muffin	26
27	28 Crispito & Cheese Sauce Carrots Chocolate Chip Cookie	29 French Dip Sandwich Potato Rounds	30 Lasagna Green Beans WG Bread Stick			USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.