

BISON BANNER

From: John McLane, Central City Public Schools Superintendent of Schools

To: All Central City Public Schools Community and Staff

Our CCPS attention this 2014 – 2015 school year has been directed by the HUMANeX Ventures survey/study of our district during the last school year. Our recommended areas of focus are directed at the improvement of our school climate and culture. Climate and Culture are two of the most important elements of an effective school or organization. School climate refers to our school's attitudes, while school culture refers to our personality. In other words, "our climate is all around us – our attitudes"; while "our culture is part of us – how we educate".

The commonality of climate and culture is that we, each individual, have absolute ability to achieve the desired outcomes: "Will I be a positive or negative attitude?" There is no question about which attitude provides the ultimate desired effect for our students. Furthermore, which attitude provides the best effect to our place of work? My personal observation validates very improved and upbeat attitudes among each and every member of our school's staff, and of our students.

Our intentional focus on the survey results established our goals to assert:

- ◆ **District Unity:** to support and value each other.
- ◆ **Positivity:** to celebrate and acknowledge good accomplishments.
- ◆ **Administrative Alignment:** District leaders work together toward same goals and support each other.
- ◆ **Relationships:** Re-establish across the entire school district.
- ◆ **Recognition:** We live in a culture filled with recognition; makes us feel good.
- ◆ **Ownership:** Our school culture recognizes that each of us own our actions, versus blaming others.

The topics of our focus, as listed above, very simply relate with one thing: "How do we work and relate with each other, and with our students?" Education, in general, and specifically at CCPS, is a people business. Our people are the difference makers! Each of us doing our roles to the best of our ability and attitude. We must continually consider our system of providing education for our students. Many times our problems or ineffectiveness is a result of the "system or rules" we operate within rather than poor job performances. Being a people business, as we are, demands that we expect and receive quality job performances and that we always review our system of providing education to find areas in need of improvement. Our district has 130 staff people serving 685 Pre-K – 12 students. This equals 815 people in our buildings daily. We are a "people business".

A few accomplishments this year point to an improved educational system. Each of these, in one way or another, relate to one or more of the areas we have stressed this school year. We have established:

Administrator Team Meetings (ATM): Weekly, with district- wide Agenda.

- ◆ **Bison Advisory Council (BAC):** Monthly, with 2 teachers and 1 support staff member from each of the three buildings, with our Administrators. Allows input and discussion for district-wide needs.
- ◆ **Communications:** We share all meeting summaries with Staff & Board.
- ◆ **Supt. session with H.S. Student Council Rep's:** What do we need to hear?
- ◆ **Supt. Search Stakeholder Groups:** Students, Teachers, Support Staff, Administrators, Community.

**March
Newsletter**

John McLane,
Superintendent
Shawn McDiffett,
H.S. Principal
Justin Anderson,
Activities Director
Darron Arlt,
M.S. Principal
Neely Moser,
Elementary Principal



**March 6
No School**

**March 11
End of
3rd Quarter**

**March 12
No School
Teacher
In-service**

**March 13
No School**



cont'd from page 1

It is satisfying, to some degree, to make mention of these few accomplishments. But, this is always with the risk of not mentioning the many important and worthwhile happenings within our buildings. All achievements, all of our staffs' focus on re-gaining pride in and for our schools, and to encourage, in effective ways, our students to learn and grow are part of the shift in our culture. The great thing to cite here is the effective collaboration of all staff to help us gain the necessary improvements for our students' education. Recognizing our need to provide hope for our students, and to help them be prepared for their futures, is the reason we must continue to think about always looking forward and upward each year.

I am confident that our staff and Board of Education will continue to provide an effective educational program for Central City Public Schools. A parallel objective must be aligned with our community and businesses to continually work together for purposeful growth and accomplishment. Our school has an important role to play in this effort as a part of the teamwork approach in touting Central City as a great place to live, work and be successful. This promotes teamwork, which as defined in the first paragraph, is "average" team members, working together, will achieve great results. Remember, the important ingredient is all about our attitudes, and each of us has control of ours!



DECA at DQ

Monday, February 9th was DECA Night at Dairy Queen for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). From 5:00-8:00 that evening CCHS DECA members helped clean tables and deliver food to the patrons of DQ. Dairy Queen has generously agreed to donate a portion of the night's sales to DECA; we will then send that money in to MDA. Central City DECA had a great time working the event and helping support a great cause!

CHEER CAMP

On January 23rd, there were 35 girls in grades K-4th that had the opportunity to participate in a Little Bison Cheer Camp with the CCHS Cheerleaders. The girls were able to learn two cheers and a dance. The theme was "Wild About Cheer," so the girls performed to Katy Perry's song "Roar." At this 2 day camp, the kids were also able to learn cheer motions, jumps, kicks, and work in small groups with a cheerleader. Then, they were able to show off their skills at halftime of the varsity boys' basketball game. The girls did a wonderful job at practice and performing at the game! It was hard work, but a lot of fun at the same time! The cheerleaders and I want to give a big shout out to say thank you to the girls who participated. They had a lot of fun too! -Coach Jessica Meyer



From the Elementary Principal...

Thank you to all of the elementary parents who were able to attend our parent-teacher conferences on February 5th. Parent-teacher conferences are such an integral part of the educational process. I hope you were able to get feedback on how your child is doing and what support you can continue to give to help your child grow. Our elementary teaching staff is working hard to reach out to parents to become and continue to be partners in educating our students. Please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher questions about how you can help! No matter what level your student is at, there are always extra practices that can happen at home too. This helps to create good study habits for the future too and can also serve as a special mom or dad time with your student. In addition to extra practices it is important for kids to develop a love for learning and a desire to come to school. We want this continue throughout our students' educational career. This base is set in elementary school.

Consider some of these simple strategies to foster a joy of learning:

- 1. Reading Stories.** Your children are never too young to enjoy a story. Start reading to them when they're babies and you'll foster a lifetime of love for the subject. When it comes to reading, as long as they keep practicing the skill they'll keep getting better at it. **Encourage your children to read more**, regardless of their age or topic of interest, as long as it's age-appropriate.
- 2. Get Excited About New Things.** It will help if you maintain a certain excitement about the things your child discovers. When they're babies, cheer when they learn to walk or roll over. Cheer as they learn to ride bikes. Continue to show excitement every time they start something new.
- 3. Be Inspired Yourself.** It's important to remain inspired and continue to go after your own wants and dreams. In life **you never stop learning**. If your children see your personal love of learning, they'll be inspired, too.
- 4. Give Your Child a Choice.** While you don't have to allow your child to do whatever they want, you can still give them a choice in what they'd like to pursue. When children have a choice, they feel like what they think makes a real difference, and it does! Let them choose their own books, hobbies, and so on.
- 5. Stay Involved with School.** Make sure you stay on top of the topics that your children are learning in school. Your kids will like the attention and they'll appreciate that you're involved in their life. You can go over assignments at home or you can even have frequent meetings with your child's teachers.
- 6. Field Trips.** Children will be scheduled to go on field trips with their school. You can also create your own field trips for afternoons and weekends. Schedule field trips that pertain to your child's personal interests. They will certainly be inspired to learn more and you'll still be personally involved in their lives.
- 7. Show Your Support.** It's always important to **show your children support no matter what**. Even if they've chosen a subject to pursue that you don't enjoy it's important to be there for your child. If they suspect that you're unhappy with their personal decisions, they may be less likely to continue with their studies.
- 8. Provide Resources.** Provide them with the necessary resources to allow them to fully pursue their interests. When they're toddlers and young children, it can mean just providing them educational and age appropriate toys.

When you start learning with them while they're young, fostering a love of learning will come naturally!

From <http://www.raisinglifelonglearners.com> by Andrea Pichea

Mrs. Moser, Elementary Principal



Note from the Nurse's office

This is just a reminder for all incoming 7th grade students (2015-2016 school year). According to Nebraska state law, each student is required an additional immunization prior to starting school.

1 dose of Tdap on or after their 10th birthday

Thank you for your attention to this matter before the 2015-2016 school year!!!!





Kindergarten Class Visit Post Office

The Kindergartners in Mrs. Burdick, Mrs. Lanham, and Mrs. Speer's class went and visited the Post Office in Central City. The students enjoyed a 'behind the scenes' look of what goes on at the Post Office. They were able to send a special Valentine to their families, as well as climb through a mail truck to see what they are like. While talking about the mail trucks they were reminded of some safety rules like staying back away from the truck and waving at the mailman from their front driveway!

Pennies for Patriotism Collection

On Monday, January 19th the Elementary School principal, Mrs. Neely Moser, presented students and staff with a recognition letter and blanket from the Wounded Warriors Foundation. This was sent in honor of the \$477.64 that was raised and donated during our "Pennies For Patriotism" collection. These items are on display in the display case located in the Music and PE hallway in the Elementary School, come check it out! Thank you to everyone that helped make this work!



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATED



In relation to the 100th Day of School at Central City Elementary School, Kindergarten students in Mrs. Burdick, Mrs. Lanham and Mrs. Speer's classes worked together to collect 100 items of food to donate to the local Food Pantry. Students exceeded their goal of 100 items by the 100th day of school by bringing in 154 items total! The classes bagged the items in sets of ten and then counted by tens to determine the final amount. This was a great math lesson as well as a way to give back to our community!

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Waiting patiently

Does your child expect everything to happen *now*?

If a friend doesn't call back immediately or his teacher hasn't graded his project yet, encourage him to come up with possible explanations. Maybe his friend is at a movie or the teacher has 100 assignments to grade. Thinking reasonably can help him be patient.

DID YOU KNOW?

Research shows that most tweens would like to talk more with their parents about schoolwork. Ask your child to share what she's learning in her classes. Be specific: "What kind of math problems did you do today?" or "Tell me about the science experiment you did in lab today."

Family meals

Eating together gives parents and children a chance to chat about the day's events. It also strengthens family relationships. Whether you have time to cook or are picking up carryout on the way home from work, try to sit around the table and enjoy each other's company while you eat.

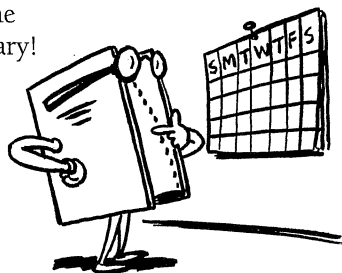
Worth quoting

"The time is always right to do what is right." *Martin Luther King Jr.*

Just for fun

Q: When does Friday come before Thursday?

A: In the dictionary!



Hints for homework

Amy has her evening planned. She'll do her math homework before dinner, then follow up dessert with English and science. Afterward, she can unwind from a busy day.

Sound impossible? It's not. Help your child make homework go like clockwork with these strategies.

Think it through

Before your youngster begins, have her make a to-do list. *Example:* write a poem, read a history chapter, solve 10 math problems.

Then, suggest that she number the tasks, from toughest to easiest, and start with the hard stuff. This "save the easiest for last" strategy will help her finish on a high note, perhaps inspiring her to get in some extra studying.

Think about time

Ask your child to consider different time slots she can use to get work done. For instance, maybe she could set aside a weekend morning or Sunday night.



Also, some middle graders have time during study period or after lunch to tackle homework. Encourage your child to complete one assignment at school each day. The more she does then, the more time she'll have for fun later.

Think positive

Help your middle grader see homework as a chance to prove her independence by getting her work done on time and doing it by herself. Boost her confidence by telling her, "Homework gives you a chance to show all that you know." And give her a thumbs-up when she does just that. 👍

Be there!

Being in school all day, every day, helps your child get the most out of middle school. Encourage good attendance with these ideas:

■ Point out that there is no substitute for being in class. Your youngster needs to be present to hear teachers explain concepts, to participate in group projects and class discussions, and to ask questions.

■ Schedule doctor, dentist, and orthodontist appointments for before or after school hours whenever possible. If you can't, try to arrange them for lunchtime.

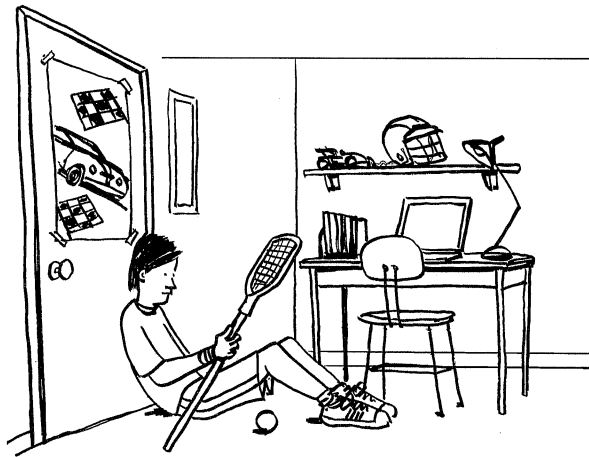
■ It will be easier for your child to get up on time for school if he has had at least nine hours of sleep. Set a reasonable bedtime, and make sure he puts away electronic devices so he isn't tempted to stay awake to read messages or play games. 👍



Emotions in the middle

Moody, private, self-conscious...if this sounds like your middle grader, you're not alone. At this age, his body and emotions are changing rapidly. Here are ways to help him cope.

Managing moods. Physical growth and worries about friends, sports, and schoolwork can cause moodiness. Let your child know you're available to talk. A quiet statement, such as "I remember what it feels like not to be asked to join a team," can invite him to open up about what's bothering him.



Finding privacy. It's natural for your middle grader to want some time to himself. He might close his bedroom door or walk outside to take a phone call, for example. Show him that you respect his growing need for privacy by giving him space.

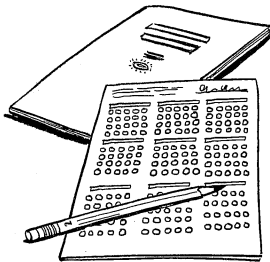
Fitting in. Many middle graders feel self-conscious. Being part of a group of people who share his interests can help your youngster focus on his strengths and feel more confident. Encourage him to participate in at least one activity (basketball team, student government, math club). 👍



Prepared for standardized tests

Does your middle schooler have state tests coming up? Review these strategies before testing begins:

■ Knowing how to approach different kinds of questions will help her score higher. For instance, on multiple-choice sections, she could cover up the answers while she reads the question. If the answer she thought of is listed and the other options don't make more sense, she can be pretty confident she's right.



■ Have your child find out whether she'll lose points for wrong answers. If not, it's best to guess. Also, if scrap paper is allowed, she can use it to work out problems and to keep her place on the answer sheet. 👍

Parent to Parent

More nonfiction reading

My son, Kevin, reads mostly fiction, but his language arts teacher said the class will read lots of nonfiction this year. The reason, she said, is to prepare students for high school, college, and careers, where "informational text" is important.

The teacher suggested a few ways to help at home. First, she said, we could leave the newspaper out and mention articles about topics that affect him. For example, I pointed out stories on road construction where he rides his bike and on festivals we might attend.

Also, the teacher said to encourage our son to read nonfiction books about things he's interested in. The next time I went to the library, I brought home books about car racing and a biography of one of Kevin's favorite drivers. I was happy to see him reading one rather than watching TV the other night!

He even asked to go to the library to get a book about another driver. And when we were there, he picked up a few books on speed records and breaking the sound barrier. 👍



Q & A Bully-proof your child

Q I've heard bullying peaks in middle school. How can I make sure my daughter isn't a target?

A There is no way to guarantee a child will never be bullied. But there are things you can do to help.

Since bullies are less likely to pick on someone who has friends, encourage her to get to know other students. Suggest that she join a club, and have her invite classmates over. Not only is there safety in

numbers, but having friends will build her self-esteem, which in turn can discourage bullies from targeting her.

Also, talk to your daughter about bullying. Tell her that if she is bullied or sees someone else being bullied, she should seek help immediately from an adult, whether it's you, a teacher, an administrator, or a coach. Let her know that she's not expected to handle this problem alone. 👍



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,
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WEST SIDE STORY

Dear families and friends of Central City Public Schools,

From the first notes to the final breath, **West Side Story** is one of the most memorable musicals and greatest love stories of all time. The score by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim is widely regarded as one of the best ever written. The world's greatest love story takes to the streets in this landmark Broadway musical that is one of the theatre's finest accomplishments. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fantastic production with great music, new lighting effects, and intricate dance numbers.

Last year's musical brought three sold-out performances, so in an effort to be sure that all of our stakeholders have an opportunity to purchase tickets, an order form has been included here.

- All tickets are reserved seating and will sell for \$10 through the high school office.
- Everyone entering the auditorium must have a ticket.
- Tickets are non-refundable.
- You are invited to take orders for your family and friends.
- Checks must be made payable to CCHS.
- Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the return of your tickets. Otherwise, you may purchase them in person at the high school office.
- Checks and order forms can be mailed to:

CCHS Musical
1510 28th Street
Central City, NE 68826

Please Detach and Return with a SASE:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date	Friday, March 20 @ 7:30 p.m.	Saturday, March 21 @ 7:30 p.m.	Sunday, March 22 @ 2:00 p.m.
Quantity			

If seating for patrons with disabilities is required, indicate the number of seats: _____

Total number of Tickets: _____ x \$10 = Total Enclosed: \$ _____




Central City

March, 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	TBD BB-B/Varsity Away vs. TBD Start Of Spring Practices 7:00pm Science Fair @ Central City High School	FFA @ Columbus, NE 8:00am-5:00pm College Tour 6:00pm-7:00pm Family Literacy Night @ Central City Elementary School	8:00am-5:00pm College Tour	TBD BB-G/Varsity Away vs. TBD	No School TBD BB-G/Varsity Away vs. TBD	Show Choir @ Lincoln, NE TBD BB-G/Varsity Away vs. TBD 8:00am-3:00pm Speech @ Doniphon-Trumbull High School
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Daylight Saving Time	FFA @ Aurora, NE Science Fair @ Hastings, NE 7:00pm FFA	End Of 3rd Quarter	No School - Professional Development TBD BB-B/Varsity Away vs. TBD	No School TBD BB-B/Varsity Away vs. TBD	No School TBD BB-B/Varsity Away vs. TBD	TBD BB-B/Varsity Away vs. TBD
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			DECA State Career Development Conference (Lincoln) @ Lincoln, NE 8:30am-3:30pm 8th Grade Field Trip @ Grand Island, Ne	DECA State Career Development Conference (Lincoln) @ Lincoln, NE 7:30pm High School Musical @ Central City Performing Arts Center	DECA State Career Development Conference (Lincoln) @ Lincoln, NE 7:30pm High School Musical @ Central City Performing Arts Center	DECA State Career Development Conference (Lincoln) @ Lincoln, NE TBD TR-Varsity Away vs. University of NE-Kearney 7:30pm High School Musical @ Central City Performing Arts Center
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2:00pm High School Musical @ Central City Performing Arts Center		2:00pm TR-Varsity Central City vs. Multiple Schools 7:00pm Conference Honor Band @ Seward, NE	Speech Meet @ TBA 4:00pm TR-Middle School Westridge Middle School vs. Multiple Schools	Speech Meet @ TBA 4:00pm TR-Middle School Westridge Middle School vs. Multiple Schools	College Tour @ Multiple Locations Alumni Basketball/Volleyball Weekend @ Central City High School, Central City Middle School	Alumni Basketball/Volleyball Weekend @ Central City High School, Central City Middle School
29	30	31				
	4:30pm TR-Middle School Grand Island Central Catholic 7:00pm Learn to Swing Dance (DECA) @ Central City High School	7:00pm Kindergarten Spring Program @ Central City Performing Arts Center				

March Breakfast



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Assorted Cereals Pineapple	3 Cheese Omelet Muffin Peaches	4 Sausage Biscuit Sandwich Applesauce	5 French Toast Pears	6 NO SCHOOL	7
8	9 Assorted Cereals Mixed Fruit	10 Pancakes Sausage Patty Pink Applesauce	11 Bacon Scramble Breakfast Pizza Mandarin Oranges	12 NO SCHOOL	13 NO SCHOOL	14
15	16 Assorted Cereals Peaches	17 Sausage Biscuit Round Pineapple 	18 Waffles Mixed Fruit	19 Frittata Omelet Applesauce	20 Breakfast Cookie Pears	21
22	23 Assorted Cereals Applesauce	24 Egg Tac-Go Peaches	25 Pancake & Sausage Bites Pineapple	26 Breakfast Pizza Mandarin Oranges	27 Egg Breakfast Sandwich Pears	28
29	30 Assorted Cereals Mixed Fruit	31 Fruit Strudel Peaches				

All meals are subject to change.

Cereal, yogurt and fruit are served everyday. Choice of milk and juice are offered daily.

High School Breakfast :
Features a fresh fruit or 100% juice, carton of milk, WG pop tarts, or cereal. Student must have three items to count as a meal. A la carte items are also available for students with money in their accounts and approval for a la carte items.

March Lunch



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Hop on Pop Dogs (Mini Corndogs) Cat in the Hat Beans One Pea Two Peas Dr. Seuss' Birthday Cake	3 Taco on Tortilla Broccoli	4 Breaded Pork Patty Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Dinner Roll Peanut Butter Bar	5 Chicken Quesadilla Corn HS -Salsa/Corn Tortilla Chips	6 NO SCHOOL	7
8	9 Chicken Strips Rice Carrots	10 Cheese Lasagna Roll-up Green Beans Garlic Bread Stick	11 Pepperoni Calzone California Mixed Vegetables	12 NO SCHOOL	13 NO SCHOOL	14
15	16 Hot Dog on Bun Potato Triangle Mixed Vegetables	17 Chicken & Gravy on Mashed Potatoes Peas Bread & Jelly	18 Taco Salad Corn Tortilla Chips Black Beans Cinnamon Roll	19 Tangerine Chicken Rice Broccoli/Cheese Sauce Dinner Roll	20 Cheese Ravioli Carrots Garlic Bread	21
22	23 Meat Ball Sub French Fries	24 Fiestada Corn Cookie	25 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Biscuit & Honey	26 Beef Sticks Green Beans Bread & Jelly	27 Cheese Stuffed Shells Carrots	28
29	30 Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Potato Triangle Royal Brownie	31 Beef Pizza Wedge Peas & Carrots				

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.

Fruit/Veggie Bar & Milk Choices

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

ALL MEALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Adults who wish to eat lunch should notify the school office before 9:00 a.m.



CENTRAL CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1711 15TH AVENUE
P.O. BOX 57
CENTRAL CITY, NE 68826

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
U.S. PERMIT #2
CENTRAL CITY, NE 68826



POSTAL CUSTOMER/
OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

Contents

Superintendent's Message.....	1-2
DECA & Cheer Camp.....	2
From the Elementary Principal.....	3
Elementary Activities.....	4
Middle Years.....	5-6
West Side Story Musical ticket order form.....	7
March Activity Calendar.....	8
Breakfast & Lunch Menus.....	9



March 8