



BISON BANNER

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

To: All Central City Public Schools Community and Staff

**May
Newsletter**

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



**May 17
Graduation
2:00**

CONGRATS!!!



**May 21
LAST DAY
OF SCHOOL
DISMISS
11:30**



I appreciate the response we received to our Survey Monkey surveys; one on Late Starts vs. Early Outs next year, and the other on Friday non-school days on state tournament weeks. We valued the input, and results did have an impact on our proposed 2015-2016 school calendar.

We had 166 parent responses to the survey for "Late Starts vs. "Early Outs". It was clear that 82.5% favored the Early Outs to implement needed time for teacher in-service work, curriculum alignment, student achievement data, organizing student testing data and learning, as to better align our reading program. The 1:30 pm early out Mondays will be the first Monday of 6 months on: Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, Febr. 1, March 7 & April 4.

The survey requesting input on the question of "Friday non-school days" had a very similar strength from respondents. We had 39 Teacher and 156 Parent responses. The strong support from both groups was to continue with this year's calendar, whereby we would simply schedule non-school Fridays on the weeks of State Tourneys for Wrestling, GBB and BBB.

Also, we are proposing to add a few minutes to the school day next year. The rationale is to provide time for student contact and intervention needs; all of the calendar efforts are focused on student success. We are proposing the following times for our school buildings:

Elementary: 8:00 am - 3:25 pm
M. S. & H.S.: 8:00 am - 3:38 pm

Please be assured that in preparing the next school year calendar that we intentionally

looked at many ways we might find to improve our school time and strategies, to create more teacher/student contact time, to provide for professional training on data interpretation, and mandated testing procedures. The bottom line is that we know all students do not learn on the same day, in the same number of days, nor in the same ways. But, we do want to do all we can to allow our students to eventually meet the same standards; this mission is our main thing!

I do want to address a topic not related to school calendars or academic preparedness. I am hearing rumors that we have plans to make use of the Performing Arts Center (P.A.C.) concession rooms for athletic events in the gyms. Sometimes it seems as though rumors are similar to tulips. They come up every Spring.

It is true that our administrative team has had very preliminary discussion of looking at that area. We are aware that the M.S. kitchen serving area is not conducive to an efficient area to sell concessions. The lines are long and slow. We have discussed this somewhat in one of our weekly Admin. Team Meetings. A summary of our weekly meetings are sent out to all school staff to keep them informed of what is discussed, and most often in an informal manner. Our school district fully appreciates the P.A.C., and we are very aware of the pride and respect the Community and the Merrick Foundation have in this great facility. Please be assured that our school district appreciates all that it took to build and fund the P.A.C. and that we want to continue making proper, approved use of it for our school, students and community.

From the Desk of the High School Principal

Summer vacation will soon be upon us and plans are being made for many school activities to take place soon after school is out. Many of our teachers will be taking graduate level classes, they will be attending professional development opportunities, and others will be helping teach high school summer school. This past school year we have noticed a need for summer school in order to help students who have struggled in "making the grade". Therefore a high school summer school committee was developed and we discussed and researched summer school procedures and class offerings.

Summer school will commence on June 8 and conclude on June 26. Classes are scheduled to start at 8:00 am to 11:30 am daily. Class offerings include specific classes in English, Math and Social Studies. The committee asked each of the core curriculum areas to recommend summer school classes that will be offered. A focus will be on skill development along with helping students understand specific concepts. Depending on the class, teachers will use direct instruction as well as using Odesseyware on-line instructional program that aligns with the school's curriculum. Tuition will be \$100.00 and \$80.00 will be refunded upon the successful completion of the course. Additional information will be sent home to parents and students who qualify to participate in this learning opportunity.

As some of you may know, we have a very special person who will be hanging up her school keys after this year. Mrs. Jackie Monk will be retiring after 38 years of teaching high school and middle school students in the area of Family Consumer Science. She touched the lives of many families in the community by teaching students the science of cooking, sewing, clothing design, family relationships, careers, and most of all, about how to be a successful person in life. I can honestly say that I have never heard any unkind word from Mrs. Monk; she has always had a warm smile on her face and a "heart of gold" for the kids. I don't know any student that disliked Mrs. Monk. She had the right temperament that she could work with any student. I really appreciate everything she has done for kids, she taught more than the curriculum, she taught kids about kindness and respect, she taught kids manners and much much more. She has seen a lot of changes over the years and should be commended on a fine career of service to our community. Thank you Mrs. Monk for your years of dedication and service to Central City Public Schools and may your years of retirement be filled with joy and happiness.

Principally Speaking
Mr. Shawn McDiffett

State DECA

By Amber Erickson

In March, five DECA members (Jill Gathje, Amber Erickson, Sable Campa, Kenzie Nordlund, and Oriana White Bull) from Central City attended and competed at State DECA in Lincoln with their advisor, Mrs. Brittany McPhillips. They left Central City Thursday morning to go to the Cornhusker Hotel, where the conference was held during the trip. There they competed and attended various fun activities. On Thursday there was an opening ceremony, the first round of role plays, and a dance later that night. On Friday there was the second round of role plays, a preliminary award session, and a magic show. Then on Saturday there was the Grand Award Ceremony.

During the preliminary awards session Jill found out that she had gotten first in the written test in the Accounting Applications category that was taken before going to state and second in her first role play. Amber found out that she had received third in the written test and first in her second role play in the same category as Jill's. The next morning at the Grand Award Ceremony Jill received first and Amber received second in the Accounting Applications category, qualifying them both for the International Career Development Conference (ICDC). They will attend ICDC in Orlando, Florida from April 24-29.

All five girls had very positive things to say about their experience and all said they had a lot of fun on the trip. Jill said that her favorite part of the trip was being able to use her accounting knowledge in a potential real life setting and winning. Amber's favorite part was learning that she qualified for nationals and gets to go to Orlando with Jill and Mrs. McPhillips. Sable's favorite part was getting an idea of what real life marketing scenarios are like and using her knowledge to conquer them and turn them into a positive outcome. Kenzie and Oriana liked competing in the role plays, getting to walk around downtown Lincoln, and watching the magic show. All five girls had an awesome time at State DECA and enjoyed gaining experience and knowledge about the business world as well.



Central City Public Schools will be offering sports physicals at the high school on **May 13, 2015 for the **2015-2016** school year starting at **5:30PM**. The cost of the sports physical is **\$25.00**. Please **contact the middle school, high school, superintendent's office** or check the school website for **further information and required paperwork**.**



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

In addition...all 7th grade students (2015-2016 school year) are required to have a physical examination signed by a licensed medical provider 6 months prior to entrance of the 2015-2016 school year!!



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

Attention Merrick County District Residents!

Do you have a new neighbor? Do you have an addition to your family? Has your household increased or decreased in any way? Are you new in the district? These are questions that need answers so that the Central City school district census can be updated. Each year the total of all children in the district, birth to age 18 as of June 30, is included in a report to the Nebraska Department of Education. Information required for children is full name, date of birth, and place of birth, parents name and address, phone number, and county of residence. All people living in Central City, Archer, Chapman, and country homes in the school district are included in the school census. If you have any information at all that may be helpful in the updating process, please call the superintendent's office at 308-946-3055, or mail the information to Superintendent's Office, PO Box 57, Central City, NE 68826. Your help in obtaining this information would be greatly appreciated!

CENTRAL CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CENSUS INFORMATION

The Central City Public Schools is required to conduct a census of all persons living in our district.

If you are new to Central City, please fill out this form and mail to Central City Public Schools, PO Box 57, Central City, NE 68826 or email LFRITZ@ESU7.ORG. Please list all persons living in household.

Father's/Guardian name_____

Mother's/Guardian name_____

Address_____

Phone #_____

Names of children through 20 years old

Date of Birth

Birth Place

M.S. Families

I wouldn't go so far as to say that we are in the homestretch portion of the school year, but you can see it from here! There are many exciting things happening this time of the year, all of which point to the fact that we are winding down. It is so important to finish positively so that both students and teachers enter summer break satisfied with how closure came to the school year. I've visited with teachers about finding the right blend of expectations and tolerance. The primary struggle this time of year is getting students to fulfill their academic responsibilities. Teachers are spending more time before school, during lunch, and after school tracking down kids and requiring them to complete work or redo substandard assignments. If we all of the sudden start accepting mediocrity, the message our students will receive is that these final weeks of school really aren't that important. Our goal is to hold students accountable and help them be successful, to the last day of school.

There are several "end-of-the-year" events taking place that we want to make sure you are aware of:

May 1--NeSA is OVER!!!
 May 4--Track @ Columbus Lakeview
 May 5--7th Grade Field Trip
 May 5--National Teacher Appreciation Day
 May 5--Instrumental Music Ice Cream Social
 May 7--Track @ Aurora
 May 11--Track @ GISH
 May 12--Vocal Pops Concert
 May 13--Sports Physicals
 May 15--6th Grade Field Trip
 May 15--4th Grade Visit CCMS
 May 20--CCMS Honors Night and 8th Grade Promotion
 May 21--LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (11:30 Dismissal)

I want to thank all of you for supporting us this past school year and communicating the message to your children that school is their primary responsibility (it is their job!) and that the adults at school are here to support them in their efforts and that they (adults) are in charge. I've shared with our kids many times that I can tolerate some horseplay behavior and sporadic substandard effort, but I have zero tolerance for kids disrespecting authority (adults). There is never an excuse for a 12-year old to sass or mouth-off to a school staff member. This will be a constant and consistent message so there is no misunderstanding how I will respond if a student chooses to sass a staff member. I've seen lots of growth and maturity from many students these past few years....particularly from our 8th grade whom I've had the pleasure of being their principal since they came to the middle school in 5th grade. I believe it takes a few years to change or build the culture that a school leader expects and I feel good about where we are and the momentum we have toward the positive and encouraging culture I expect. A principal's personality shapes the environment and culture of a school to a great extent and I am not unaware that the intensity of my nature can sometimes be quite imperious. I am passionate in just about everything that I do. My goal is to always strive to focus on giving students what they need to be successful. Many times, that means they might get something they don't want. I think your children would attest however, that when they are doing their best to contribute to the positive climate of our school, I am a passionately happy and positive person.

I am proud to promote our 8th grade class to the HS, we WILL miss them and their "spirit"! On behalf of the CCMS staff, we hope you enjoy lots of family, friends, fun, and sun until we see you again for the first day of school on August 17!

Mr. Artl, Middle School Principal



**FULL TIME BUS DRIVERS NEEDED FOR
 THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
 PLEASE CONTACT LES JENSEN AT
 308-946-3918**

Elementary Parents and Students,

With the warm days of Spring and looking ahead to Summer, it is easy to start to get “Spring Fever.” With this letter, I encourage you to do the opposite and recharge to get motivated to finish the school year strong. There are many very vital weeks of instruction yet to come in your child’s school year. We are currently in the heart of NeSA and MAP testing season and it is important for students to get a good night’s sleep and a good breakfast on the days they test. Teachers have sent reminders of when your child is testing. If you missed the note, don’t hesitate to contact the school. Third and Fourth graders take NeSA and MAP tests.

As a parent, you may ask, “How do I help my child to finish the school year strong?” Routines are important and as the sunshine lasts longer, kids want to stay up longer. Keep to the bedtime routine that you’ve established throughout the school year. Even though they’d like to stay out and play longer, school still starts the same time the next morning! Help your child stay interested in school. Ask them questions about their classes and about end of the year activities. Ask specific questions and share together. Try to ease any anxiety about testing and school. Often the end of the year brings projects and tests. Talk to your child about ways to organize their time and studying. Help them to tackle projects by teaching them how to plan and how to be organized. Take time to spend time with family. There’s nothing better than getting some fresh air and then coming back to work. Everyone needs a “brain break!” - even adults!

I look forward to the next few weeks with your children. It is so wonderful to see them grow in their education. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call me at the school.

Mrs. Moser
Elementary Principal

Third Grade Classes have Special Visitors

Third graders were excited to have some former teachers come to school and read to them. The students have been working on identifying different genres of books so we had a literacy activity one afternoon to practice their skills. Genene Bowen, Barb Johansen, Ann Bankson, Suzanne Philippi, and Deb Ueckert each read a book that was



a different genre and the students had to identify which genre it was and tell why. The genres that were identified were fantasy, mystery, science fiction, historical fiction, and a fable. Thank you to our guest readers! The students enjoyed the activity!

CCHS Hall of Fame Nomination Announcement

If you would like to nominate an athlete or coach you will need to fill out the nomination form below. The athlete must have graduated from CCHS on or before 2010. Athletic contributions can be on the high school, college, or national level.

If you would like to write a letter of support for any candidate- please send the form to Justin Anderson. Please confine these letters of support to their athletic contributions. All letters must be received by May 15, 2015.

All announcements on selections will be made through the CCHS Activities Director's Office in May or June.

Nomination Form

Name _____

Coach or Athlete _____

Graduation year of athlete _____

Coaches-years coaching at CCHS _____

Please give any information about the athlete or coach that will be helpful to the committee in making its selections. Information may include character, leadership, statistics, and any individual athletic awards on the local, state, or national level.

Signature of nominator _____

Return to: Justin Anderson
Activities Director
1510 28th Street
Central City, NE 68826

May Breakfast



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 French Toast Applesauce	2
3	4 Assorted Cereals Peaches	5 Pancake & Sausage Bites Pineapple	6 Breakfast Sandwich Mixed Fruit	7 Bacon Scramble Breakfast Pizza Mandarin Oranges	8 Breakfast Cookie Pears	9
10	11 Assorted Cereals Mixed Fruit	12 Eggs Pineapple	13 Pancakes Sausage Applesauce	14 Breakfast Pizza Mandarin Oranges	15 French Toast Peaches	16
17	18 Assorted Cereals Mandarin Oranges	19 Cook's Choice	20 Cook's Choice	21 PBJ Graham Snackers Fruit Cup	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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.

May Lunch



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pepperoni Calzones Broccoli	2
3	4 Fiestada Corn Chocolate Chip Bar	5 Breaded Pork Patty Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Dinner Roll Peanut Butter Bar	6 Hamburgers –HS Pulled Pork on Bun—EL/MS Potatoes Baked Beans	7 Egg Patty Sausage Link French Toast Hash Browns	8 Chicken Nuggets Carrots Bread & Jelly	9
10	11 Beef Pizza Wedge Mixed Vegetables	12 Super Nachos Corn Refried Beans Chocolate Chip Cookie	13 Rotini & Meat Sauce Green Beans Bread Sticks/Roll	14 Breaded Cheese Sticks Peas	15 Chicken Patty On Bun Mashed Potatoes/Gravy	16
17 	18 Meat Lover's Stromboli Carrots	19 Pulled Pork on Bun—HS Hamburgers - EL/MS Potatoes Baked Beans	20 Chicken Quesadillas Corn	21 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!! EARLY OUT NO LUNCH	22	23
24	25	26	27 	28	29	30
31					USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER & EMPLOYER	

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

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POSTAL CUSTOMER/
OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

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