

USD 251 NORTH LYON COUNTY PATRON NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2010

Dear Patrons,

We have had a beautiful fall...but in Kansas you never know what weather tomorrow might bring, so I would like to review our procedures for canceling school because of weather related conditions. A decision will be made as quickly as possible if it is necessary to close school. We alert the following sources about school closings and postponements:

Radio Stations

KVOE (1400 AM) ☼ Country 101 KVOE (101.7 FM) ☼ KFFX (105 FM)
WIBW (580 AM) ☼ 94 Country (94.5 FM) ☼ The Wave (96.1 FM)

Television Stations

FOX 43 ☼ KSNT 27 ☼ KTKA 49 ☼ WIBW 13

We contact these sources early in the morning but have occasionally experienced some glitches when the closing is not listed in a timely manner. This is extremely frustrating for everyone so we urge you to check for closings on multiple stations. If you are an internet user, we also post information on www.cancellations.com. You can register for this free service and automatically receive e-mails about school closings. You can also access this information by visiting the web site and doing a search for postings by zip code, city and state or by school name. WIBW also offers TEXT MESSAGE ALERTS. You can register on the WIBW website to receive school cancellation alerts on your mobile phone.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding in the difficult process of closing school because of weather conditions. Please keep in mind that our district covers a large geographical area and the road conditions can vary greatly within the district.

I would also like to share the following information about The Masonic Lodge Essay Contest.

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Kansas will again be holding an Essay Contest. This is the 51st consecutive contest for Junior and Senior class students in the tax-supported public high schools of Kansas. The topic for this year's Essay Contest is entitled:

“How have social networking websites changed the way people interact?”

Winners of the local Lodge contests will compete for State scholarships. Winners must enroll in a Kansas tax-supported accredited university, college, junior college, or vocational-technical school to receive the award. Scholarships are forwarded to the student's school of choice (in Kansas) upon receipt of confirmation of their enrollment.

A total of \$12,000 will be awarded in prizes. The first place winner will receive \$4,000, the second place winner \$3,000, the third place winner \$2,000, and the fourth place winner \$1,000. Four honorable mentions will be awarded \$500.00 each.

All Juniors and Seniors in the public high schools of Kansas are eligible to participate. All are urged to contact their local Masonic Lodge members for details of the contest. Essays must not be longer than 500 words. Only winners on the local level are eligible to represent a Lodge at the State Level.

Essays must be submitted to a local Masonic Lodge on or before November 1, 2010 to be judged for the state-wide competition. Inquiries may be directed by mail to :

*Grand Lodge of Kansas
PO Box 1217
Topeka, KS 66601-1217*



Reading School Newsletter

October 2010

Principal's Pen

By Peggy Fort

Out Teach, Out Learn, Out Class Island of Learning

The character trait for October is **Respect** – Showing consideration and appreciation and avoiding violation of others; honoring people and caring about their rights. The color for the month is orange.

PARENT TEACHER/CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, October 21, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday, October 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Kindergarten through fifth grade conferences will be held in the individual rooms at scheduled times. Notes have been sent home with students asking for general time frames that parents might find convenient to conference. Notes will be sent home with students giving a scheduled time for your conferences. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school.

PTO will be serving a delicious meal on Thursday evening of Parent/Teacher conferences. More information on the meal will be sent home at a later date.

RED RIBBON WEEK

North Lyon County schools will join thousands of schools celebrating Red Ribbon Week, the nation's most important anti-drug event. Red Ribbon Week will be Oct. 25 through 29, 2010, in over 10,000 American schools. Students, teachers, and patrons will take the opportunity to spread the drug free message to all people.

Here are some ways parents can help their child stay on the road to success by being drug free.

***Explain to your child there are many things to look forward to, both today and in the future.

There are many choices to make, and being drug free makes it easier to choose wisely.

***Review the facts about drug use and abuse with your child. Discuss your family's values about drugs and obeying the law.

***Encourage your child to take responsibility for saying "NO" to drugs and "YES" to healthy fun activities.

***Set an example for your child by maintaining healthy habits in your everyday life by serving as a role model.



COUNSELING NOTES FROM MR. HAAG

The year is starting off with some changes in my role in the district. This year I spend my time in the morning as the school counselor and in the afternoon as the physical education teacher. One thing that has not changed, however, is the wonderful opportunity to work with some fantastic students at Reading Elementary School. I feel very fortunate and enjoy being around them.

As the counselor, my duties include going into each classroom and doing guidance activities once a week. These activities focus on life skills such as friendship, decision making, responsibility, and communication skills. I also schedule individual meetings with the students or their parents if they have concerns. Please feel free to call me at 620-699-3432 if you have questions.

In the afternoon, I serve as the physical education teacher. We spent the first two weeks playing various games. We then moved on to a unit on volleyball. This unit lasted two weeks and I feel the students really enjoyed it.



We are now doing a unit on football. I have emphasized even if they never play football in their life, they still are introduced to teamwork, cooperation, taking turns, listening, and perseverance. These skills will help them as they grow into responsible adults.



FIRST GRADE WITH MRS. PHILLIPS

The first graders in Reading are an awesome group of students! They have become movie directors by making mini movies using the Kid Pix program focusing on verbs that their characters are doing. They practiced sight words and reading with fluency by becoming actors in a puppet show based on the story, The Great Big Enormous Turnip. After researching healthy recipes with a partner on allrecipes.com, they became authors of a recipe book. They loved being scientists by doing an experiment with popcorn using the Scientific Method. As mathematicians, they are learning addition facts, graphing, and problem solving. They have become creative artists that have enjoyed painting, making mosaic watermelons, and constructing critter cages.



Mrs. Phillips' Fantastic First Grade

FOURTH GRADE WITH MRS. BEATTY

Fourth grade at Reading School has been hoppin'! We've hopped through some great literature units, through many math skills, science experiments, and we've continued hopping right through the geography of our United States. It has been a busy year, and we are looking forward to many exciting adventures ahead.



This year our class welcomes an intern from Emporia State University. Sara Goerl is from the Buhler/Hutchison area and is working towards her Elementary/Middle School degree in Education. She is a fabulous addition to our class!

Thank you for all the help you give your child at home! Parent support from home is a key aspect in student's academic success! Miss Goerl and I look forward to giving your child a year of unforgettable educational experiences!

Miss Goerl and the 4th graders devouring some great literature!



PTO

Spaghetti Dinner

Thursday, October 21

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Menu

Spaghetti, Salad, Bread, Brownie and Drink

Adult \$4.00



Americus ~ NLC Newsletter

October
2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 15th End of First Nine Weeks
- 16th FHJL VB Tournament @
West Franklin
- 21st Early Dismissal 12:30
Parent Teacher Conferences
5:30-9:00pm
- 22nd No School
Parent Teacher Conferences
8:00-11:00am
- 27th Americus ~ NLC Picture Re
takes

November

- 1st Vocal Music Clinic @ ESU.
Clinic 3:00, Concert @ 7:00
- 2nd Site Based Council Meeting
6:00, PTO 7:00
- 7th Daylight Savings Time
- 8th Basketball @ Lyndon 4:00 pm
- 11th Veterans Day, No School
NLC Band to Veterans Day
Parade
Basketball vs. Chase County
- 12th No School Teacher Inservice
- 15th Basketball @ Chase County
4:00
- 18th Basketball @ Council Grove
4:00
- 22nd Basketball @ Herington
- 24th-26th Thanksgiving No School
- 30th Basketball vs, Lyndon 4:00

MISSION STATEMENT—The purpose of Americus School is to provide a safe environment where all will learn to their fullest potential in order to function in an international community.

PRINCIPAL DODY'S CORNER



WOW, time is going fast!! It is hard to believe that the end of the first nine weeks is right around the corner. October 15 is the end of the first nine weeks and parent teacher conferences will be on October 21 from 5:30pm to 9:00pm, and on October 22 from 8:00am to 11:00am. School will be dismissed at 12:30pm on October 21.

The FHJL volleyball tournament will be on October 16 in West Franklin. Times will be announced at a later date. The girls are in the hunt for another league title this year. It should be another awesome league tournament this year!

The NLC Band did a fantastic job marching in the State Fair parade again this year. They sounded great and the weather was fantastic!

Congratulations to the following students as they were elected by their classmates to represent their class on the NLC Junior High Student Council this year: 6th Grade – Nick Boline and Jalaine King, 7th Grade – Peyton Heins and Claire Hamlin, 8th Grade – Wyatt Hall and Sarah Moyer

Don't forget that picture retakes will be on October 27

Kindergarten News ~ Mrs. Robinson

Hello, I am Nancy Robinson, the new kindergarten teacher. The children call me Mrs. R.. I am so happy to be with these great students and teachers at Americus Elementary this year. We have a student intern from ESU this semester named Ms. Smith. She is doing a fabulous job!

Americus Kindergarten is falling in love with acrostic poetry, learning about community helpers including our fire and police departments, and learning about plant and animal growth. We hope to have a field trip this month to the ROGA pumpkin patch just south and east of Emporia. So far we have learned the letters: Ll, Oo, Gg, Tt, Hh, and Pp. We will continue with Aa, Nn, Mm, and Ii. We have put the letters we have learned together to form words for a word caterpillar on our wall. Everyone is working hard and doing well. with Aa, Nn, Mm, and Ii. We have put the letters we have learned together to form words for a word caterpillar on our wall. Everyone is working hard and doing well.



COUNSELOR COMMENTS

Since School began in August, the students and teachers have been busy adjusting to the schedules and participating in various activities. Many new activities are coming up in October as well.

Elementary students in 4th and 5th grade have begun their lessons from SOS on “Steps to Respect.” They are learning about respectful behaviors and how to make friends and join groups. The students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade have been working on the “Too Good For Violence” curriculum when it comes to getting along and finding that peaceable place to be. Middle school students in 6th grade are also working on the “Steps to Respect” program, and 8th grade is focusing on the “Safe Dates” curriculum.

The 7th and 8th grade students in my elective class are beginning to explore careers. They have taken the interest and skill inventories. They have found what they like to do doesn’t always match what they are good at doing. They are working on creating their portfolios of their top 3 careers of choice. This class has also discussed the first three habits of the “7 Habits of Highly Effective TEENS.” Hopefully they are applying some of these habits to their daily lives.

Also in October: The Elementary students will be having their first Character Assembly at the end of the month to recognize those students who have been caught being Trustworthy. Since the first nine weeks is almost coming to an end, an Honors Assembly will be held at the end of the month for the 6th-8th grade students to honor those students who made the honor roll this first quarter.

RED RIBBON WEEK is coming soon in October. It will be held October 25-29, 2010. This is a time for students to discuss the reasons to be drug free. This year’s theme is *Believe, Achieve, Succeed DRUG FREE*. There are special events being planned for the week to remind students the importance of making good choices. Special prizes will be handed out daily to those students wearing their red ribbons. If you have any questions about Red Ribbon Week, please call.

A lot of exciting events and activities are happening in the Americus Elementary and NLC Middle School. Please visit the school web site and Counselor Home Page for more of the details.

MRS. AIMEE LANDGREN

NLC FOOTBALL 2010

This years NLC Football team consists of 19 players and two managers.

7th Graders:

- Austin Anderson
- Alex Croucher,
- James Johnson
- Peyton Heins
- Derek Korte
- Takoda Lunsford
- Tyler Ross,
- Neil Reuter
- Liam Kraus
- Trevor Crawford

8th Graders

- Alec Short
- Colton Miller
- Michael Karr
- Erik Shaw
- Grant McClellan
- Wyatt Hall
- Neal Huffman
- Cody Swanson
- Justin Johnson



This years managers are 6th Graders: Sam Kehoe and Mason French. As of this article, the NLC Junior Cats currently have 2 wins and 3 losses with two games left to play (Chase County and Council Grove). The boys have had to overcome many obstacles and injuries throughout the season. I am proud of the team for their positive attitudes, commitment, hard work and effort they bring to practice everyday. Habits like these, not only make good football players, but they also make good people.

Physical Education/ Health with Mr. Ginter

This question seems to pop up during health class several times a year – Will popping my knuckles cause arthritis? The answer – There is no evidence that cracking your knuckles causes arthritis, says Dr.

Harry Gewanter. The loud pop you hear and feel is actually fluid from inside your joints. When you “pop” your knuckles you are stretching connective tissue, the fluid is sloshed around which causes the rapid re

lease of air bubbles which produces the crack. So it looks like you could say this is another myth that has been solved in health class.

Mr. Ginter



NORTHERN HEIGHTS WILDCAT NEWS



Dear Parents and Patrons,

One more week and the first quarter will be in the books. It seems like it flew by with our delayed start. Thank you to everyone who attended Parent/Teacher conferences at the mid-way point, I think it has made a difference in overall grades.

Fall sports will be headed for post season play before we know it. Volleyball will be competing in the Flint Hills League Volleyball Tournament the 16th of October, hosted by NHHS. The following weekend will see them travel to Leavenworth/Immaculata for Sub-State play. Cross Country will compete in the FHL meet on October 14th at Herington and will travel to Jayhawk Linn for their regional. Football begins District play Friday, October 15 at Burlington.

As the fall sports seasons come to an end, other activities will start gearing up. Rehearsals for the Fall Play have already begun. The Scholar's bowl season will begin gearing up in the next couple of weeks, with NHHS hosting a tournament on October 27.

The Fall round of MAP testing has come to an end, and teachers will begin utilizing the data they have collected. All Sophomores will be taking the PLAN test on October 27 and 28.

Homecoming was a rousing success, capped off with a football victory on Friday. The substitution of BBQ Beef sandwiches for hot dogs at the parade was an exciting change. We would also like to thank Mr. Dody for donating the fireworks and setting them off with every Wildcat score, it made the evening special.

Sincerely,

Doug Boline

CALENDAR

October 15	End of First Nine Weeks Retakes and Football Pictures Football @ Burlington 7:00
October 16	FHL Volleyball Tournament @ NHHS 9:00
October 18	JV Football vs. Burlington 6:00
October 22	No School Football vs. Council Grove 7:00
October 23	ACT Test Cross Country-Regional's Volleyball-Sub State
October 28	Football vs. Osage City 7:00 Senior Recognition
October 29	Volleyball-State
October 30	Volleyball-State Cross Country-State
October 31	Halloween
November 3	FCCLA Fall Leadership Academy

November 5	FBLA National Fall Conference
November 6	FBLA National Fall Conference
November 10	FBLA Veterans Day Program
November 11	No School Veterans Day
November 12	No School
November 13	Fall Play
November 15	Basketball Practice Begins FBLA-American Enterprise Day
November 24-26	No School
November 25	Thanksgiving Day

WILDCAT FOOTBALL

The NHHS Football Team is close to finishing up the regular season and getting revved up for district play. The team is currently 4-1 and will be playing at West Franklin on Friday the 8th to finish out the regular season before beginning district play on the 15th. The district games consist of playing at Burlington and playing both Council Grove and Osage City at home.

The season thus far is going well with the defense continuing to improve, and the offense still leading the state in many categories. The team is currently averaging 466 yards of offense and 38 points per game. The Wildcats hope to continue to improve and strive to make the playoffs. Your support is much appreciated! GO CATS!

NHHS THEATRE PRESENTS

Mark your calendars and plan to join us at 7:00 PM Saturday, November 13th as NHHS Theatre presents our fall production, *The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon* by Don Zolidis.

The fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm are turned on their heads in this fast-paced, rollicking ride as three narrators and several actors attempt to combine all 209 stories ranging from classics like *Snow White*, *Cinderella*, and *Hansel and Gretel* to more bizarre, obscure stories like *The Devil's Grandmother* and *The Girl Without Hands*. It will be an evening of wild, free-form comedy with audience participation and madcap fun.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Several members of the Wildcat Chapter of National Honor Society provided a tour of the NHHS facilities for members of the NHHS class of 1960 prior to the football game on Friday, September 17th. One of the tenants of National Honor Society is providing service to one's community and school. We have a great group of young leaders in our chapter this year. If NHS members can be of service to patrons and organizations of our community, please contact Sarah Fehr Malcolm at 620-528-3521 or malcolms@usd251.org


FRESHMAN ENGLISH

English I students have completed Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing for Reading and Language Arts. Data from these assessments will be used to plan the English I curriculum for the current school year. The Freshmen continue to study grammar, moving from the parts of speech to the parts of a sentence. Our skills focus has been on reading textbooks. We have learned methods for reading and taking notes over history, science and math textbooks. Our focus in the coming weeks will be on reading different forms of non-fiction writing. We will also continue to have vocabulary quizzes on Fridays, and 20 AR points will be required each quarter.

SENIOR ENGLISH

The Seniors have been studying examples of epic heroes from different time periods and cultures. Works read include: *Beowulf*, the *Iliad* and the *Aeneid*. Seniors have also covered the parts of speech and sentences in grammar and are moving on to the study phrases and clauses.

Senior students are also required to earn 20 AR points per quarter.



Halloween Hotdogs

Start your trick-or-treating with a
FREE hot dog supper. You'll be treated to
free hotdogs, chips and a drink before
heading out for an evening of fun.

Reading United Methodist Church
is the place to gather for the
FREE Halloween Hotdog supper between
5:30 and 6:30 pm on October 31, 2010