

The Huskies Leader

From Brad Best, Superintendent...

To our parents and supporters,

Fall is officially upon us and school is in full swing! It has been a great start to a new year and we appreciate the support that you have given us in making sure that your children are here and ready to learn each day.

This last month, the board of education approved the budget for the 2013-14 school year. Our tax asking for the general fund increased 3% or about \$188,000. The board also looked at reducing the tax asking for the special building fund, but increased the asking in the area of the qualified capital expense bond funds in order to pay those bonds off a few years early and save over \$14,000 in interest. The land valuation in our district increased 27% from last year to nearly \$614 million. The overall levy for all funds next year is projected to be at a little over 76 cents per \$100 valuation, which is down almost 16 cents from the 2012-2013 school year.

We are doing well financially and are looking at ways to enhance programming and building improvements within spending limits and while keeping our growth in tax asking low. Our number one priority is to provide a quality education to our children and I believe that we are in a great position to continue that effort. We appreciate your support and take our fiscal responsibility to you very seriously.

Speaking of quality education, our students and teachers performed extremely well on last spring's state tests in reading, math, and science! When one compares the percentage of our students that were proficient on these tests to the state average, our proficiency level was 11% higher in reading, 15% higher in math, and 12% higher in science.

In the fall of 2012, the elementary teachers implemented a new reading series in grades K-6. When we compare the reading scores of the same group of students from the spring of 2012 to the spring of 2013, we see a growth in our state reading scores that is 2-3 times higher than the state average growth. It may be a little early to draw strong conclusions, but because that growth is so dramatic and consistent across all grade levels, we are feeling good about the new reading series and the hard work that our teachers are putting forth to teach with fidelity to the reading program.

Have a great fall and please plan to participate in our school activities and parent/teacher conferences on October 21st and 24th. Stop in for a cup of coffee and a visit at any time!

Sincerely,

Brad Best, Superintendent

School Closing Information

As the winter approaches, occasional bad weather necessitates the closing of school for the safety of our students. School closing information will be announced over the radio station KAWL (1370) and television stations KHAS, KLKN, NTV and KOLN.

We also use an automated phone message service through School Reach which we will use to contact parents about school closings as well. With this service it is very important that we have current contact numbers on file. Please call the school office if anything changes.

You may also call our school closing phone line at 402-723-4421. If a decision has been made the night before, the closing will be announced around 10:00PM. In the mornings it will be announced on the half hour from 6:30AM to 8:00AM.



Junior High Homeroom News

The junior high homerooms are off to a great start to the school year. Each one has chosen a name of an endangered animal. We have the Pumas, the American Alligators, the Flying Squirrels and the Geckos. Our theme this year is ‘Be Smart, Be Kind and Be Inspiring’, which the activities for the year will be centered around. Homerooms are accumulating Huskie Bucks through challenges involving water balloons, badminton golf, human maze and the fall quiz bowl tournament is starting soon.



Senior Parents:

Be ready for your child’s senior year! Sign up for Mrs. Koehler’s email or text alerts about important scholarship and college information! Text this message: @964a to (402) 718-8594 or send an email to 964a@mail.remind101.com to receive email reminders. Email Mrs. Koehler at lkoehler@heartlandschools.net if you need help getting signed up or have any questions!



HALLOWEEN FUN FACTS

1. The largest pumpkin ever measured was grown by Norm Craven, who broke the world record in 1993 with a 836 lb. pumpkin.
2. The first Jack O’Lanterns were actually made from turnips.

Superintendent

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**Superintendent’s
Administrative Assistant**

CAROLYN PETERS

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On September 11, thirty-one FFA members attended Husker Harvest Days. In order to attend, they were asked to bring in at least three cans of food. The chapter is split into five separate groups, with each group being challenged to bring in the most canned items. The winning group consisted of **Kelli Bergen, Olivia Prentice, Roy Mason, Ben Winter, Ben Driewer, Shelby Hurlbut, and Spencer Prentice. Jose Romo** was the leading individual, by bringing in 26 canned items. Winners of the local contest received a candy bar of their choice. This food was then donated to the Heartland United Way. As well as receiving food, Monsanto donated \$1 to the Heartland United Way for every pound of food collected. Overall, Heartland FFA collected 117 pounds of food for the cause.



FFA NEWS

On September 18th, the Heartland FFA presented 6 different safety subjects to 4th-6th graders. The topics covered were tractor, gun, poison, bike, ATV and animal safety. This event was held in the Heartland Community Schools AG shop to help teach the elementary students some safety precautions during National Farm Safety Week. Tractor safety included how to safely drive the tractor and what to do to make the tractor safer before, after, and during operation. Gun safety informed students what to do if you see someone with a gun and was presented by a D.A.R.E officer. Poison safety was about look-alikes to poison and every day items. Bike safety educated students how important it is to wear a helmet while riding a bike. ATV safety included a jeopardy game that consisted of learning safety precautions about the vehicle. Animal safety taught the students how close you can get to a horse with it still feeling comfortable and also some information on what could happen if you startle the horse. At the end of the day, students got to take home goodie-bags full of safety supplies, which reminded them that the Heartland FFA wants the students to be safe.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

THE HEARTLAND HIGH SCHOOL BAND RECEIVES FIRST PLACE AT THE YORKFEST PARADE



Secondary Principal

TIM CARR

Ext. 207

tcarr@heartlandschools.net



Administrative Assistant

JESSICA TESSMAN

Ext. 208

jtessman@heartlandschools.net



The Heartland Huskie Band attended the annual Yorkfest Parade, Saturday, September 7th. The band received first place in Class D and also received the Traveling Governors Trophy for the best band in the parade regardless of class. This is the second consecutive year the Heartland Band has received the Governors Trophy.

There were 16 Bands in the Yorkfest Parade. The Heartland Band appreciated all of the support from Heartland community members who attended Yorkfest.

ALL SCHOOL PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN ON OCTOBER 8, 2013

All students in grades Pre K-12th grade will be photographed on Tuesday morning, October 8, 2013. Parents may bring preschoolers in for photos as well, beginning at 8:00AM. Photos will be sold on a pre-pay basis. Packets for ordering photos have been sent home with each student. If you did not receive a packet you may pick one up in the school office.



Elementary Principal

CINDY HUEBERT

Ext. 206

chuebert@heartlandschools.net

Our school believes that to do well in school, students need to be comfortable with who they are and feel physically and emotionally safe. In this effort to create a safe and caring culture, we have brought in Youth Frontiers to facilitate a Kindness Retreat. This is done collaboratively through area schools with the help of ESU6.

Since 1987 Youth Frontiers, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization based in Minneapolis, has been delivering programs to build positive school communities that help young people realize the importance of respecting themselves and others. Their vision is to change the way young people treat each other in every hallway, lunch line and classroom of every school in America so that today's young people make tomorrow's world better. Last year, Youth Frontiers worked with nearly 100,000 students and educators throughout the country.

At the Kindness Retreat, the Youth Frontiers retreat staff focused on creating a more positive school community by engaging students in a variety of activities that build students' empathy skills and teach safe ways to help prevent bullying. Our area schools have focused on 5th grade as a pivotal age to encourage this. Fifth grade, along with 3 Heartland High students (**Colton Siebert, Megan Boardman, and Camryn Dick**) attended this retreat on August 20. For more information, go to www.youthfrontiers.org.



A Big Thank you from Mrs. Steever and her First Grade Class For All the Twister Games.

First grade teacher Dee Steever didn't waste any time converting the "used" TWISTER games that were generously donated to her this summer. Wanting her first graders to practice on math facts, sight words, spelling words tallying and reading are all reasonable goals all first grade teachers have. Mrs. Steever developed the games by assigning a "teacher's role" of reading math problems or sight words that she printed on cards to students. Then the four students are encouraged to solve the problem or find the sight word answer on the TWISTER mat and SWAT it with the fun and funky fly swatters she found this summer. (There are always two correct answers so two out of four children can find the correct answer.)

Mrs. Steever has made a math fact game, sight word game, and number recognition game. She says the possibilities are endless in the language area, as she has already started planning for compound word games, a synonyms, antonyms, rhyming and vowel sound games to name a few. Then there is also fraction, telling time, subtraction and brain teaser games to be planned.

A big thank you goes out from the first graders and Mrs. Steever for the donation of the TWISTER games!



Heartland Community Schools HOMECOMING 2013

“KICKIN’ IT OLD SCHOOL”

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2013

THEME: MEMORY LANE

**(Dress as something that reminds you
of your childhood)**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2013

THEME: TWIN DAY

(Dress as twins, It is also picture day)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013

**THEME: WHATEVER YOU WANT
(ALMOST)**

(Choose your own appropriate theme)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013

THEME: THROWBACK

**(Choose a decade from the past and
wear clothes from that era)**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013

**THEME: OLD SCHOOL HUSKY
DAY**

**(Dress to show your Husky Spirit, wear
vintage Husky or Bulldog apparel)**

**There will be an elementary and
high school Homecoming Poster
Contest again this year. Look for
the elementary and high school
posters in the cafeteria and theatre
hallway.**

GO HUSKIES !



FCS classes are in a nutrition unit, using garden goodies donated by Grace staff member, Hannah. Many thanks, Hannah! They have made pesto from basil, egg casseroles with onions, peppers, tomatoes and are getting ready to begin bread-making.

The Junior High 7th graders are in the process of sewing animal pillows. There were many turtles selected this year!

The 8th graders are winding up power point presentations on child safety and will begin working in the kitchen soon.



*Fruit Pizza Lab-culinary foods: Solomon Doxtator-Morenberg,
Dillon Scheil, Lisa Koslowski, Elysa Arkulari & Desirae Ness.*

FFA NEEDS PUMPKINS

Calling all pumpkin growers!!! Do you have a pumpkin patch that has produced more pumpkins than you know what to do with? Don't just let them rot in the patch! Please consider donating them to the Heartland FFA. Students will be learning about pumpkins, as well as carving them. These carved pumpkins will then be donated to Rosewood Court, as holiday decorations.



National Honor Society News



New totes were purchased to replace the old recycling boxes.



Recycling totes for the classrooms

NHS Members Kaci Hiebner & Colton Siebert stacking the colorful new totes.

NHS Purchases Recycling Totes



The National Honor Society improved their recycling program this fall by upgrading the recycling boxes to plastic totes. Thirty four totes were purchased, labeled and distributed throughout Heartland Community School by NHS members. The National Honor Society recycles all white paper collected in classrooms and offices before school on the second Monday of each month.

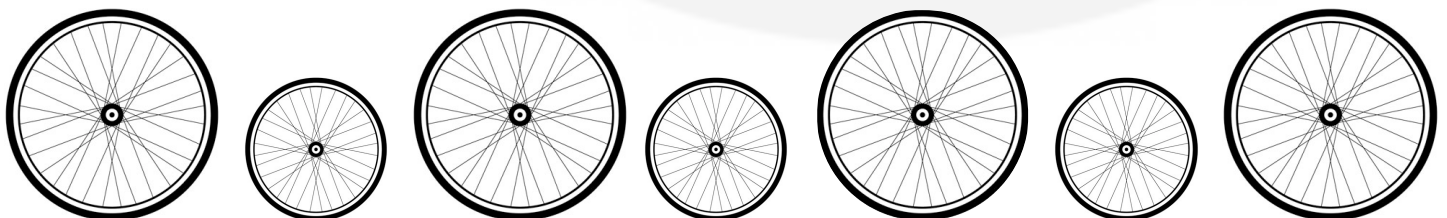
NHS to hold a “Tombstone Raffle” to help raise money for the restoration of the Farmers Valley Cemetery

The National Honor Society is helping restore Farmer’s Valley Cemetery and prepare for the fall and winter months by having a work day in October. Suzanne Ratzlaff noted that it will cost \$23,000 - \$28,000 for two restoration specialists from South Carolina to help restore the gravestones at the historic site in addition to their travel and lodging expenses. To assist with these expenses, Heartland National Honor Society members will host a “Tombstone Raffle” at the Heartland Homecoming Football Game on October 11 and the Huskie Volleyball Game versus Sutton on October 17. Seasonally themed tombstone cakes and cookies will be raffled off at these events and free will donations will be accepted. All proceeds will be given toward the restoration of Farmers Valley. Henderson State Bank is partnering with the National Honor Society by matching all donations. Please attend these sporting events and help the National Honor Society restore the Farmers Valley Cemetery.



Several Heartland Staff Joined the Grace Students and Staff on the Bike Ride to Camp Timberlake

This past August, our students from Grace Children's Home were able to participate in the yearly summer trip to Camp Timberlake. This trip is a fun adventure where the students train each week in preparations for a 64 mile round trip bike ride. They biked 32 miles to Camp Timberlake where they stayed for three days participating in fun activities such as horseback riding, high and low ropes courses, swimming and going off the blob, to having nightly campfires and devotions with different guest speakers. This gave the kids the opportunity to end the summer with not only a fun few days away from Henderson but also the satisfaction of knowing they completed a 64 mile bike ride together. They were also very fortunate to have many teachers participate in this event as well. Included in the Timberlake bike ride were **Principal Tim Carr, Resource Teacher Marietta Adams, Ag Instructor Stephanie Miller and English Instructor Sarah Mathewson.** Mr. Carr and Miss Mathewson were able to participate on the bike ride all the way to Timberlake, Mrs. Miller road with them to Hampton, and Ms. Adams was able to join us for the entire trip. Mrs. Zuehlsdorf was kind enough to cheer us on upon our return through Hampton with treats. We had a blast and were grateful so many wonderful people were able to enjoy this experience with us!





October



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6	7 Spaghetti Green Beans Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	8 Chicken Fajita Corn Blueberry Muffins Fruit & Veggie Bar	9 Sloppy Joes Fries Fruit & Veggie Bar	10 Taco Salad Coffee Cake Fruit & Veggie Bar	11 Pig in the Blanket Baked Beans Steamed Broccoli Fruit & Veggie Bar	12
13	14 Baked Potato Bar Chicken Strips Bread Sticks	15 Pizza Slushies Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar	16 Chili Cinnamon Roll Saltines Fruit & Veggie Bar	17 Chicken Nuggets M.P./Gravy Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	18 Tater Tot Casserole French Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar	19
20	21 BBQ Meatballs Cornbread Peas Fruit & Veggie Bar	22 Taco's Mini Cinn. Donut Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar	23 Chicken Nuggets M.P./Gravy Dinner Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	24 Teriyaki Chicken Chicken Rice Steamed Broccoli Fruit & Veggie Bar	25 NO SCHOOL	26
27	28 NO SCHOOL	29 Enchilada's Green Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	30 Hotdogs Baked Beans Steamed Broccoli Fruit & Veggie Bar	31 Max Cheese Sticks Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar Happy Halloween	---	---Menu subject to Change---

October 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM FFA IMPACT Workshop for 9th Grade 4:30 PM JH Football @ Giltner 4:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 PM G Golf-Quad-Adams Central/St. Cecilia/Superior (A) 4:00 5:00 PM VB Tournament @ Hastings St. Cecilia 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM JH VB Dual-Fullerton (H) 4:30/5:30 5:00 PM Volleyball Tournament @ Hastings St. Cecilia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schoolreach Integration 7:00 PM Football-Franklin (H) 7:00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvest of Harmony JH VB Tourna...cilia 9:00am 7:00 PM VB Triangular Friend/BDS @ Friend 7:00/8:00/9:00
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homecoming Week 9:00 AM G Golf Districts G I @ 9:00AM 4:30 PM JH Football-Exeter-Milligan (H) 4:30 4:30 PM JH VB Dual @ McCool- 4:30/5:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifetouch Photos G Golf Districts G I @ 9:00AM 5:30 PM VB Triangular-Doniphan-Trumbull/Giltner (H) 5:30/6:30/7:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FFA Land Judging 12:00 PM Art Club Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM VB Dual -Superior (A) 5:30/6:30/7:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Football-McCool Jct (H) 7:00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM JH VB Tournament -Thayer Central (A) 9:00AM 10:00 AM NHS Farmers Valley Cleanup
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:45 AM NHS Recycling 9:00 AM G Golf State Meet 12:00 PM NHS Meeting 5:00 PM JH VB Quad-Giltner/Harvard /Doniphan-Trumbull (A) 5:00PM 7:00 PM FFA/FBLA Mtg 8:00 PM Bd of Ed Mtg. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> G Golf State Meet 5:00 PM VB Dual-David City (H) 5:00/6:00/7:00 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM VB Dual-Sutton (H) 5:30/6:30/7:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of 1st Nine Weeks 7:00 PM FB-Bruning-Davenport-Shickley 7:00 (A) 	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM JH Football @ Cross Co. 4:30 4:30 PM K-12 Parent-Teacher Conference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM VB Dual Nebr. Christian (A) 6:00/7:00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Plan test 10th grade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM K-12 Parent-Teacher Conference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No School 7:00 PM Football @ Red Cloud 7:00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM JV VB Tournament @ Seward 9:00am
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VB SNC No School-T...Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National FFA Convention VB SNC 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Football-1st Round Playoffs 7:00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VB SNC Finals 	

Heartland FBLA Members attend Fall Leadership Conference

The Nebraska FBLA Fall Leadership Conference was held September 24 in Kearney. This conference was a one-day workshop for FBLA officers and members. The FBLA state officers shared information on various activities and state goals. This year's state theme is "Excellence in Action."

The 2013-2014 state goals are: **ACTIVATE**-charter or reactivate seven chapters, including one middle level chapter and increase membership to 5,400 members; **COMMUNICATION**-develop an updated parliamentary procedure resource, compile a flyer for first time NLC attendees, create a resource promoting running for a state office and increase awareness about FBLA for junior high students; **TARGET**-donate \$18,000 to the March of Dimes, raise \$11,000 for the Nebraska FBLA Foundation and Tally it Up to six hours per member or 33,000 hours; **INVOLVEMENT**-contribute to Feed Nebraska, increase member participation in the Business Achievement Awards, complete Money Smart Nebraska projects, participate in the Go Green Challenge and promote involvement on national boards; **ONLINE**-educate members on dress code through a video, publish a video about the Business Achievement Awards, host a webinar on membership recruitment and produce a video highlighting the benefits of FBLA; **NETWORK**-increase social media communication and encourage chapters to host area meetings.

The keynote speaker at the general session was Bob Upgren. His presentation was titled, "The Art of Leadership." He encouraged members to be leaders by doing what they are passionate about because that passion naturally draws people to follow. Following the general session, the officers and members attended individual workshops.

The following officers and members attended the conference: **President Allison Braun, Vice President Colton Siebert, Secretary Aubrey DeBraal, Treasurer Bailey Carr, Historian Owen Wurst, Committee Representative Haley Huebert, Bailey Monnier, Eve Vanderneck, Leslie Braun, and Adviser Kristy Most.**



Front Row: left to right: Aubrey DeBraal, Allison Braun, Haley Huebert. **Back Row:** left to right: Bailey Carr, Owen Wurst, Colton Siebert, Eve Vanderneck, Leslie Braun & Bailey Monnier.

Upcoming Dates

October 5, 2013
Harvest of Harmony

October 7-11 2013
Homecoming Week

October 8, 2013
Lifetouch Photos

October 14, 2013
Board of Education Meeting @ 8:00pm

October 21 & 24, 2013
Parent-Teacher Conference @ 4:30pm

October 25, 2013
No School

October 28, 2013
NO SCHOOL-
TeacherProfessionalDevelopment

**PARENT
TEACHERS
CONFERENCES
OCTOBER 21 & 24, 2013
4:30-8:30PM**

Wanted

The first grade classes are collecting black and yellow and/or brown and yellow spiders. So if you find any of these creatures please bring them to Mrs. Steever or Mrs. Ratzlaff's class.



POSITION AVAILABLE

Bus Driver: A CDL and bus driver license is needed for this position. We will work with you to obtain these certifications. If you are interested, please call Matt Quiring, maintenance supervisor, at the school office 4020723-4434 or his cell phone, 402-363-9960.



Office of the Superintendent
Heartland Community Schools
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