



Heartland Community School  
Henderson/Bradshaw  
December 2009 Newsletter  
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Dear Parents, Patrons, and Friends of Heartland Community Schools,

The holiday season is a time for rejoicing and for the joy of giving. It is also a time to recognize persons for their accomplishments. Sometimes a few encouraging or congratulatory words can mean much more than any material gift. As we approach the holiday season, I would like to encourage everyone to reach out and compliment others on their achievements and strengths.

I would like to congratulate Taylor Janzen for being selected by NSAA for their Believers & Achievers Award. She was recognized at the halftime of the Class B State Football Championship game on Tuesday, November 24. I would also like to congratulate Crista Buller for being selected for the All State Choir, Southern Nebraska All Conference Volleyball selections: Tori Bittinger and Katie Wilhelm for the second team and Taylor Janzen for honorable mention; All District football players: 1st team offense; Carlin Epp, Seth Schaldecker, 2nd team offense; Jarred Erb, 1st Team defense; Jordan Hiebner, Lance Hiebner, and Seth Schaldecker, Honorable Mention; Jordan Hiebner, offensive guard; Carlin Epp, Kicker; and Alex Ruybalid, defensive back; Mr. Schweitzer and the band members for their excellent marching this fall, and all the Heartland students who made the honor roll for the first nine weeks. We can be proud of all of the accomplishments of our Heartland students.

Thanks to each of you for your part, whether as a parent, a grandparent, or simply a supporter in shaping the lives of each of our students at Heartland. During this Thanksgiving season we are especially thankful for all of your support and encouragement.

I hope each of you have a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Norm Yoder, Superintendent

**COMMUNITY NIGHT AT WENDY'S  
RESTURANT IN YORK**

**2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 5-8 PM  
10% OF ALL SALES DONATED TO OUR SCHOOL**

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOOD DRIVE**

The National Honor Society of Heartland Community Schools will host a food drive at the school. The donations will be distributed to people in our community and the immediate area within our district. No one is required to participate, but the generosity will be appreciated by the families and individuals receiving these gifts. The food drive will start on Monday, December 7, 2009, and will end Friday, December 18, 2009. Food will be delivered on the morning of Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009. Please help in this cause.

**Dec. 7: PASTA:** spaghetti, lasagna noodles, noodles, macaroni, canned sauces, macaroni and cheese.

**Dec. 8: CANNED FOODS:** vegetables & fruit.

**Dec. 9: SOUP AND CRACKERS**

**Dec. 10: BREAKFAST:** cereal, pancake mix, syrup, muffin mix, jelly, Pop Tarts.

**Dec. 11 CLEANING SUPPLIES:** Pledge, dishwashing soap, Ajax, Windex, Mr. Clean, sponges.

**Dec. 14: DESSERT:** cake mix, Jell-O, pudding, cookie and bar mixes.

**Dec. 15: CHRISTMAS FOODS:** chocolate chips, pie fillings, nuts, Christmas candy.

**Dec. 16: PROTEIN:** tuna, peanut butter, cheese whiz, salmon, chicken.

**Dec. 17: PAPER AND PERSONAL:** soap, toothpaste, toilet tissue, paper towels, Kleenex, deodorant, shampoo, combs, razors, toothbrush.

**Dec. 18: APPLES AND ORANGES**

If you know a family that is in need of this gift or you have any questions, please call Ms. Sharon Bishop at the school.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT SOCIAL**

There will be a social following the 7-12 Christmas Concert which will be held Monday, December 21 at 7:30 pm. The social is sponsored by the band parents. Junior high band, senior high band and the senior high choir members are asked to bring 1 1/2 dozen cookies per family for the social. Please deliver the cookies to the kitchen when you arrive for the concert.

## 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. In Henderson it will be announced with voiceover capabilities on any cable channel (in town) when your TV is on. This year we are implementing an automated phone message service through School Reach which we plan on using for school closings. 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 at 10:00PM. In the mornings it will be announced on the half hour from 6:30AM to 8:00AM (cable only).



### **WHAT'S COOKING WITH FCS?**

Holiday Around the World has been keeping the Culinary foods class busy this month. They have been making power point presentations and creating recipes from the countries of Ethiopia, Viet Nam, Germany, Mexico, Italy, and China. This year, we have some students with family from some of these countries and it has been interesting to hear their input on these projects. The FCS I class is constructing colorful quilts. The junior high FCS class is hard at work sewing cartoon pillow projects and preparing for their holiday open house this month.

### **HEARTLAND FFA AWARDS GREENHAND DEGREES**

The Heartland FFA Chapter recently welcomed 16 new members into active membership and awarded these members the Greenhand Degree. To receive the Greenhand Degree a student must be enrolled in their first year of agricultural science, have a satisfactory plan for a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) and must have demonstrated their understanding of the history and purpose of the FFA.

To help celebrate accomplishments of the Heartland Greenhand Degree winners, a hamburger feed was held. Special thanks to Circle 5 for donating the hamburgers and buns. Also, thank you to Alan Janzen, Brian Janzen and Glen Ott for grilling the hamburgers.

After the meal the Heartland FFA Officers awarded the Greenhand Degrees to the new members. Receiving their Greenhand Degrees were: Samantha Boardman, Deit Driewer, Justin Foster, Matt Hiebner, Mattison Hiebner, Maelyn Huebert, Aaron Jensen, Ashton Krocker, Bianca Kujala, Emily Ott, Daniel Quiring, Brent Regier, Stephanie Stamp, Nikki Chacon, Leslie Borroyo and Alex Ruybalid

## **ELEMENTARY ART WORKSHOP**



This month the Heartland Art Club is celebrating Christmas cheer by holding an elementary art workshop. Students from grades Kindergarten through 4th grade are encouraged to attend this workshop on December 1st and December 8th from 3:45-4:45pm. The Art club members will help the students make their projects. The cost is \$5.00 a student.

### **ENSURE YOUR CHILD CONTINUES TO LEARN OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAY**

Your child looks at the calendar and imagines the joy of having no schedule for the whole winter school holiday. You look at the same blank squares on your calendar and have a mild moment of panic.

However, the winter break can give you a chance to spend a little extra time with your child. Here are some activities that will keep her learning--and that will keep you from hearing, "I'm bored" during the holiday:

- Assemble a list from your local newspaper of places to go and things to do. Every community has places that will interest kids. Check out a local museum (see if they have a day when admission is free). Look for free concerts you can attend. See if the local public library has any special story hours or performances.
- Get outside. Be sure you schedule time every day to be outdoors. Walk, bike, skate, ski--but get outside!
- Look for a video based on a children's book. Read the book first, then watch the video. Discuss how the two were alike, and what differences you saw.
- Prepare food together. Nearly every culture has some special foods associated with the holiday season. With your child, prepare foods you remember from your childhood. Share your memories. Or do some research and prepare a dish you've never tried.
- Volunteer. Set aside time for a family volunteer activity. Feed animals at the animal shelter. Make sandwiches for people living on the street. Your child will learn the best gift is the gift of service.

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## Henderson/Bradshaw

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#### ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO BE HONEST IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

Research shows that by the time kids reach elementary school, most know the difference between honesty and lying. But that doesn't make truth-telling easy!

To encourage honesty in your child:

- **Be a role model.** Children are good "lie detectors." They notice when parents tell the truth--and when they don't.
- **Reward trustworthiness.** If your child is truthful in a difficult situation, compliment him!
- **React calmly.** When your child lies, don't label him a "liar." Express confidence that he will make better choices in the future.
- **Discuss honesty.** Why is it important to be honest? Note examples of honesty and dishonesty--and their effects.
- **Create opportunities** for telling the truth. Say, "You broke my vase," instead of, "Did you do this?" It's better to say what happened rather than to ask unnecessary questions.

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#### MAKE ONLINE SAFETY A PRIORITY FOR EVERY MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY

Kids use computers for homework, fun and socializing, but the convenience has a cost. Families must promote computer and Internet safety. Thankfully, NetSmartz, an online safety resource, shares lots of tips with parents and kids:

- Keep the computer in a central spot, such as in the family room, where you can keep an eye on Internet activities.
- Consider installing programs that make computer use safer for kids. Also check your Internet service provider's safety features.
- Learn about Internet safety. Then talk with your child about basic rules and post them near the computer. (Find examples at [www.netsmartz.org/resources/pledge.htm](http://www.netsmartz.org/resources/pledge.htm).)
- Protect personal information, such as name and age. Discuss why it shouldn't be shared online. Never agree to meet online-only "friends" or acquaintances in person.
- Don't respond to inappropriate messages. Instead, turn off the monitor and tell a trusted adult. Also notify law enforcement. (Visiting CyberTipline.com can help.)

- Go online together. Let your child show you her computer skills and favorite sites. Guide her to child-friendly resources.
- Keep track of your child's online activities. With whom does she email or chat? What games does she play? What sites does she use? Supervise closely and keep online accounts in your name.
- Remember that your child may go online in other locations, such as at a friend's home. Take steps to ensure safety no matter where she uses the Internet.

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#### DON'T FORGET MOTHER NATURE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

It should come as no surprise that between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, Americans' excessiveness hits an annual high, especially where waste is concerned. We throw out 25 percent more garbage at this time than we discard the rest of the year. That's a million extra tons of garbage per week.

This year consider some of the tidbits below provided by *The ULS Report* (that stands for *Use Less Stuff*). Use a few of the suggestions, and Mother Nature will appreciate your thoughtfulness.

- If every family saved and reused just 2 feet of ribbon per year, enough ribbon would be saved to tie a bow around the entire planet. When unwrapping gifts, poke two holes in a paper plate and feed the ribbons through so they are easy to find and reuse later.
- More than 2 billion holiday cards sold in the United States each year could fill a football field 10 stories high. If each family cut back by one card (not that *The ULS Report* advocates "Scrooginess"), they'd save 50,000 cubic yards of paper. At least try using recycled paper products and send e-cards when possible.
- If every American throws away just one tablespoon of mashed potatoes, it adds up to 16 million pounds of waste in landfills. It that's unimaginable in your family, think of it this way: One discarded spoonful of cranberry sauce amounts to over 14 million pounds. Make only as much as you need and eat moderately.
- Reduce the number of bags thrown out by carrying your own, whether you're shopping for gifts or groceries.

*The ULS Report* has more useful tips on it website at <http://use-less-stuff.com/>

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
Henderson/Bradshaw  
Regular Board Meeting  
Monday, October 12, 2009  
Henderson Attendance Center – Conference Room  
8:00 PM  
MINUTES

Members Present: Galen R. Friesen, Gary Braun, Debra Wilhelm, Kerri Kliewer, Mark Dick, and Paul Brune. Others Present: Supt. Norm Yoder, Principals Tim Carr and Cindy Huebert.

I. Call to Order

President Braun called the regular meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

II. President Braun declared the meeting to be open, legal and properly advertised with all members having been informed of the nature of the meeting and having received Related information. He also indicated the posting of the open meetings law at the front of the room.

III. Approval of Agenda

**Action 1:** Motion by Brune, second by Friesen, to approve the agenda as revised. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

IV. Audience with Individuals and/or Committees  
Consent Agenda

V. Minutes of Meeting

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on September 14, 2009.

VI. Treasurer's Report

The General Fund Treasurer's report was reviewed and filed pending audit.

VII. Claims  
General Fund

VIII. Financial Reports

The financial reports for the School Lunch Fund, Activity Fund, Unemployment Fund, and the Depreciation Fund were reviewed and filed pending audit.

**Action 2:** Motion by Friesen, second by Kliewer, to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of the September 14, 2009 regular meeting and the general Fund claims. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

IX. Administrative Reports

The board heard administrator reports on K-6 testing results, plans for Homecoming week, 7 students participating in the John Baylor Test Prep, student discipline conference attended by Mr. Carr, FFA & FBLA activities, SNC Sportsmanship Summit attended by nine students, Mr. Vancura and Mr. Carr, Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership opportunities, and a few H1N1 flu cases that have

been reported. The board also received an invitation from the Henderson Chamber of Commerce to attend the chamber's strategic planning session on Thursday, November 4, 2009.

X. Track Repair/Replacement

The board reviewed a summary of expenses as projected for the final costs of the track and football field. A final report will not be complete until the November board meeting.

XI. Discussion with Neighboring Districts

Supt. Yoder reported about discussions he has had with the York superintendent about possible program/staff sharing opportunities in the future.

XII. Drug Prevention Policy Review

The board reviewed current board policies and administrative regulations on Drugs and Alcohol as required by the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 10.

XIII. NASB Voting Delegate/LRN Representative

**Action 3:** Motion by Dick, second by Kliewer, to appoint Deb Wilhelm to represent the board as the NASB voting delegate and LRN representative. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

XIV. Board Self Evaluation

The board reviewed the Self Evaluation document and confirmed plans to have each board member fill it out and return to the school office, for compilation, by October 30.

XV. Superintendent Evaluation

The board reviewed the Superintendent's Evaluation document and confirmed plans to have each board member fill it out and return to President Braun, for compilation, by October 30.

XX Personnel

**Action 4:** Motion by Kliewer, second by Braun, to approve Janae Parsons as a local substitute teacher. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

**Action 5:** Motion by Kliewer, second by Wilhelm, to go into executive session to review the employee and student disciplinary action at 9:16 p.m. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

**Action 6:** Motion by Kliewer, second by Dick, to come out of executive session at 9:37 p.m. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

XX. Adjournment

President Braun adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.



Heartland Community Schools  
1501 Front Street  
Henderson, NE 68371

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## ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- December 7-18: NHS Food Drive
- December 8: K-6 Christmas program 2:30 matinee & 7:00 pm
- December 21: 7-12 Christmas program 7:30 pm
- December 22: Dismiss at 1:30 for Christmas Vacation
- December 23-January 5: No School Christmas Vacation
- December 23-27: NSAA Moratorium - All gyms closed
- January 5: Begin Second Semester

*Heartland Community Schools Board of  
Education, Administration,  
Faculty and Staff wish you a very Mer-  
ry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year!*

