



# Heartland Community School

## Henderson/Bradshaw

### December 2011 Newsletter

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Dear Parents, Patrons, and Friends of Heartland Community Schools,

The first semester is winding down and the winter activities are beginning the first week of December. We appreciate the support you give to the students at Heartland through their academic endeavors and the different extra-curricular activities that they are involved in. As the basketball season begins this week, we hope that sportsmanship will continue to be a high priority for all of our students, coaches, and fans. We want everyone to represent Heartland in a very positive manner. Ten of our students, Mr. Carr, Mr. Baehr, and Mr. Veerhusen attended a sportsmanship summit earlier this fall sponsored by the Southern Nebraska Conference. The summit emphasized the role of the student body, players, coaches, and the fans during athletic contests. Please review the insert that is included in this newsletter on these expectations.

Most of you are probably aware that I have turned in my retirement plans, effective June 20, 2011, to the board of education at the October board meeting. It has been a great 27 years, 13 as part of Henderson Community Schools and the last 14 as part of Heartland Community Schools. The part that has made it so enjoyable has been the excellent staff that I have had to work with and I will be ever grateful for that opportunity. I have also appreciated the exceptional parental and community support that the students and staff at Heartland receive from each of you. We have an excellent school system and I hope that everyone will continue to work towards making it an even better system. At the November board meeting, the board of education hired the FGR Group to assist them with the superintendent search. They will assist them with developing a profile for what they would like to see in a new superintendent and to conduct background and reference checks on all of the applicants. The goal is to have a new superintendent hired by the middle of February. The new superintendent would begin July 1, 2012.

The board of education members were recognized at the Nebraska Association of School Boards state convention for receiving the Outstanding Board Award. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> time out of 19 years that the award has been given that the local board of education has been honored. I believe this is a real tribute to the quality of individuals we have had serve on the local school board. The awards are given for points earned by attending NASB sponsored activities in addition to other board training activities that members participate in. I would like to congratulate the current board members for this honor, Paul Brune, president, Gary

Braun, vice president, Boyd Stuhr, Jr., treasurer, Deb Wilhelm, secretary, and members Kent Allen, and Glenn Larson.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas season and that you have the opportunity to spend quality time with your families.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Norm Yoder, Superintendent

#### 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 5, 2011, and will end Friday, December 16, 2011. Food will be delivered on the morning of Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011. Please help in this cause.

**Dec. 5: PASTA:** spaghetti, lasagna noodles, noodles, macaroni, canned sauces, macaroni and cheese.

**Dec. 6: CANNED FOODS:** vegetables & fruit.

**Dec. 7: SOUP AND CRACKERS**

**Dec. 8: BREAKFAST:** cereal, pancake mix, syrup, muffin mix, jelly, Pop Tarts.

**Dec. 9 CLEANING SUPPLIES:** Pledge, dishwashing soap, Ajax, Windex, Mr. Clean, sponges.

**Dec. 12: DESSERT:** cake mix, Jell-O, pudding, cookie and bar mixes.

**Dec. 13: CHRISTMAS FOODS:** chocolate chips, pie fillings, nuts, Christmas candy.

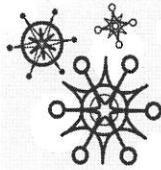
**Dec. 14: PROTEIN:** tuna, peanut butter, cheese whiz, salmon, chicken.

**Dec. 15: PAPER AND PERSONAL:** soap, toothpaste, toilet tissue, paper towels, Kleenex, deodorant, shampoo, combs, razors, toothbrush.

**Dec. 16: APPLES AND ORANGES**

If you know a family that is in need of this gift or if you have any questions, please call Miss Lindsay Bartling at the school or email her at [lbartling@esu6.org](mailto:lbartling@esu6.org).

### 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).



### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT SOCIAL**

There will be a social following the 7-12 Christmas Concert which will be held Tuesday, December 22 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.



Art Club held the first session of the Elementary Art Workshop on November 10<sup>th</sup>. This year there were more students than the past year. These 60 enthusiastic Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade students constructed plaster masks at the first session. December 1<sup>st</sup> is the second session and they will be painting and decorating their masks.

In High School, the art class students went to the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha. The trip was on November 16<sup>th</sup> and was funded by a grant. The students enjoyed the excellent artwork and the educational tour.

### **PLACE A HIGH PRIORITY ON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AT THIS TIME OF YEAR**

December is exciting for many families. You may be celebrating a holiday. Even if you are not, your child will have winter break from school. You may be planning something different because of this time off. You may even be traveling.

Just remember--school is not out yet! Attendance in December and again in January is just as important as it is at other times of the year.

Keep in mind that:

- Many teachers assign projects that are due before the winter break.
- Middle school students often have tests in every subject the week before they go on break.
- Your child will have to make up any missed work. Making up December work in January could be very difficult on your child.

Strive to:

- Have your child in school every day until break. Shopping is not an excuse for missing school.
- Limit evening activities during the school week. Your child still needs to study.
- Postpone travel plans until the break actually begins.

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### **HELP YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOLER DEAL WITH SILENT PEER PRESSURE**

Much of the advice kids get about dealing with peer pressure has to do with verbal situations. Perhaps your child will be given a dare--to try alcohol or cigarettes. Or he will be told, "C'mon we're all going," in an attempt to get him to skip school.

He may have his answers ready for these situations. But silent pressure--in which it is assumed he will go along or lose face--can be even harder to resist.

You can help your child if you:

- Encourage friendships with students who have similar values. Real friends are the best guard against silent pressure. If your child has at least one supportive friend, he will be less likely to be a "lemming"--someone who simply follows the crowd.
- Teach your child "the stare." Dirty looks are a big part of unspoken peer pressure. What those who try this technique don't expect is to have the person look back. Staring back, and making eye contact, is a way for your child to silently say, "You don't intimidate me."
- Encourage your child to be an individual. Anyone can wear or say or do the same things as the crowd. If your child has his own style, great! Praise him: "I love your creativity. I love that you're your own person." Confidence in yourself is the best weapon against peer pressure."

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#### CATCHING UP WITH TECHNOLOGY IN 2011

Have you seen these codes around? Ask your Heartland students what they are. These are QR codes that can link you to a website, a text message, or some other information. Some of the teachers at Heartland have put these up outside their doors to use as a link to something that students are doing in school or an activity that they are excited about. All you need is a tablet or Smartphone with a barcode scanner application, then scan these codes and see what Heartland Community Schools is trying to tell you!



#### LET HEARTLAND SHINE A LIGHT ON YOU, FREE FIXTURE GIVEAWAY!

Heartland Community Schools has upgraded all the lighting fixtures to new energy efficient ones. It has been great on our electric bill but bad on our storage space. Many of you have purchased fixtures over the last few months. We appreciate your interest, however, we will still have many 4 foot fixtures left and we need the storage space. In order to free up this space before winter we are planning on a fixture giveaway day. Come and help yourself on Saturday, Dec 10th, 2011 between 9:00 am and 12 noon. All fixtures will be located at the bus storage facility on Oak Street, just north of the football field. Please come to the north side of the building. If you have any questions, please call Dr. Norm Yoder, superintendent at the school office 402-723-4434 or cell phone 402-363-9218.



#### BACK PACK PROGRAM RECOGNITION

We would like to give a special thanks to the Mennonite Brethren Congregation for their part in supplying two back packs full of food that are distributed, each week, to families in the Heartland District. This is carrying out the true spirit of Christmas the year around. Thanks for your weekly contributions.

#### BREAK YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOLER'S BAD HABIT WITH RULES & CONSEQUENCES

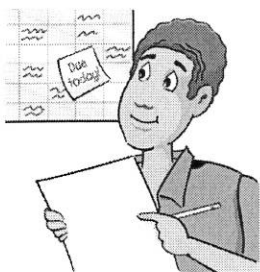
Your child slams his door shut each time he goes to his bedroom, and you've had about all you can take. Should you take the door off its hinges and be done with it? Maybe, but not right away.

Start by inviting your child to help you address the problem--and to come up with a solution. Here's how:

- **Explain the situation.** "I've asked you over and over not to slam your bedroom door, but you keep doing it. We need to figure out how to solve this problem."
- **Acknowledge that it's not intentional.** "I understand that you're not always slamming your door on purpose. But you need to stop."
- **Develop a game plan.** Help your child modify his behavior by giving him a few steps to follow. "Each time you go into your room, stop, turn around and close your door." By thinking about what he's doing as he's doing it, he may be able to break the door-slamming habit.
- **Outline the consequences.** Be sure he understands what's at stake. "I'll give you one week to stop slamming your door. The first time it slams after that, you'll lose the privilege of keeping it closed."
- **Follow through.** If your child continues slamming the door after one week, either prop it open or remove it altogether. Tell him he'll earn back his privacy when he comes up with--and agrees to follow through on--another no-slamming plan.

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### DISCUSS THREE QUALITIES THAT MAKE A PERSON DEPENDABLE

Dependability is a key to your child's success in life. In fact, it may be the key. It matters little how talented or smart someone is if that person cannot be counted on. It is the person who shows up on time and puts forth effort that will be considered for advancement.

Encourage your child to:

1. **Do what she says she will do.** At school, she should turn assignments in on time. If she is part of a group, whether academically or in an extracurricular activity, she should do her part. Others may succeed or fail based on whether she pulls her weight.
2. **Make amends.** Everyone makes mistakes. It's part of life. But your child should also try to correct them. If she lets someone down, she should say: "I'm sorry. I won't let it happen again. How can I make it up to you?"
3. **Be cheerful.** Showing up and doing the job is highly important. But if your child does it while scowling and muttering under her breath, she likely won't be asked again. And that's how wonderful opportunities are missed.

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### HEARTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS -

Henderson/Bradshaw  
Regular Board Meeting  
Monday, October 10, 2011  
Conference Room  
8:00 PM  
MINUTES

Members Present: Gary Braun, Debra Wilhelm, Paul Brune, Boyd Stuhr, Jr., Glenn Larson, and Kent Allen.  
Others Present: Supt. Norm Yoder, Principals Tim Carr, and Cindy Huebert. Faculty: Marietta Adams

#### I. Call to Order

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

II. President Brune 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 Larson, second by Stuhr, to approve the agenda as revised. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

#### IV. Audience with Individuals and/or Committees

#### V. Consent Agenda

**Action 2:** Motion by Braun, second by Allen, to approve consent agenda which includes the minutes of the regular meeting of September 12, 2011, the Levy Setting Hearing of September 12, 2011, the general fund claims, and financial reports. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

#### VI. Administrative Reports

The board heard administrative reports on third and fourth grade students attending the Plum Creek Literacy Festival with their teachers, six teachers attending the Mimio interactive white board training, elementary teacher discussions on Bullying, reading assessments completed by Title I teachers, breakdown of high school students involved in athletics, 10 students and three staff attended the SNC Sportsmanship Summit, principal meetings, 12 students attending the career exploration, survey sent out to area schools on what they are doing to deal with bullying, FFA and FBLA student activities, and CPR and Difibulator training for 30 staff members.

#### VII. Discussion with Neighboring Districts

No further discussions have taken place with neighboring school districts

#### VIII. Conference Affiliation

**Action 3:** Motion by Larson, second by Brune, to continue membership in the Southern Nebraska Conference and to have the administration actively pursue discussions with similar size schools on the possibility of organizing a new conference and to send a letter of explanation to parents. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

#### IX. Theater Heating & AC Project

Supt. Yoder reviewed the progress on the Theater Heating and AC Project.

#### X. Music Trip to Kansas City

**Action 4:** Motion by Braun, second by Wilhelm, to approve the band and chorus trip to Kansas City in May after school is dismissed. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

#### XI. Review of Drug Prevention Policies

The administrators reviewed the policies in the board manual and student handbook concerning drugs and alcohol as required by NDE Rule 10.

#### XII. Appointment of NASB Voting Delegate/LRN Representative

**Action 5:** Motion by Stuhr, second by Braun, to appoint Deb Wilhelm as the NASB Voting Delegate/LRN Representative. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.



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#### XIII. Official Enrollment Report for 2011-2012

The board reviewed the official enrollment report of 298 students, K-6 – 157, 7-8 – 38, 9-12 – 103 for a total of 298 plus 25 preschool students for a grand total of 323.

#### XIV. Board Self Evaluation

The board reviewed the Board Self Evaluation Document that each of them will fill out and return to the superintendent for compilation by November 1, 2011.

#### XV. Superintendent Evaluation

The board reviewed the Superintendent Evaluation Document that each of them will fill out and return to President Brune for compilation by November 1, 2011.

#### XVI. Policy Review

The board reviewed the first half of Section G – Personnel of the Board Policy Manual. The board held the first reading on Policy JBBB – Early Kindergarten Entrance.

#### XVII. Plans for NASB Convention in Omaha on November 17 & 18.

The board made initial plans to attend the State NASB Convention in November.

#### XVIII. Personnel

**Action 6:** Motion by Brune, second by Braun, to go into executive session at 9:17p.m. to review a teachers resignation, replacement, and the Insurance Premium December Moratorium Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against. President Brune declared to exit the executive session at 10:27 p.m.

**Action 7:** Motion by Larson, second by Allen, to accept the resignation of Suzanne Ratzlaff effective at the conclusion of the first quarter, Friday, October 14, 2011, approve the retirement agreement as discussed, and expressed appreciation for her 35 years of service to the district. . Motion Carried: 5-for; 1-against (Brune).

**Action 8:** Motion by Braun, second by Stuhr, to approve the appointment of Kim Hiebner as the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher effective at the beginning of the second quarter for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

**Action 9:** Motion by Brune, second by Larson, to go into executive session at 10:30 p.m. for personnel reasons. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against. President Brune declared to exit the executive session at 10:58 p.m.

**Action 10:** Motion by Brune, second by Braun, to accept the early retirement of Dr. Norm Yoder effective June 30, 2012 as discussed. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

#### XIX. Adjournment

President Brune adjourned the meeting at 11:05 p.m.

### HEARTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS – HENDERSON/BRADSHAW SPECIAL BOARD MEETING Monday, October 24, 2011 Conference Room MINUTES

Members Present: Paul Brune, Gary Braun, Boyd Stuhr, Jr, Kent Allen, Deb Wilhelm and Glen Larson. Others Present: Supt. Norm Yoder, Principals Tim Carr and Cindy Huebert.

I. President Brune called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. President Brune declared the meeting to open, legal, and properly advertised with all members having been informed of the nature of the meeting and having received all related information.

#### III. Approval of agenda

**Action 1:** Motion by Stuhr; second by Braun to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried: 6 - for; 0 –against.

#### IV. Insurance Premium Funds

**Action 2:** Motion by Brune; second by Larson to go into executive session to discuss the Insurance Premium Funds at 6:08 p.m. Motion Carried: 6 – for; 0 – against. President Brune declared executive session ended at 6:30 p.m.

**Action 3:** Motion by Larson; second by Braun, to approve the dividing the Insurance Premium on a 50 - 50 basis, with 50% going towards a stipend and 50% being used for classroom supplies less the district cost for FICA. Motion Carried: 4 – for; 2 – against.(Allen, Brune).

#### V. Adjournment

President Brune adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.



# 2011

Southern Nebraska Conference  
**SPORTSMANSHIP  
SUMMIT**  
What does  
**SPORTSMANSHIP**  
look like?



*Climbing to new heights*

## Participants

- Focuses on what's happening with their own team, not opponent
- Stays mentally tough and is mentally disciplined
- Gives it his/her best
- Encourages teammates; supportive
- Always positive—smile; good attitude
- Works to correct errors and improve
- Competitive—wants to win
- High intensity; enthusiastic
- Good communicator
- Does their job
- Hard worker
- Shows sportsmanship
- Full effort—110%; never gives up; leaves it all on the field/court/etc.
- Confident in abilities
- Respectful
- Plays by the rules; no cheating; fair and honest
- Doesn't yell at officials
- Doesn't play "dirty"
- Level-headed & calm
- Committed
- Refrains from backtalk to coaches, officials, fans, etc.
- Leader
- Respectful towards referees and opponents
- No trash talking; not arrogant or cocky
- Willing to take advice and constructive criticism
- Be good on and off the court, field, etc.
- Doesn't argue with calls
- Short term memory
- Good citizens and members of community; positively represent school
- Make the game fun; want to be there
- Willing to do whatever it takes to make team better;
- Unselfish; stay selfless; team player
- Doesn't complain about others' mistakes; doesn't blame others
- Trust coaches, teammates, etc.
- Avoid starting drama that negatively affects team
- Good sportsmanship—win or lose
- Leave it all on the field
- Works toward creating and keeping a good reputation
- Uses appropriate language on and off the field
- Stand up for teammates
- Respects visiting schools
- Humble & appreciative

## Coaches With Sportsmanship

- Positive
- Doesn't put down players
- Respects officials
- Doesn't argue with officials, but asks for explanation
- Keeps calm
- Compliments players
- Encourages hard work through positive motivation
- Kind, caring, and friendly
- Helps fix things with individuals and team by teaching
- Good role model outside of sport or activity
- Uses constructive criticism
- Respects players
- Challenge players; push players to be their best
- Believes in players
- Provides creative ways for team bonding
- Teach more than just the sport
- Exhibits good sportsmanship
- Knowledgeable about sport, life, etc.
- Good communicator of expectations
- Responsible
- Treats everyone equally
- Compassionate
- Dedicated
- Competitive
- Inspirational
- A leader to team, coaches, community
- Wise
- Ability to overcome adversity
- Driven
- Leads by example
- Clean language
- Energetic & fun
- Understands people
- Positive attitude
- Loves the game
- Good listener

## Parents/ Adults

- Supportive
- Positive
- In control; level-headed
- Will be there for you
- Will cheer throughout game
- Caring
- Know the game
- Doesn't coach from the stands
- Doesn't bribe
- Helpful, when needed
- Doesn't criticize coaches, other players, etc.
- Role model; good influence
- Keep negative comments to themselves
- Doesn't complain about playing time
- Participate in cheers
- Help the team in any way
- Understands when to keep distance
- Is not embarrassing
- Is not overprotective
- Good cook for team meals
- Not obnoxious
- Attentive to game, needs of athlete, team, etc.; willing to provide
- Set guidelines
- Wears school colors
- Good listener
- Proud of child and team
- Constant support of team—win or lose
- Travels to game
- Takes pictures
- Supports concession stand
- Doesn't put down coaches
- Refrains from arguments in the crowd
- Trusting
- Dependable
- Devoted

## Crowd / Student Sportsmanship

- Positive
- Involved
- Loud
- Cheers for own team
- Doesn't put down the other team
- Respectful towards officials
- Uses appropriate language
- Continue cheering, even if team is behind
- Keep it about the game; doesn't make it personal
- Not obnoxious
- Enthusiastic, energetic & outgoing
- Make effort to get others involved
- Creative
- Fun
- Proud
- Let's the players play
- Let's the officials officiate
- Let's coaches coach
- Understands rules of game
- Doesn't argue
- Stay classy
- Optimistic
- Different themes & cheers to raise school spirit
- On their feet
- Full stands
- Competitive
- Travels to away games
- Supports the whole team
- Gets parents and community involved
- Alert
- Unique
- Not afraid to start cheers
- Doesn't give up on the team
- Passionate
- School pride

Heartland Community Schools  
1501 Front Street  
Henderson, NE 68371  
www.heartlandschools.org

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## ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

December 5-16: NHS Food Drive  
December 8: K-6 Christmas program 2:30 matinee & 7:00 pm  
December 20: 7-12 Christmas program 7:30 pm  
December 21: Dismiss at 1:30 for Christmas Vacation  
December 22-January 4: No School Christmas Vacation  
December 23-27: NSAA Moratorium - All gyms closed  
January 4: Begin Second Semester

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



# December 2011

Lunch Menu	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Mon: Chili</i> <i>Tues: Cold Sandwiches</i> <i>Wed: Corn dogs</i> <i>Thurs: Tater Tot Casserole</i> <i>Fri: Nacho Supreme</i>				<i>1</i> Art Workshop 3:30-4:30	<i>2</i> GBB/BBB Wilber Clatonia @ (H) 4:30/6:15/8:00 pm	<i>3</i> JH GBB York St. Joe @ (H) 9:30 am GBB/BBB @ Twin River 2:30/4:15/6:00 pm Huskie Hoops
<i>Mon: Salisbury Steak</i> <i>Tues: Hamburgers</i> <i>Wed: French Toast Sticks</i> <i>Thurs: Chicken Patty Sand</i> <i>Fri: Enchiladas</i>	<i>5</i> JH GBB Sutton @ (H) 4:00/5:00 pm NHS Mtg 7:00 pm	<i>6</i> GBB/BBB @ Harvard 4:30/6:00/8:00 pm	<i>7</i> District FFA LSE @ Aurora	<i>8</i> K-6 Christmas Program 2:30/7:00 pm	<i>9</i> GBB/BBB Sandy Creek @ (H) 4:30/6:15/8:00 pm	<i>10</i> ACT Test Date GBB/BBB @ Hampton 6:00/7:30 pm Huskie Hoops
	NHS FOOD DRIVE Dec 5th- Dec 16th					
<i>Mon: Chicken Noodle Soup</i> <i>Tues: Grilled Cheese</i> <i>Wed: Taco Salad</i> <i>Thurs: Chicken Nuggets</i> <i>Fri: Pancake Day</i>	<i>12</i> JH GBB @ Fullerton 5:00/6:00 pm FFA/FBLA Mtg 7:00 pm Board of Ed Mtg 7:00 pm	<i>13</i> GBB Shelby @ (H) 6:15/8:00 pm	<i>14</i> Chamber singers/brass choir in Grand Island	<i>15</i> JH GBB @ Cross County 4:00 pm	<i>16</i> GBB/BBB Thayer Central @ (H) 4:30/6:15/8:00 pm	<i>17</i> Huskie Hoops NHS Caroling 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
	NHS FOOD DRIVE Dec 5th- Dec 16th					
<i>Mon: Max Cheese Sticks</i> <i>Tues: Ham Dinner</i> <i>Wed: Mr. Rib Sandwich</i> <i>Thurs: NO SCHOOL</i> <i>Fri: NO SCHOOL</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 7-12 Christmas Program 7:30 pm	<i>21</i> End of 1st semester Dismiss @ 1:30 pm	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> <div>NSAA Moratorium Gym closed Dec 23-27</div>	<i>24</i>
	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> <div>Holiday Tournament—TBA</div>	<i>31</i>
	NSAA Moratorium Gym closed Dec 23-27					
	NO SCHOOL—Christmas Vacation Dec 23 - Jan 3rd					