## From Brad Best, Superintendent...

We hope that your holiday season was restful and enjoyable. While it is only February, we are already starting conversations and processes in preparation for next school year. We will be looking to set next year's calendar, gather requisitions from the teaching staff, hire new staff, and work on next year's budget this month. Every month is busy here as it is with most businesses in our communities.

You may have seen our "new to us" activity bus around town over the last couple of months (photo is below). As part of the budgeting process, we were scheduled to replace our activity bus this school year. A typical "yellow" activity bus is much like a regular route bus, only larger and with storage bays. Motor coaches, like you may take on a bus trip for vacation, have started to pop up in many schools' fleets in the last few years. The model that we purchased is a bit of a hybrid between the two. It has features of a coach, such as overhead storage, high-backed cloth seats, and air conditioning controls for each passenger, but the heavier safety construction of a school bus.

We were fortunate to discover that this particular used bus was for sale. It is several years old, has some miles on it, is in great condition, outfitted with features that were attractive to us in our deliberations, and was a price close to what we were planning to spend on a less equipped model. We had the company finish all the trim in white, which gave us a blank slate on which to consider dressing it up for our students and staff.

What one notices when it comes down the street are the impressive graphics, which are a vinyl wrap, designed and installed by local business owner, Matt Buller. Even better, yet, is that our local Booster Club stepped up and donated the funds to pay for these graphics! It is great to have an opportunity to work together with local businesses and organizations on a project such as this one. Our students and staff are very appreciative of this cooperation!


## 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, and KOLN.

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

## You may also call our

 school closing phone line at 402-723-442I. If a decision has been made the night before, the closing will be announced around ro:ooPM. In the mornings it will be announced on the half hour from 6:30AM to 8:00AM.

Continued on page 2

Through various studies, it is not a secret that students who eat breakfast perform better and are more attentive and productive at school. For years, we have offered cereal for breakfast at school, but the participation has been very low. Last fall, we conducted a survey of our students related to their wishes on two options for breakfast: hot breakfast offerings on some days before school and one referred to as a "grab and go". The "grab and go" breakfast is one offered either before school or mid-morning and consists of items that are easy to eat quickly on their way to or within the first few minutes of their next class period. Items may include fruit, a warm breakfast burrito, yogurt, and a milk, for example.

A couple of things we learned from the survey were:

- $63 \%$ of students already eat something for breakfast at least 4 days per week
- $83 \%$ are hungry by 1 а a.m.
- $88 \%$ of students are interested in a hot breakfast at school at least twice a week
- $96 \%$ would be interested in a "grab and go" option during mid-morning

We are going to do two, one-week trials in February. During the week of February 9-r 3 th, we will offer hot breakfast items before school for all students in grades K-ı2. During the week of February 16 -20th, we will offer a "grab \& go" option to students in grades $7-12$ only, as a trial.

The menus for these weeks can be found on the lunch menu included in the newsletter. We will offer these options at the regular breakfast price of $\$ \mathrm{I} .50$, the reduced lunch price of $\$ 0.20$, or free if the family qualifies.

If your child participates in these trial weeks, the price of the breakfast will be deducted from your lunch account balance. Please talk with your child about the upcoming trial and if you have any questions, please give us a call at 402-723-4434.

## Junior High Student Led Conferences

Junior high students are busy preparing their portfolios for their student led conference. These conferences will take place on February $9^{\text {th }}$ and $16^{\text {th }}$. During their conferences, students take charge and present samples of their work to their parents and reflect on potential areas of improvement. If parents want to talk to teachers more in depth, teachers will be available in the gym from 4:30-8:30 those nights, except for homeroom teachers during their student led appointments.


## Superintendent

BRAD BEST
Ext. 205
bbest@heartlandschools.net


Business Manager
SUE GERKEN
Ext. 2 II
sgerken@heartlandschools.net


Superintendent's
Administrative Assistant
CAROLYN PETERS
Ext. 201
cpeters@heartlandschools.net


## Grace Janzen Wins 2015 Geography Bee

On January 8, Heartland held their local Geography Bee. Students completed questions in the classroom and 5 representatives were chosen from each grade 5-8. The participants were: 5 th grade: Tyler Lewis, Carson Ott, Kale Wetjen, Lisa Buller, Aaron Goertzen; 6th grade: Cord Spencer, Jamie Rowe, Nolan Boehr, Mallorie Hiebner, Josie McCormick; 7th Grade: Madison Gerken, Trevor Goertzen, Benny Ginter, Timberly Carr, Grace Janzen; 8th Grade: Emily Goertzen, Reid Huebert, Ben Mest1, Jesse Mason \& Colton Monnier.

The ist Place Winner was Grace Janzen and 2nd Place was Ben Mest1. Grace qualified to compete in the 2015 Nebraska State Geography Bee, sponsored by National Geographic. This is the second level of the National Bee competition. Grace will complete a test and submit the test to the state level. Geography Bees were held in schools with fifth through eighth grade students throughout the state to determine each school's Bee winner. Each school has one winner take a qualifying test and submit the test to the National Geographic Society. Congratulations, Grace!


Geography Bee winners: Ben Mest-runner up \& Grace Janzen-st place.

## HEARTLAND YEARBOOKS ARE



## ON SALE NOW!

The 2014-15 yearbook sales have begun! The yearbook will include all students from grades $9^{-12}$ as well as all of our extra curricular activities and events. If you or your child would like to purchase a yearbook, contact Mrs. Ostmeyer via E-mail: sostmeyer@heartlandschools.net. Yearbooks are $\$ 35$ each when ordered before March 27, 2015.


## Band German Smorgasbord

The annual Band German Smorgasbord will be held Saturday, March 21, 2015. The meal will be served from 5:00pm to 7:30pm and a band concert will be held at 7:45pm. Adult tickets are \$ir.oo, children ages 4-12 are $\$ 6.00$. Any child under the age of 4 is free. Tickets will go on sale February 19, 2015 and may be purchased from any band member or by calling or stopping by the Heartland School Offices. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

## MENU

KOHL SALAT (cole slaw) PARTZILKE
(New Years Cookies) PLUMA MOS (raisin and prune mouss) PRIESHKE AND PLAUTZ (fruit filled pastries) SCHNETYA (lady fingers) WEIT BROT an BUTTA (wheat bread and butter) TWIEBACK and JELLE (Zweiback and jelly) CUFFA (coffee) MILCH (milk)

| MENU |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| KOHL SALAT (cole slaw) PARTZILKE <br> (New Years Cookies) PLUMA MOS (raisin and prune mouss) | KUMPST BORSCHT (cabbage soup) KLUPTZ (ground meat patties) WORSCHT (sausage) |
| PRIESHKE AND PLAUTZ (fruit filled pastries) | SCHAUBLA-met schmont fot (beans with cream gravy) <br> KIELKE |
| SCHNETYA <br> (lady fingers) WEIT BROT an BUTTA | (noodies with cream gravy and onions) <br> VERENIKE-yebrot oda yekookt |
| TWIEBACK and JELLE (Zweiback and jelly) | KORN (corn) GESCHMUCKE-relish |
| CUFFA (coffee) MILCH (milk) | (pickles, ceiery, carrots, beets) |



Lto R: Fon Sanderson, Rick Hiebner © Yanik Luebbert.

Secondary Principal
TIM CARR
Ext. 207
tcarr@heartlandschools.net


Secondary Administrative Assistant JESSICA TESSMAN

Ext. 208
jtessman@heartlandschools.net


## Heartland Welding Competition

On January 22, 2015, the Heartland FFA hosted the second annual welding contest. Eighteen community members and area students competed in the contest. There were options for MIG, ARC, and OA welding. The winners were: MIG weld -Caleb Smith, ARC weld- Rick Hiebner and OA weldYanik Luebbert. The overall winner was Jon Sanderson. The judges were agriculture teachers from Aurora and Fillmore Central. Congratulations to all that won and thanks to those who came out and participated! It was a great success and a lot of fun. Please be sure to look for next year's dates.

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## Box Tops and Points for Education Challenge

The Box Tops and Labels for
Education Challenge winner was
Mrs. Thiesen's Kindergarten class and the bi-monthly challenge winner was Mrs. Goff's 2nd grade class.


Elementary Principal
SADIE HOUCK
Ext. 206 shouck@heartlandschools.net


## November Students and Teacher of the Month

Riley Quiring was selected as the overall Elementary Student of the Month and the November Teacher of the Month was Matt Maltsberger. Interviews with Riley and Matt can be found on the HeartlandBEAT.


Front Row-L to R: Kdgt.-Thiesen: Pieper Epp \& Hayden Powers; Kdgt.-Peters: Aiden Park \&゙ Zaine Swartzendruber; 1st Grade-Steever: Brooklynn Veerbusen; ist Grade-Ratzlaff: Riley Quiring; 2nd Grade-Goff: Langdon Arbuck; Back Row-L to R: 3rd Grade-Crouch: Kaylee Goertzen \& Hunter Perez; 4th Grade-Hiebner: Eloise Casper; 5th Grade-Maltsberger: Mason Hiebner; 6th Grade Veerbusen: Lauren 2uiring bo teacher: Matt Maltsberger.

## December Students and Teacher of the Month

Zach Quiring was selected as the overall Elementary Student of the Month and the December Teachers of the Month were ist Grade Teachers: Dee Steever \& Theresa Ratzlaff. Interviews with Zach, Dee \& Theresa can be found on the HeartlandBEAT.


Front Row-L to R: Kdgt.-Peters Maddox Regier $\leftarrow$ Brayden Holbein; Kdgt.-Thiesen: Camden Riggs e- Vaness Vap; ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Grade-Ratzlaff! Holden Switzer; 1st Grade-Steever: Katelyn Franz; $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Grade-Goff: KatrinaMarie Epp;(Not Pictured) $3^{\text {rd }}$ Grade-Crouch: Hayden Mierau © Mariah Tesman; Back Row- L to R: $\boldsymbol{4}^{\text {th }}$ Grade-Hiebner: Zach 2uiring; $\boldsymbol{5}^{\text {th }}$ Grade-Maltsberger: Carson Ott; $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\boldsymbol{t} \boldsymbol{t}}$ Grade-Veerbusen: Gabi Siebert. rst Grade Teachers: Mrs. Steever b Mrs. Ratzlaff.

## Kindergarten Roundup Scheduled for March 6, 2015

Heartland Community Schools will hold their Kindergarten Roundup on Friday, March 6 2015, in the Kindergarten Room \#I. Children who will be five years of age by July 31, 2015 are eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2015 and should consider attending Roundup.


The purpose of Roundup is to provide an opportunity for next year's kindergarten students to meet Mrs. Thiesen and Mrs. Peters, and to meet other prospective kindergarteners. Two sessions will be held. The morning session will begin at 9:00AM and the afternoon session will begin at i:ooPM.

Parents will register their children for attendance at Heartland Community Schools in the Board Room with Elementary Principal, Sadie Houck. Parents should bring their child's immunization records with them as well as their child's official state-sealed birth certificate.

Nebraska Birth certificates are available from: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; Division of Public Health, Vital Records, PO Box 95065 , Lincoln, NE 68509-5065 or call them at 402-471-2871. You can download a form or fill out an online request by going to http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/pages/vital_records.aspx.

All eligible children residing in the Heartland District whose names are on the current census list will receive an invitation to Roundup by February 25, 2015. If you are planning on optioning your child into the district, all option papers must be turned in by March 13, 2015, for the 2015-16 school year. If you know of a child who will be five by July 31, 2015 and for any reason may not have his or her name on the school census list, please call the school office at Heartland Community Schools at 402-723-4434.

## Junior High Boys Basketball Team



Coaches: Erik Wetjen and Matt Maltsberger. Players: Back row -L to $\boldsymbol{R}$ : Aidan Swartzendruber, Trevor Goertzen, Fared Nunnenkamp, Reagan Weisheit, Cade Oswald, fosh Quiring \&b Harmon Perez. Front Row- L to R: Morgan Maltsberger, Kodjo Atikpohou, Reid Huebert, Ben Mestl, Carson Amack, fesse Mason \& Peyton Ott. Not Pictured: Bryce Allen \& Ric Bulin.

## Students attend UNK Honor Band/Choir At University of Nebraska-Kearney

Eleven Heartland musicians attended the UNK Honor Band and Honor Choir held at UNK Monday January 26, 2015. Those participating in the Honor Choir were: Rachelle Allen, Tierney Casper, Ethan Hall, \& Bailey Monnier; Womens Choir Addie Swartzendruber; Festival Band: McKenna Friesen, Kristine Goertzen, Paige Mest1, \& Mark Perez and Honor Band: Megan Kroeker \& Kaitlyn Quiring. After a day of rehearsals the groups performed a concert at the UNK Health Center.

## Academic All-State Awards For 2014-15

Requirements: A nominated student must be a varsity player or organizational leader who has played a significant role on the team or in the organizational activity during the seasons for which nominations are accepted. A nominated student must have a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average, in all curricular subjects, of $93 \%$ on a 100 points scale or the equivalent, (3.7-4.0) or $\mathrm{A}^{-}$, etc.).

The awarded individuals will be given a certificate of recognition from NSAA for their achievement on Awards Night. Girls Golf: Kaitlyn Quiring \& Kaeli Lundstrom; Volleyball: Tierney Casper \& Eve Vanderneck; Football: Colton Siebert \& JordanHeinrichs; Play Production ( One Acts): Cody Kroeker \& Bailey Monnier.


Back Row, L to R: Bailey Monnier, Eve Vanderneck, Cody Kroeker ぶ Colton Siebert. Front Row; L to R: Kaitlyn 2uiring, Tierney Casper, Jordan Heinrichs \& Kaeli Lundstrom.


Back Row; L to R: Mark Perez, Ethan Hall, Megan Kroeker, Paige Mestl, McKenna Friesen, Kaitlyn Quiring, Rachelle Allen \&b Kristine Goertzen. Front Row; L to R: Addie Swartzendruber, Tierney Casper, Bailey Monnier, Instructors: Lynn Hall \& Royce Schweitzer.

## Scholastic Book Fair

Heartland Community Schools will be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair February 16-20th, 2015. The book fair will be held in the high school library. Along with the K-6 book section, we are excited to add a new section of books for the 7 -12th graders. Elementary, Jr. High and High School classes will be invited to sign up for times to visit. Please contact Gina Mestl with any questions at 402-723-4434.

## Book Fair Times

Monday-7:45-8:15 am \& 4:30-8:30 pm-During Parent Teacher Conferences
Tuesday- 7:45-8:15 am/ 3:30-4:00 pm
Wednesday- 7:45-8:15 am/ 3:30-4:30 pm
Thursday-7:45-8:15 am/ 3:30-4:00 pm Friday- 7:45-8:15 am/ 3:30-4:00 pm
Saturday 9:00-II:OO am


## Artchub

Art Club is excited to announce that they are selling Ash \& Ash Company bracelets. Ash \& Ash is proud to be a small custom-made jewelry company. Located near Lincoln, they focus on the satisfaction of their customers through the use of quality leather and Swarovski gemstones. Through teaming up with Heartland Community School's Art Club, we are able to offer proud patrons customized Husky and Husker bracelets. Proceeds go towards funding the Art Club trip to art museums in Denver, CO. Order forms and images are available from art club members, in the school office and through the website. Make checks payable to Heartland Art Club. Please note there have been revisions to the order form. If you have any questions you may contact Ms. Renz at brenz@heartlandschools.org. Also Art Club is preparing for their first $5^{\text {th }}$ and $6^{\text {th }}$ grade art workshop coming soon.

## Three Examples of the six offered



## Do You Want to Build a Snowman?

Under the direction of Industrial Arts teacher, Justin Sand, the snowmen decorations at our main entrance were constructed by Elora Towne, MaKayla Windle, and Roy Mason III, students in the Woods i \& 3 class at Heartland Community Schools. The snowman idea came from a popular site called Pinterest. They will be used annually for winter trimming for the main entry into the school. Thanks to the students and Mr. Sand for their work on constructing and painting the beautiful snowmen.


## Upcoming Dates

Feb 2, 2015
G BB SNC vs. Milford @ Heartland
Feb. 3, 2015
G BB SNC vs.TBA @TBA
B BB SNC vs.TBA @ Heartland
Feb 4, 2015
County Spelling Bee
Feb 5, 2015
G \& B BB SNC Semi Finals -TBA @ Milford
Feb 7, 2015
ACT Test Date
G \& B BB SNC Finals -TBA @ Milford

Feb 9, 2015
School Board Meeting 7:00PM
Parent-Teachers Conference 4:30-8:30PM
Feb 13, 2015

## NO SCHOOL

Feb 16, 2015
NO SCHOOL
Teacher Professional Development
Parent-Teachers Conference 4:30-8:30PM
Feb 17 \& 192015
G BB Sub- Districts @ Fillmore Central
Feb 23, 24 \& 26, 2015
B BB Sub-Districts @ Fillmore Central
Feb 27, 2015
G BB District Finals


PAGE 8


| 1 | 2 Chicken Nuggets <br> M.P./Gravy <br> Roll <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. | 3 Hotdog Baked Beans Peas Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B | 4 Teriyaki Chicken Rice Steamed Broccoli | 5 BBC Meatballs <br> Cornbread <br> Green Beans <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. | 6 Pizza <br> Corn <br> slushies <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B | 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 - | 9 spaghetti Garlic Bread Corn Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> Breakfast Pizza OR Cereal <br> Fruit Milk | 10 Mini Corn <br> Dogs <br> Baked Beann <br> Steamed Broccoli <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> French Toast S. OR <br> Cereal <br> Fruit <br> Milk | 11 Max Cheese Sticks Green Beans slushies Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie $B$ <br> Cheese Omelet $O R$ <br> Cereal <br> Fruit Milk | 12 Fish Sticks <br> Hash Browns <br> Roll <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> Pancakes <br> OR <br> Cereal <br> Fruit <br> Milk | 13 <br> NO SCHOOL | 14 $\begin{aligned} & \text { Hapoy } \\ & \text { arbentines } \\ & \text { pay } \end{aligned}$ |
| 15. | 16 <br> NO SCHOOL | 17 Sloppy Joe <br> Fries Slushies <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> Cinnamon Roll and Yogurt Fruit Milk | 18 Grilled Cheese <br> Tri Tater <br> Tomato Soup Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> Breakfast on a <br> stick <br> Fruit <br> Milk | 19. Chicken Fried Steak <br> M.P./Gravy <br> Roll <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> Breakfast Burrito <br> Fruit <br> Milk | 20 Grilled <br> Chicken Sand. <br> Fries <br> Slushies <br> Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. <br> Waffles <br> Fruit <br> Milk | $21$ |
| $22$ | 23 Beef Fajita Coffee Cake Peas Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B | 24 Chicken Alfredo <br> Dinner Roll Steamed Broccoli Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. | 25. Tacos <br> Corn <br> Brownies Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. | 26 Pork Tenderloin M.P./Gravy Roll Milk <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. | 27. Chicken Filet Sandwich Fries Slushies <br> Fruit \& Veggie B. | 28 <br> ~Menu subject to change~ |

February 2015


Heartland School Board Members


Board Members: Back Row, L to R: Boyd Stubr fr., Gary Braun, Deb Wilhelm \& Paul Brune. Front Row, L to R: Glenn Larson d Kent Allen.

## Nebraska School Board Recognition

 Week was January 19-25, 2015The Nebraska School Board Recognition week was January 19-25th. It is part of the January's National School Board Recognition Month. Please take time to recognize and thank the current Heartland School Board members: Gary Braun, president; Deb Wilhelm, vice-president; Boyd Stuhr Jr., secretary; Kent Allen, treasurer; Paul Brune and Glenn Larson. WANTED IN FIRST GRADE
Dee Steevers' class needs some old Jenga
games and Theresa Ratzlaffs' class needs
large oatmeal containers. If you would like
to donate any of these items, please drop
them off at the school office. Thank you. WANTED IN FIRST GRADE
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them off at the school office. Thank you.


## March Reminders

March 2, 2015
NHS Blood Drive
Varsity Track Practice Starts
7-12 Vocal/7-12 Band Winter Concert @ 7:30PM

March 4, 2015
Dr. Seuss Day
March 5-7, 2015
G State BB Tournament
March 12-14 2015
B BB State Tournament
March 13, 2015
NO SCHOOL
March 16, 2015
FFA Labor Auction-5:00PM
March 18, 2014
NHS Banquet @ 6:30PM
March 21, 2015
Smorgasbord @ 5:00
Band Concert @ 7:45PM
March 23, 2015
NO SCHOOL
Teacher Professional Development
March 27, 2014
4th Grade Field Trip to Kearney @ 8:I5AM
March 27 \& 28, 2015
NE Ambassadors of Music

## Option Enrollment

Heartland Community Schools is open to accepting more option enrollment students and we feel that we have much to offer! A student from another district may enroll at Heartland when approved through the option enrollment program.

If you know of someone who would be interested in enrolling their children to Heartland, please have them call the superintendent's office at 402-723-4434. High school students must have an option enrollment application filed and approved before March 13,2015 in order to be immediately eligible for extracurricular activities in the fall.


Community Night At Wendy's!

## February 10, 2015

Eat at Wendy's on this night between 5:00pm and 8:00pm and they will donate 10\% of their sales to Heartland.
At the end of the year, the school with the highest sales will have their donations DOUBLED!


## REMINDER

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES ARE FEBRUARY 9 O

## Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage PAID

Permit 26
Henderson, NE 68371

## ECRWSS

