



Heartland Community School

Henderson/Bradshaw

October 2009 Newsletter

Page 1



Dear Parents and Friends of Heartland Community Schools,

Children are born with a natural sense of curiosity about the world around them. We can see it in babies who reach with wonderment at every new sight and sound in their crib or playpen. We watch as toddlers explore their sense of touch. Later, we see their curiosity rise as they are exposed to new ideas and concepts through formal learning at school and through reading. There's nothing better than watching a child read a book, and seeing curiosity propel the youngster through the pages as he or she seeks to find out what happens next.

The challenge for parents and teachers is learning how to channel the natural force of children's curiosity to help them learn subjects for which they may not have a natural affinity. For one child, math may be a stumper; for another, science. But regardless of the subject matter, great teachers have learned to make these subjects come alive for children and harness each child's curiosity as a tool to help him or her learn. Teachers also recognize that curious children seek answers to their questions in different ways. Some may learn best just by listening, while others need more hands-on experiences.

There are also steps that parents and educators can use to help the natural learning process unfold. The first step is to provide a stable environment that encourages children to ask questions. Children need to be given encouragement and support to fuel their desire to explore the world around them. All children need to feel safe in order to learn, and the job of parents and teachers is to help give them that sense of security.

In order that the power or curiosity in learning be fully released, children also need someone to share their discoveries with. This can be their classmates, but they also need to be able to share their new ideas and findings with an adult who can give them encouragement and approval to keep using their curiosity. It's also important for a child to know that it's okay to explore and try something new, even if it doesn't work out so well. There should be no failures in satisfying curiosity, just opportunities to learn and grow.

Walt Disney once said, "We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things because we're curious, and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

The Master Teacher states "Supporting a child's need to act on his or her curiosity should be a lifelong ambition for all of us." Who knows where it may eventually lead a child? After all, the greatest discoveries have always started with curiosity. What are we doing to help our students be curious about learning? We all have the responsibility to encourage each and every student at Heartland Community

Schools. What we are doing wrong in society today somehow curbs that enthusiasm as children get older. I hope we can all work together to help students nurture their curiosity. The November 2009 issue of the "Cut & Paste" magazine was a resource for parts of this letter.

Sincerely,
Dr. Norm Yoder, Superintendent



ALL SCHOOL PICTURES OCTOBER 14, 2009

All students in grades K-12 will be photographed on Wednesday morning, October 14, 2009. Parents may bring pre-schoolers in for photos as well, beginning at 8:00AM. Check at the school office for location. Photos will be sold on a pre-pay basis. Packets for ordering photos should have been sent home with students on or about September 24, 2009, and will be available for pickup in the school office after that date.

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).

HENDERSON CHAMBER TO DO STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Henderson Chamber of Commerce is planning to develop a strategic plan for the future of the Henderson Business Community. The chamber is inviting community and school personnel to participate in this endeavor. We encourage your participation which in turn also helps the future of the Heartland District. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the school. There will be a meal served at 5:30 p.m., in the cafeteria, for those participating. There will also be child care provided. If you have further questions, please contact Kelsey Bergen at the Henderson Chamber office, 723-4228.

Counselor's Corner

UPCOMING TESTING INFORMATION:

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) will be offered to 11th grade students on October 14. Students have been given a PSAT Bulletin which will help prepare them for the test. This test is used to predict future success on the SAT or ACT and consequently in college. Calculators will be allowed. Students will be signing up ahead of the test date. Cost is \$13.00.

Students in grade 11 and 12 have the option to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) on October 27. While the military uses the ASVAB as a recruiting tool, it is also helpful to measure student aptitudes that are related to success in different jobs. Student/parent guides will be available in the guidance office to help prepare students for the test. There is no cost to take the ASVAB.

The PLAN will be administered to all sophomores in October/November.

PLAN gives students a forecast of how they might do on the ACT Assessment. In addition to gauging academic achievement, PLAN provides extensive information for educational and career planning. It is a helpful experience for all students whether or not they have decided to go to college.

Each student receives a report that

- identifies academic strengths and weaknesses
- helps students explore career interests
- helps focus on career goals and the preparation needed to achieve them

There is no cost to the student to take the PLAN.

SOPHOMORE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

There are two leadership seminars to which our school may send participants. The Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar and Nebraska Leadership Seminar are three or four day seminars in the summer designed to develop leadership potential in high school sophomores, encourage and assist students in their quest for self-development and self-identification, introduce tomorrow's leaders to today's recognized leaders through informal discussions on a variety of current and critical topics and provide through this exposure the opportunity to explore free enterprise and community service. Our school can send representatives to each seminar. Cost to attend is \$150 for HOBY and \$100 for NLS. In the past, some funding for this seminar has been provided through local organizations, but families may need to be prepared to fund some or all of the cost themselves. The deadline for students to apply to HOBY and NLS is December 1. Students from Heartland who have attended these seminars always talk positively about their experience and recommend it highly to other students, and it is an excellent thing to list on a resume for scholarships and college admission.



COME VISIT THE LIBRARY!

Heartland district patrons are welcome to check out materials from the school libraries. The elementary library is open from 8:00 - 3:30 and the secondary library is open from 8:00 - 4:00.

WHAT'S COOKING IN FCS?

Culinary foods class has been using bread-making skills to prepare both yeast cinnamon bread and priescha. Students have chosen countries to research for holiday recipes and customs. We have a diverse class this year with students and/or family members from Germany, Mexico, Viet Nam, and Africa so it will be exciting to have some first-hand knowledge of types of foods and customs of those countries as well as others chosen.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HEARTLAND FFA



STATE FAIR RESULTS

Brandon Friesen		P, Champ
Brandon Friesen		P, Champ
Abigail Bechtel		P, Champ
Megan Friesen	Bird House	R, Champ
Jason Sherman	Panel	P, Champ
Morgan Tracy	Wooden Saddle Rack	P, Res. Champ

COUNTY FAIR RESULTS

Brandon Friesen	Grass Bale	P, Champ.
Brandon Friesen		P, Champ.
Jason Sherman		P, Champ.
Jason Sherman		P, Champ.
Brandon Friesen		P, Res. Ch.
Justin Wessels	Welding Table	P, Champ.
Jason Sherman	Cattle Panels	P, Res. Ch.
Logan Bechtel	Saddle Rack	P, Champ.
Jordan Gibson	Weight Rack	P, Res. Ch.
Jason Sherman	Roller Stand	P, Champ.
Brittany Ratzlaff	Shepherd's Hk	P, Res. Ch.
Rick Siebert	Punch/Chisel	P, Champ.
Sierra Barrett	Oil Funnel	P, Res. Ch.
Dakota Lyons		P, Champ.
Brenan Erb		P, Res. Ch.
Brandon Friesen		P, Champ.
Brandon Friesen		P, Res. Ch.
Brandon Friesen		P, Champ.
Brandon Friesen		P, Champ.
Morgan Tracy	Patio Bench	P, Champ.
Spencer Friesen	Boot Butler	P, Champ.
Rick Siebert	Bookshelf	P, Champ.



**Have a Safe
and
Happy Halloween!**



Heartland Community School

Henderson/Bradshaw

October 2009 Newsletter
Page 3



NEW IN THE 2010 SCHOOL YEAR...

Art Club is a new organization to Heartland this year, currently having 18 members.



The Art Club Officers are:

President	Mariah Kliever
Vice President	Samantha Boardman
Secretary	Janelle Huebert
Treasurer	Mina Ortiz
News Reporter	Amanda Rowe
Historian	Jacob Peterson

Art Club added the poster contest to the Homecoming competitions this year. Look for our float in the parade!

"BACK TO THE FUTURE" 2009 HOMECOMING EVENTS

MONDAY

THEME: CLASH DAY

First period K-12 Pep Rally with Jr. High Band

- Physical & Trivia Contest
- FB Skit
- Royalty Announced

TUESDAY

THEME: MIDDLE AGES DAY

Royalty Photos in the morning

WEDNESDAY

THEME: DECADES DAY

(12th-80's, 11th-70's, 10th-60's, 9th-50's)

THURSDAY

THEME: WHAT WOULD YOU LOOK LIKE IN 60 YEARS?

Poster competition entries due for judging in the New Gym hallway by 3:30 p.m.-Sponsored by the Art Club

FRIDAY

THEME: HUSKIE SPIRIT DAY

Parade at 2:00 p.m. followed by Community Pep Rally in theater.

- Competition (dance and vocal)
- Coaches Speak
- Teacher Skit

Dance after FB game until 12:00 a.m. Meal sponsored by Booster Club

DO YOU KNOW THE ABC'S OF PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES?

Children learn their ABCs when they start school. You can also use the ABCs to get the most out of your parent teacher conference.

Here's how:

A Ask questions. Before the conference, jot down a list of questions you want the teacher to answer. Bring the list with you to the conference. Here are the kinds of questions you might want to ask:

- **What skills** will my child be expected to master this year?
- **What will** my child learn this year?
- **What are** my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- **How does** my child get along with other children in the class?
- **How can** I best help my child be a successful learner?

B Be honest. You know things about your child that can help the teacher help him learn more. So share what you know. She'll want to know his likes and dislikes. She'll also want to know if there are any problems or concerns. If a grandparent has just died or a family member has lost a job, your child may be worrying about those things in school.

C Cooperate. A teacher may share a concern about your child during the conference. If that happens, work with the teacher to come up with a plan to address it. You and the teacher both want what's best for your child. Decide what you'll do at home and how she'll help your child at school. Set a date to meet and review how the plan is working. Reprinted with permission from the October 2009 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® Vol. 21, No. 3

HELP WANTED

ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND STRUCTURE HELP NEEDED!

On Saturday morning, October 12 at 10:00 a.m. a number of FFA students are going to put down safety mats under the new playground structure. Additional help is needed. The mats are large and very heavy and it takes 6 people to move each mat. Anyone who could help with placing the mats would be extremely welcome. If you have a couple of hours and could assist, it would be very much appreciated.



KEEP YOUR CHILD'S SCHEDULE IN BALANCE FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

Some kids rush from school to soccer practice to karate. Sure, each of these activities can be a good thing on its own. But together, they may be too much of a good thing.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says that kids need "down time." They suggest that play should remain a central part of childhood.

There's no question that kids benefit from organized activities. But it is just as important for kids to have time to organize themselves.

Does your family's schedule strike the right balance? Here are some things to think about:

- **Recognize how important** free play is to children. Build in time for your child to hang out with her friends, develop hobbies, read or just daydream. This unstructured time is when she exercises her body and her imagination.
- **Take cues from your child.** Does she love soccer? Or is she only on the team because the sport is important to you? Many families allow each child to choose one activity per season.
- **Make family time a priority.** If you feel like you only see your child while you're in the car, rethink your schedule. The most important parenting jobs--listening, caring, guiding--need time to develop.
- **Remember that school comes first.** If your child never starts homework until after practice at 8:00, she is overscheduled.

Reprinted with permission from the October 2009 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® Vol.21, No. 2



HEARTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Henderson/Bradshaw
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2009
Henderson Attendance Center – Conference Room
8:00 PM
MINUTES

Members Present: Galen R. Friesen, Gary Braun, Debra Wilhelm, Kerri Kliever, 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 Kliever, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

IV. Audience with Individuals and/or Committees

V. Minutes of Meeting

VI. Treasurer's Report

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

VII. Claims

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 Brune, to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of the July 13 regular meeting and the general fund and Qualified Capital Purposes Undertaking Fund claims. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

IX. Administrative Reports

The board heard administrative reports on enrollment projections for 2009-2010. It is anticipated enrollment for 2009-2010 will be about the same as the past year, which was 301 students.

X. Track Update

Supt. Yoder reported that the sod has been laid and the rubber surface is to be installed in approximately two weeks. There is still a little concrete work to be completed.

XI. Summer Projects

The concrete work in front of the theater is yet to be completed by Friesen Construction.

XII. Discussion with Neighboring Districts

There have been no further discussions at this time.

XIII. Mural

The request from an alumnus to invite the Nebraska Historical Society to visit the school died for a lack of a motion.

XIV. Choir Robe Replacement

Action 3: Motion by Friesen, second by Kliever, to



Heartland Community School

Henderson/Bradshaw

October 2009 Newsletter

Page 5



approve the purchase of new choir robes for the vocal music department as presented. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0 -against.

XV. Budget for 2009-2010

Action 4: Motion by Braun, second by Brune, to adopt a preliminary budget to take to the Budget Hearing on Thursday, August 27, 2009, at 8:00 p.m. of General Fund: \$4,573,587, Depreciation Fund: \$475,000, School Lunch Fund: \$195,000, Unemployment Compensation Fund: \$2950, Activity Fund: \$274,500, Student Fees Fund: \$20,000, and Qualified Capital Purposes Fund: \$91,500. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0- against.

XVI. NASB Medicaid Consortium

Action 5: Motion by Dick, second by Friesen, to approve the resolution to join the NASB Medicaid Consortium and authorize Norm Yoder, Superintendent to sign the documents. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against. The board also reviewed possible agenda items.

XIX Personnel

Action 6: Motion by Kliewer, second by Wilhelm, to approve Tammie Sheridan as a lunch room assistant. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

XX. Adjournment

President Braun adjourned the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS - Henderson/Bradshaw 8:00 PM Budget Hearing Conference Room Thursday, August 27, 2009 MINUTES

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

I. Call To Order

President Braun called the 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 pointed out open meetings law poster at the front of the room.

III. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

VI. Adjournment

President Braun adjourned the Public Hearing at 8:15 p.m.

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Henderson/Bradshaw
Special Board Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2009
Henderson Attendance Center – Conference Room
8:00 PM
MINUTES

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

I. Call to Order

President Braun called the meeting to order at 8:15 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 Friesen, second by Kliewer, to approve the agenda as revised. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0 -against

IV. Audience with Individuals and/or Committees

The FFA Officers were present to request permission to attend the National FFA Conference in Indianapolis the last week of October.

V. Approve Claims

Action 2: Motion by Kliewer, second by Wilhelm, to approve claims as presented. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

VI. Adopt Budget for 2009-2010

Action 3: Motion by Brune, second by Braun, to approve the 2009-2010 Budget as follows: General Fund - \$4,636,007, Depreciation Fund - \$475,000; School Lunch Fund - \$195,000; Unemployment Compensation Fund - \$2950; Activity Fund - \$274,500; Student Fees Fund - \$20,000; and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund - \$91,500. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against

VII. Personnel

Action 4: Motion by Friesen, second by Braun, to approve Michelle Goertzen as a para educator. Motion Carried: 6-for; 0-against.

VIII. President Braun adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Heartland Community Schools
1501 Front Street
Henderson, NE 68371

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit 26
Henderson, NE 68371

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1 - Teacher In-Service Dismiss @ 11:40 am

October 3 - Harvest of Harmony Parade

October 9 - Homecoming

October 12 - Board of Education Meeting 8:00 pm

October 14 - School Pictures

October 19 - Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 8:30 pm

October 29 - Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 8:30 pm

October 30 - NO SCHOOL

2010 HUSKIE YEARBOOK FOR SALE

On sale October 14-21 Cost: \$35

The following form may be used to reserve your copy of the yearbook. Return the form and \$35 to the school office or mail to Heartland Community School, Attn: Yearbook Staff, 1501 Front Street, Henderson, NE 68371.

✂

2010 Huskie Yearbook
Name _____
Address _____
Amount Enclosed _____