

The Central Valley Chronicle

March 2020

From the Desk of Mr. Todd Beck



With the start of spring comes, once again, the window for the Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS). These assessments are used by the state to measure the effectiveness of our public schools. For the Central Valley Public Schools, it gives us more data to measure the effectiveness of our instruction, the preparation of our students, and the comparison of our students with the rest of the students in Nebraska. It is just one measure of these studies. However, it gives us all; parents, teachers, students, and the Nebraska Department of Education; information to help give Nebraska's young people a quality education. With that being said, I want our students to perform their very best on these assessments. Here are some ways that parents can help their child perform up to their potential:

- ◆ Ask your child when he or she will be taking the NSCAS Assessments. The window opens for the NSCAS ELA, math and science assessments from March 16 to April 24. Grades 3 through 8 will take the math and ELA test. The science test will be taken by grades 5 through 8. Teachers will start scheduling these, or at least have an idea of when they plan to administer these assessments, soon.
- ◆ All Sophomores have taken the Pre-ACT and Juniors will take the ACT Test on March 24.
- ◆ Provide the importance of these assessments by talking to your child about them. Make sure that your child gets to bed on time and plenty of sleep the night before the assessment. Also, your child should eat a healthy breakfast before going to school on the day of the assessments.
- ◆ Finally, assure your child that it is not just about the scores they receive, but also the skills that they have developed throughout the school year. Skills that, hopefully, will be developed through their years in school and which will help them make their dreams become a reality. Our students do not obtain their skills for their careers in college or post-secondary training alone. The fundamental knowledge they acquire all the way through school helps create the foundation for them to be able to build skills after high school.
- ◆ **Make school a priority for your child.**

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Other inserts included in the hard copy newsletter are the menus and activity calendars. Menus and calendars may also be found on the CV Home page (www.centralvps.org).

Please be sure to check the calendars online as changes may occur!



goodbye
FEBRUARY

hello
MARCH

Principal's Desk
Central Valley Elementary
Mrs. Connie Shafer

Spring is just around the corner. Sunshine and warmer days will be welcome. Thank you to everyone that helped in making our School Mall fundraiser a success this year! The profit earned for our Elementary fund was \$415.66. The total caring for classrooms gift cards donated was \$1,380.

Congratulations to the Greeley County Spelling Bee contestants. Contestants from the elementary were Hugh Thompson, Thayer Davis, Brooklyn Perrott, and Cayle Grossart. Congratulations to Dylan Beaty for placing first in the oral competition of the Greeley County Spelling Bee. We are very proud of all of you!

The Fourth and Fifth Graders that are involved in STEM, (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), will be hosting an after school STEM club. The first date is February 26 from 2:30-3:30. Students must sign up for this event. There is also a deadline for signing up due to preparations and materials needed for the event. So, if you did not join us for the first session, we will offer three other dates: March 18, April 8, and April 22. Notes of dates and time will be sent home prior to the event.

Kindergarten Round Up will be held at Central Valley Elementary on March 11 at 2:45 **for parents only**. In Nebraska, the only requirement for kindergarten entrance is age-eligibility: your child turns five on or before July 31 of the incoming school year. https://www.education.ne.gov/oec/pdfs/Ready_for_Success_Booklet.pdf

- ◆ **Preschool Round Up** in **Scotia** will be held **March 11** at 2:45.
- ◆ **Preschool Round Up** for **Greeley** students will be held **March 16** at the Greeley site at 9:00.

- ◆ **Preschool Round Up** for **Wolbach** students will be held **March 16** at the Wolbach site at 1:00.

If you know of a family/families that have a 3 or 4 year old that may have just moved into the district or is interested in attending that did not receive this information, please spread the news or have them give us a call at 308-245-3201. We accept 3 and 4 year old's. Your child must turn three on or before July 31 of the incoming school year. **Students should accompany** the parents during registration, unless your three year old has already attended school this year then they will not need to come for this meeting.

Third quarter comes to an end on March 18. Soon after, we will be gearing up to take our NSCAS, (Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment tests), and our final MAP tests. Teachers have been preparing students all year for the educational growth we hope to see in the testing results. These scores become part of each child's BOE (Body of Evidence) to guide instructional decisions to best meet the needs of each child. These scores (along with other assessment data) are also used to analyze school wide programming and instructional practices. As we continue to work together, we are excited to see the continued educational growth of our students.

As Spring is approaching, beautiful weather comes. Please continue to have your child(ren) dress for changing conditions. It is important for children to have an opportunity to get some needed fresh air each day. There are many activities and events scheduled for the last quarter so please take time to frequently visit the Central Valley website and activity calendar as well as read newsletters and information that come home weekly in your students

Continued from Mrs. Connie Shafer

Friday/Monday folders to stay informed. Thank you for being a partner in your child's education.

Reminders:

- ◆ **March 4th- Teacher Inservice in Greeley- Elementary dismisses at 1:30**
- ◆ **March 6th- No School -- Girls State Basketball**
- ◆ **March 9th- School board meeting @ 7:00 in the Scotia Library**
- ◆ **March 11th- Preschool Roundup @ 2:45 in Scotia; Kindergarten Roundup @2:45 in Scotia.**
- ◆ **March 13th- No School -- Boys State Basketball**
- ◆ **March 16th- Preschool Roundup in Greeley @ 9:00; Preschool roundup in Wolbach @ 1:00.**
- ◆ **March 16th--North Loup Community Dinner entertainment-- Fifth Graders to entertain.**
- ◆ **March 18--After School Stem Club- 2:30-3:30**
- ◆ **March 27--Kindergarten Transition Day 12:00-3:30.**

Instilling Pride; Inspiring Others!!



Mrs. Sarah Hansen

Sixth grade is such a fun and exciting year at our school! We have so many wonderful things going on as we get ready to transition to junior high.

The 6th graders will be going on an overnight field trip in May to the Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha. During this campout, we will get to go on educational tours while we are on our morning and night hikes. Sixth graders raffled off customized water bottles to raise

money for the costs of the trip not covered by the grant we received from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska. I am always overwhelmed by the support of our families and community - we raised over \$1,000! Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and supported our class field trip!

We have been busy writing this year! So far, we have written encyclopedia articles, narrative stories, persuasive essays, and our Grannie Annie stories (family heirloom stories). For the Grannie Annie project, students interview a relative to learn about a family story to record. This year, thirteen students submitted their work to the national Grannie Annie Project, if selected, they could be published in a book! Right now we are working on Americanism Essays that we will submit to our local American Legion Auxiliaries.

We had a wonderful time visiting the North Loup Community Dinner on February 17th. We shared our Grannie Annie stories and enjoyed a yummy treat.

In Science, we are learning about thermal energy. We are presented with a scenario of choosing the correct heating system for a hypothetical school. Students must conduct scientific investigations in an online simulator and real-life experiments to solve the problem.

We got a new reading series this year called *ReadyGen*. During our reading block we have small groups with an integrated technology center and time for students to read self-selected text. Our anchor text and supporting texts vary by unit and are organized by theme. Right now we are finishing a unit about oceans.

These are just a few of the interesting things that the sixth graders have been up to at Central Valley. We are so lucky that we live in such a supportive community that provides all of these amazing opportunities for our students!





Ms. Priscilla Balasa,
Director

High School News:

- ◆ Kilee Ackles was accepted to the Class D All-State Wind Ensemble!! The clinic is at UNK with a concert at 5:00pm in the Music Building Recital Hall. Congratulations Kilee!
- ◆ Band and Choir students are preparing for Conference and District contests as well as the upcoming Spring Concert

Elementary School News:

- ◆ Band and Choir students are preparing for the upcoming April 17 concert.
- ◆ Students have worked hard on learning how to compose! Yes, we may have a budding Beethoven in our midst! They did a fantastic job with their compositions.



Elementary student compositions for "Music In Our Schools" month



ELEMENTARY
STEM CLUB
Mrs. Michelle Linke



Central Valley is making an after school S.T.E.M. Club! The Stem Club is for anyone in K-6 grades. A team of 4th and 5th graders will be running the club and have planned, exciting activities featuring S.T.E.M. S.T.E.M means Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

The dates are all Wednesdays: February 26, March 18, April 8 and April 22. The activities will be from 2:30 to 3:30pm at the elementary school in Scotia. Parents will have to sign a permission slip for their children to attend. We are going to do themed activities that are fun for any grade.

Each day your child attends, we will put them in groups and do different activities. There will be **NO** transportation home following the activities, so parents will have to make arrangements to pick up their child. Be looking for information from your child's teacher to sign up for this exciting opportunity.

Four steps help students stop procrastinating

Don't let your child get into the habit of putting off homework until the last minute. This four-step process can give him a jump start. Have your child:

1. **Choose just one assignment** to focus on.
2. **Set a timer** for 20 minutes, and use the time to work on that assignment
3. **Avoid breaks** while the timer ticks.
4. **Reward himself** with a quick break when the timer rings.

Encourage him to repeat the process until the homework is complete.

CV Preschool at Greeley

The Preschool children celebrated Valentine's Day on February 13th. The children brought homemade Valentine boxes ranging from animals, hot wheels, a farm and many other types. We want to thank the parents for helping their children make their boxes a little more special.



Front row l-r: Kendrick Nordhues, Watson Wood, Finley Rowland, Charlee Choyeski-Ziemba, JW Dugan

Back row l-r: Lane Kerrigan, Maxwell Freeman, McCoy Dugan, Andrea Wood



Greeley County



On February 12, sixteen students from Central Valley and Spalding Academy competed in the Greeley County Spelling Bee held at the CV High School Library. Each school sent two students from 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th grades to participate.

The spelling began at 1:00pm with students writing out 100 words. The six students with the highest score then went on to the oral round of the spelling bee. Central Valley had four spellers advance to the oral rounds: Kendra Cargill, Dylan Beaty, Morgan Johnson and Darci Buck.

After seven rounds of oral spelling, Dylan Beaty became the 2020 Greeley County Spelling Bee Champion. Morgan Johnson was this year's runner-up. Dylan will now advance to the Omaha World Herald-Midwest Spelling Bee on March 28 in Omaha.

Central Valley Students participating in this year's Spelling Bee were:

Fifth Grade

Cayle Grossart
Brooklyn Perrott

Sixth Grade

Thayer Davis
Hugh Thompson

Seventh Grade

Darci Buck
Morgan Johnson

Eighth Grade

Kendra Cargill
Dylan Beaty



Three Central Valley students attended the UNK Honor band and choir clinic on January 27th, 2020. Kilee Ackles, Larista Barner, and Airalee Evans participated along with over 750 other musicians from across Nebraska. The participants auditioned for these honor ensembles and were selected for their musical abilities. The students spent their day practicing with their respective choral ensembles and then participated in a performance in the evening. Congratulations to these ladies on their hard work and dedication to the arts!



Kilee Ackles, Larista Barner, Airalee Evans



2020 State Wrestling

Central Valley Wrestlers Shaye Wood and Enrique Martinez competed at the 2020 NSAA Wrestling Competition held at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha from Feb. 20-22.

Tournament results are listed below:

Shaye Wood—126 lb.

- ◆ Round 1
Pinned Sam Tourney of Shelton
- ◆ Quarter Finals
Defeated Brenner McLaughlin of Thayer Central 11-0
- ◆ Semi Finals
Defeats Connor Wells 7-0 of Anselmo-Merna
- ◆ Finals
Pins Gavin Schernikau of Centennial and is 2-Time State Champion



Enrique Martinez—138 lb.

- ◆ Round 1
Pins Cody Lambert of Southern Valley
- ◆ Quarter Finals
Nate Christiansen of Plainview defeats Enrique 4-0
- ◆ 2nd Round Consolations
Defeats Luke Honstein of Hemingford 8-0
- ◆ 3rd Round Consolations
Defeats Dennis Vogl of Crawford 4-0
- ◆ Consolation Semifinals
Defeats Dustin Klingsporn of Axtel 2-0
- ◆ 3rd Place Medal
Wins over Xavier Perez of Elm Creek 3-0



Wrestling photos courtesy of The Beacon-Observer



FCCLA BLOOD DRIVE

Mrs. Kathleen Kennedy, Sponsor

**Friday, March 27 @ CV Auditorium
9:00am-3:00pm**



The American Red Cross Society contributes to the Central Valley School Scholarship Fund so please come out and donate!! For an appointment, please contact the school 428-3145.

Central Valley FFA celebrates 2020 National FFA Week

From February 22—February 29, the Central Valley FFA Chapter celebrated National FFA Week.

Throughout the week, FFA Chapter members shared what FFA is about and the impact it has on its members and the community. The 2020 theme for National FFA Week is "Different Dreams, One Jacket" and shows the diversity of the organization. FFA is not just for students who want to be production farmers—FFA also welcomes members who aspire to careers as teachers, doctors, scientists, business owners and more.

- ◆ **Entire Week:** 2-person team Cornhole tournament. From February 24-28, students played a game of cornhole during their lunch periods. The winning team received a cash prize and soda pop after being announced on February 28.
- ◆ **Thursday, February 27:** Chapter Officers visited elementary 6th grade classroom. While there they informed elementary students about the chapter and how they could be a part of it when they start attending high school.
- ◆ **Thursday, February 27:** The 4th and 5th grade students participated in the 4th Annual Ag Olympics at 2:30pm. The winning team received a traveling plaque for their efforts.
- ◆ **Thursday, February 27:** Drive Your Tractor to School
- ◆ **Friday, February 28:** FFA Members hosted a Barnyard inside the Elementary School Bus Barn from 11:00-2:30pm where students (and people from the community) were invited to visit animals that include, but are not limited to: a calf, piglets, baby goats, a mini bull and more.



The Central Valley FFA competed in Livestock Management, Veterinary Science, and Welding for their Career Development Events at Central Community College in Grand Island on February 13th. Within these contests, members compete in different technical skill areas related to diverse career fields.

The Veterinary Science team consisting of Kilee Ackles, Larista Barner, Lexi Shaffert, Demi Daniels, Danielle Wadsworth and Carly Johnson earned first overall and will also be attending state! The Welding team consisting of Trevor Cargill, Rope Bottorf, Shaye Wood and Kordaynian Thorin earned overall first place. The Livestock Management team consisting of Tristan Klein, Christina Lauria, Tamryn Klein, Madison Young, and Cohen Grossart earned 3rd overall and are going to state! The chapter's Agricultural Demonstration team, who competed in December and earned second place overall.

Central Valley will send these four teams, who qualified to compete at the State FFA Convention, to Lincoln in April. Central Valley FFA proves that with hard work and determination you can achieve anything!



Back Row l-r: Shaye Wood, Rope Bottorf, Trevor Cargill, Kordaynian Thorin, Larista Barner

Middle Row l-r: Danielle Wadsworth, Kilee Ackles, Demi Daniels, Cohen Grossart, Lexi Shaffert, Madison Young

Front Row l-r: Carly Johnson, Tristan Klein, Tamryn Klein, Christina Lauria

State FCCLA Peer Education Conference February 24, 2020

The Central Valley chapter joined over 450 other Nebraska FCCLA members and advisers at the State Peer Education Conference held in Kearney, NE on February 24, 2020. The theme of the meeting was "SPOT The Difference Peer Education is Making". The State Peer Officer Team has joined with the State Officers to promote the 'Live Like Lisa' Kindness Challenge. Members are encouraged to nominate other chapter members or advisers that go above and beyond to be the kindest person that they can be. CV nominees were Esma Abrajan, Mia Butcher, Kendra Cargill, and Carly Johnson.

In addition, there were several speakers and sessions. The keynote speaker was Kevan Hueftle, a Eustis Nebraska native. He shared his experiences of losing his leg in a hunting accident and training to be a runner with a prosthetic leg. He also spoke about how he was able to overcome adversity and how members can as well. Kevan has competed for Team USA in the Parapan American Games in Peru as well as the World Para Athletics Championships in Dubai. He is currently training to participate in the Paralympic trials for a chance to compete in the Tokyo Paralympic games.

There were also 3 breakout sessions, the first was "SPOT the Difference Peer Education Can Make!" In this session, the State Peer Officers educated members about Peer Teams and how to use FCCLA as a tool for success. Diane Karr and Morgan Wrich, members of the CommonGround Organization came and educated members of the importance of agriculture in Nebraska. They shared about their families' experiences with agriculture and how agriculture has impacted their lives. The purpose of the CommonGround is to personal experiences, as well as science and research, to help consumers like you sort through the myths and misinformation surrounding food and farming.

Carol Schroeder, mayor of Dannebrog Nebraska, home healthcare nurse, and former owner of the Danish Baker, spoke about being "Nebraska Strong and Dannebrog Determined" and how their community survived the 2019 flood. She gave several different viewpoints on the flooding and talked about emotional aspects as well.

FCCLA members and sponsors attending the State Peer Education Conference from Central Valley were Mia Butcher, Kendra Cargill, Alexis Johnson, Vanessa Wood and Kathleen Kennedy adviser.



L-r: Kendra Cargill, Alexis Johnson, Keynote Speaker Kevan Hueftle, Vanessa Wood, Mia Butcher



On February 26, 2020, the seniors attended Adulting 101. The event was sponsored by the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization and the Center for Entrepreneurship and Rural Development Office within the College of Business and Technology at UNK.

The days events focused on educating students about the first year of college life. The presentation structure allowed students to

Adulting 101 continued:

choose topics of interest to them that included: Personal finances, professionalism and career readiness, dorm living, staying healthy in college, relationships and technology, sleep, and study habits. During the applied learning portion of the day, students had the opportunity to take part in networking, KPD safety and vehicle basics.



Front row l-r: Kilee Ackles, Christina Lauria, Kensey Wadas, Tristan Klein, Shaye Wood, Reece Wood, Rope Bottorf

2nd row l-r: Maya Dehart, Alyssa Dehart, Miranda Pribnow, Enrique Martinez, Kordaynian Thorin, Damyn Rother

3rd row l-r: Reilly Young, Esma Abrajan, Alexys Young, Cameron Kelly, Cage Landers

Back row l-r: Thad Post, Noah Baker, Dakota LaCost

the students found that opportunity at the CNFL Speech meet at GISH on Saturday, February 1st.

Studies show that public speaking is one of people's greatest phobias. In fact, some people would rather die than speak in public. It takes enormous courage to stand in front of a group of strangers while a judge critiques you as you perform a part, but our students did it. Some medaled and others didn't, but they all proved just how strong, resilient, and yes, heroically talented they are. In the process, they certainly made us proud.



Juniors Gale Treat and Gabriel Davis took sixth place for their duet, Rock, Paper, Scissors, Bomb! at the Lindsay Holy Family Speech Meet



Speech Students Unveil Their Talents

Cougar Nation was represented well this year by many 'newcomers' to competitive speech. Two returning Speech alumni helped the newbies adjust to the rigors of competition. It is unusual for Speech Class to ask or invite classroom students to compete, but this year was an exception! The talent in the classroom was just looking for an outlet in which to shine. Most of



Seniors Dakota LaCost, Noah Baker and Esma Abrajan were eighth place medalists at the Grand Island Senior High Meet earlier this season with their OID, Homeland Insecurity

Region 26

Weather Symposium

Friday, March 20th

4 pm – 7 pm

Central Valley Auditorium

Greeley, NE

Come out for Fun & Door Prizes

- 
- Free Admission
 - Vendor Booths
 - Fun Facts –
Tornado & Cloud Formation Info
 - Hastings Weather Service
 - CodeRED
 - Meet your 911 Dispatchers
 - Make a 911 Call
 - Meet a Storm Chaser
 - See the National Guard Helicopter
 - Kent Boughton – NTV Chief Forecaster

Ride on the Roll-over Simulator
Something for Everyone!

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY

To ask questions
about your baby's
development



CALL TOLL FREE
1.888.806.6287

All children develop at different rates.
Listed below are some guides to see
how your child is developing.

0-1 YEARS

- ✓ Holds head up by four months
- ✓ Picks up objects by six months
- ✓ Responds to sounds by six months
- ✓ Makes some of the sounds made by others by nine months
- ✓ Uses furniture to pull self to standing position by 12 months

1-2 YEARS

- ✓ Holds out arms and legs while being dressed by 18 months
- ✓ Points to objects he/she wants by 18 months
- ✓ Walks without help by 18 months
- ✓ Says two words by 18 months
- ✓ Drinks from a cup by two years
- ✓ Shows one body part (eyes, nose) when asked by two years

2-3 YEARS

- ✓ Speaks in 2-3 word sentences by three years
- ✓ Walks up and down stairs without help by three years
- ✓ Plays with an adult by three years
- ✓ Undresses self by three years
- ✓ Asks some questions by three years
- ✓ Speaks so non-family members understand most words by three years

For your questions or concerns contact your
doctor, your local school district or call

NEBRASKA CHILDFIND
1.888.806.6287