Northwood-Kensett Community School District

VIKING DISPATCH

December 2019

Creating healthy, educated, ethical and productive citizens.

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PO BOX 289
1200 1st Ave N.
Northwood, IA 50459

(641) 324-1127 (Elementary)

(641) 324-2021 (Superintendent)

(641) 324-2142 (High School)

Administration

Michael R. Crozier, Superintendent

Brian Costello, Elementary Principal

Keith Fritz, Secondary Principal

School Board Members

Larry Hovey

Susan Kliment

Cindy Pangburn

Roger Harris

John Anderson

FROM THE DESK OF MR. CROZIER

Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities:

I would like to thank all the fall sports coaches and the music teachers for their dedication to our students that participate in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. The lessons learned in these activities help build students that will become successful members of our society. When you see these teachers and coaches please thank them for their hard work and positive relationships they develop with their students. Please take the opportunity to take in a Holiday concert this month and see first-hand the great work these students are doing.

New Facility Scheduler to go live on January 1, 2020

Starting January 1, 2020, we will go to an online system for facility usage for both internal and outside groups. As with all change, there will be some bumps in the road and frustrations. We will have directions on the website on how to become a requester and direction of how to request a facility after you have been accepted as a requester. All the current calendars have been transferred over to the new system so anything you have currently approved will be on the new calendar. As of January 1, 2020, the old facility request form will no longer be used.

Enjoy the Holiday!

Newsletter designed by: Tina Johnson, Elementary Secretary

Pillar of the Month Awards Gr. 3-6

Students chosen for this award get to have lunch with Mr. Costello and are presented an award. This is a special award for students to receive that are exhibiting quality character traits awarded by their teacher each month.

Grades 3 & 4

Last month's third and fourth grade Pillar of the Month students chosen by their teacher for exhibiting quality character traits.

Maci Smith - Ms. Seehusen
Ivy Toresdahl -Mr. Einertson
Sara Wubben - Mrs. Hill
Aidan Ouverson - Mrs. Ubben

If you see these students out and about, please take a moment to congratulate them for a job well done.

Last month's fifth and sixth grade Pillar of the Month students chosen by their teachers for exhibiting quality character traits.

Carson Tufte– Mr. Severson
Caden Helgeson– Ms. Hagen
Alex Bewley– Ms. Orvedal
Not Pictured:
Dean Perry– Mr. Parks

If you see these students out and about, please take a moment to congratulate them for a job well done.

FROM THE DESK OF MR. BRIAN COSTELLO, ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Whoever was doing the Happy Snow Dance, please stop. The mix of snow and rain will certainly help make this a white Christmas. I know the kids are excited to finally be able to put the snow pants, snow boots, and mittens to good use.

As the holiday season approaches, we have a number of events that I'd like to encourage you to attend:

- K-1st winter concert—December 12 at 6:00 pm
- 2nd-4th grade winter concert--December 12 starting at 7:00 pm
- During the week of December 17 the 5th-6th chorus will travel to the Lutheran Retirement Home for a performance and then carol around town after.
- Jr./Sr. High concert--December 8 starting at 2:00 pm

Once again the elementary school participated in a community service project for the holidays. Instead of exchanging gifts, we collected food and personal care products for the pantry's that we have in both buildings. The fifth grade math students collected items from classrooms each week and made graphs of the class totals of items collected. We posted these graphs throughout the school so we could see the results of the generosity. This was a wonderful project that we used to reinforce our Character Counts Pillars.

That's all for now. Thanks for your continued support.

Brian Costello

It is the policy of the Northwood-Kensett Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Keith Fritz Secondary Principal, 704 7th St. N., Northwood, IA 50459, Phone 641-324-2021 x101, kfritz@nkvikings.com who has been designated as the district's Equity Coordinator and to coordinate the school district's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504, and Iowa Code Section 280.3. For issues with Section 504 Contact Brian Costello Elementary Principal, 504 Coordinator, 1200 First Avenue North, Northwood, IA 50459, Phone 641-324-2021 x201, bcostello@nkvikings.com

From the Pile off Mr. Hartman's Desk

At our last AD meeting members of the North Iowa Officials Association (NIOA) spoke to us about the shortage of officials in the North Iowa area and around the state. They informed us that there was a 12% drop in registered officials in the state this past year. We have been losing officials every year for the past 5 years and they feel this trend will continue if not increase over the next 5 years.

According to age data compiled in 2016, around 40 percent of IHSAA registered officials were over the age of 50. In track and field (86%) and swimming (70%) those percentages skyrocketed, while football (48%) and basketball (45%) were working with older populations as well.

Because of the decline in officials and the aging of our current officials, the NIOA is on the recruiting trail. Below is an article that they have asked us to get out to our public. If you have any interest in becoming an official, please contact the NIOA.

Wanted- Men and Women to officiate Junior High and High School sports in North Iowa

The NIOA is in need of people to officiate all sports from Varsity level to Junior High level. Our demand for sports officials far exceeds our supply. So, if you have ever thought about getting into sports officiating at any level or sport now is your chance.

A person can officiate Junior High sports and Not be certified with the state. We would put you with a certified official, to help with your mentoring. This is easy to do.

To work any level of High School sport(s), you must be certified with the proper state association. This involves a small fee, taking an online open book exam and watching an online rules meeting. Our NIOA Association is always available to help you get this done.

If you are interested in becoming a sports official no matter the sport, please contact Ken Robbins NIOA Coordinator of Officials (kenrobbins2390@gmail.com), Scott Whitehill NIOA Assignor (coachwhitey@yahoo.com or me, Steve Hartman (shartman@nkvikings.com). We look forward to hearing from you. You can also visit our NIOA website for more information https://northiowaofficialsassociation.weebly.com/.

Thank you for your consideration! We need and want you to join the sports officiating profession!

Craig Snider
NIOA Assignor
craigsnider@gmail.com

Go Vikings

News from the Classroom

In the Business Department at Northwood-Kensett, there have been a few exciting changes over the past couple school years. Personal Finance continues to be a graduation requirement for all of our students. This course provides a variety of information to help students build a solid "financial foundation" as they get ready to leave Northwood-Kensett to begin the next chapter of their lives. From budgets and credit to insurance and taxes, students get a hands-on look at important topics that will impact them throughout the rest of their lives.

Another exciting addition to the business curriculum is the addition of two concurrent enrollment (CCE) classes through NIACC. These classes allow students to earn college credit at no cost to them. Last spring, Intro to Entrepreneurship was offered for the first time. This class focused on the entrepreneurial process, as well as the mindset possessed by entrepreneurs in today's society. Students completed a variety of activities and projects, including developing a business plan of their own.

The second CCE class offered in my classroom is Human Relations. This course is required by a number of different majors and focuses on how effective human relation skills can help individuals both personally and professionally. It also helps students with their communication skills, as well as understanding diversity and practicing ethics in our ever-changing world.

More information about these two courses can be found in the Northwood-Kensett course book, or by contacting the guidance office or myself. If your student is looking to pick up some college credit before graduation, this is a great place to start!

7-12 Business Education
Mr. Brendan Ehlke

Eleven 9th & 10th grade NK girls went to Iowa State University's Program for Women in Science & Engineering (WISE) on Thursday, November 7, 2019. The students enjoyed engaging and educational group presentations, and signed up for four individual sessions to attend throughout the day which were about STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) careers. Thank you to the Northwood-Kensett Community Education Foundation for the funding that allowed the girls to experience the STEM conference.

Students in the photo above were chaperoned by NK math teachers Kim Borowczyk & Lori Willert.
Bottom, left to right: Rachel Hill, Addy Bachtle, Teagan Johnson; middle, left to right: Alexis Hakes, Emma Logeman, Marli Backhaus, Emma Davidson, Hayley Wallin; top, left to right: Sam Tindall, Kennedy Christianson, Carly Hengesteg

FROM THE DESK OF MR. FRITZ

At a recent meeting of our Career and Technical Education teachers (business, family and consumer science, agriculture education, and industrial technology) local business professionals shared with me and our teachers their need for high school graduates who demonstrate these very important qualities:

- Responsibility
  - showing up to work on time, every day
  - taking ownership on the job
- Social skills/communication skills
  - working as a valuable member of a team
  - keeping personal drama out of the workplace
  - confidence in speaking with others and the ability to understand what they read and express clearly in writing
- Problem solving skills
  - identifying a challenge or taking on a task
  - gathering information and different viewpoints
  - designing and implementing solutions
- Work ethic
  - shouldering their share of the work without complaint
  - when one job is done looking for more work to do

As our teachers continue to improve their skills in developing our young people into the educated and productive citizens we need, feedback like this from our community is invaluable. This information also serves as the raw material we'll be using to craft a report card that not only shares how well our students understand math, science, and their other academic subjects, but also informs parents how responsible, hard-working, and cooperative they are here at school.

Counselor's Corner, Mrs. Ashley Williams

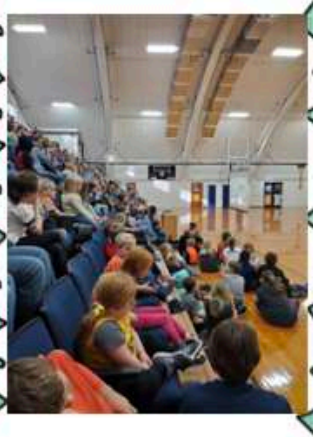
In Guidance throughout November, we have discussed and completed activities surrounding the Respect pillar of character. The students also made cards and colored coloring sheets to be sent with the FCCLA group to the Ronald McDonald House, as a part of their winter project!

Our 1st Grade lead a Character Counts assembly on Responsibility. They made a very creative video to help teach how we can be responsible everyday. In class, we will continue to talk about Responsibility and Respect. We will talk about and complete activities that focus on being responsible for our actions and words, following school rules, and completing work and turning it in on time. Some of the upper elementary groups are working on building a growth mindset and learning new ways to handle conflict.

As a reminder, the elementary has transitioned to a school pantry program The pantry is available to families Pre-K-6. There are multiple ways the pantry can be used. Parents can request that the school send food home with the student (similar to the BackPack program we previously participated in) or parents may set up a time to come to the school and pick out foods for their families. Some of the foods we currently have include assorted juices, canned vegetables and fruits, pasta and sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, soup, and tuna. If you would like to participate, please contact the elementary office to sign up.

As we look towards second semester, small groups and classroom lessons will begin covering topics such as study skills, organizational skills, and test taking skills to help all students be successful! If you feel like your student would benefit from taking part in a particular group, or if you have a suggestion for a group topic, please let me know.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You can reach me by email at awilliams@nkvikings.com or by phone at 641-324-1127 ext. 216!



Counselor's Corner, Mrs. Amy Hansen

Last month, I wrote about the NIACC Promise Scholarship and how many of our students will be eligible for free tuition through NIACC for the next two years. Then, I had the opportunity to learn about the State of Iowa's "Last Dollar Scholar" scholarship at my NIACC counselor's meeting, and so I'm making this month's article a continuation of last month's.

The "Last Dollar Scholar" scholarship is available to Iowans who plan to attend an Iowa community college and major in one of the pre-determined "high need" career training programs. The programs that were on this last year were:

Agricultural Operations Management
Agriculture Technology
Automotive Service Technology
Building Trades
Business Administration
Business Technology Specialization
Diesel Technology
Heating & Air Conditioning Technology
Industrial Mechanics & Maintenance
Industrial Systems Technology
Information Assurance & Security
Information Technology Specialist
Management
Medical Assistant
Medical Laboratory Technician
Nursing (Associate Degree)
Physical Therapy Assistant
Practical Nursing
Radiologic Technology
Tool & Die Technology
Welding

As you can see, the list includes many of the career paths that are popular among Northwood-Kensett graduates. *The "Last Dollar Scholar" scholarship guarantees full tuition to any full-time student who majors in these programs for two years, regardless of their financial need.* Students are required to have a completed FAFSA, although their award amount does not factor into this scholarship. Northwood-Kensett students have a great opportunity to receive an affordable or even free education with the scholarship programs that are currently available in our area.

N-K students would even be allowed to keep their WCDA scholarship moneys and apply them to tools & supplies, housing, or even keep it until they transfer on to a university to continue their education after completing these programs. I cannot stress enough the importance of considering scholarship opportunities and completing the necessary paperwork in order to secure a place in one of these programs.

Nurse's Corner-Heather Rheingans, RN

Colder temperatures are upon us, and as much as I hate to admit, it will only continue to drop until next spring. Now is a good time to dig out your student's winter wear and check to make sure that coats, snowpants, and boots still fit and are in working order. I am always surprised when I do this to find out how much my own children have grown since last winter.

When accumulating snowfall starts, snow pants and boots are not only a necessity but also a requirement for recess at the Elementary. If students do not have these items they are expected to stand by a wall or play on the blacktop, if there has been an area cleared off. This is to protect their legs and feet from getting wet which results in an increased risk for frost-bite. I do have a limited supply of boots and snow pants to lend out if a student forgets or a tear occurs, unfortunately I do not have enough to supply all students.

Ears and fingers are the most susceptible areas to get frostbite so a warm hat, ear warmer, or ear muffs and waterproof gloves are also extremely important.

If you are experiencing financial hardships and are having difficulty funding these items please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the school counselors to discuss options for you.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOD PANTRY (FALL 2019)

Items available at the high school food pantry. The food pantry receives a new truck of food on the first Tuesday of each month. Any one can pick up food items any time during school hours. Please check in at the high school office, or stop by door 18 on the south side of the high school- between 3:30 and 4:00 pm is the best time to pick up items.

Current Food Supplies
Assorted canned Fruit
Canned Vegetables
Assorted Spices
Egg Noodles
Spaghetti noodles
Canned Spaghetti Sauce
Tea Drink
Cream of Mushroom Soup
White and Brown Rice
Cheerios
Fresh Eggs
Whole Frozen Chickens
Canned Chicken/Tuna
Fish Sticks
Mac & Cheese
Pork Patties
Vegetable Oil
Granola Bars
Fresh Apples
Fresh Oranges
Fruit Snacks
Tomato Juice
Fresh Onions
Fresh Plums
Fresh Pears

Fifth Grade Happenings:

By Ryan Severson and Greg Parks

It's hard to believe the 1st semester is quickly coming to an end. The fifth graders are having a great first half and are looking forward to the 2nd semester. We have accomplished a lot already this year and hope to continue moving forward.

Below are some of the highlights from our 1st semester. Worth County Conservation specialists Dan Block and Dakota Popp spent some time doing hands-on activities with the 5th graders this semester. In science we started off the year learning about objects in the sky, gravity and matter. We spent some time learning about the different constellations and at the end of the unit he brought the star-lab to school. The star-lab is a large dome in which the night sky is projected onto it's ceiling and walls. It was really neat viewing all of the constellations we learned about in class. Dan and Dakota also visited the 5th grade social studies classes and made arrowheads with the students. The students also visited the Renaissance Festival in Albert Lea early this fall. The kids had a great time doing this!

Our most recent project has been the annual Christmas food drive, we will be giving these items to our food bank located in our school. The entire school is involved in this project because homerooms compete to see which class can collect the most items. As a Character Counts school, this activity is just one of the many ways we demonstrate the 6 pillars of character. The 5th graders collect, count, and sort all of the donations. We will take our final collection on December 6th and post our totals in the January newsletter.

ABOVE: 5th grade students making arrowheads.
BELOW: 5th grade students enjoying the Big Island Rendezvous in Albert Lea, Minnesota.

News from the Classroom

Friday, November 15, 2019, NKHS Advanced Math students visited two local businesses: TruStile Doors & ADA Enterprises.

Engineers Chad Tiedemann and Matt Scholbrock talked about the math needed to create made-to-order doors that are shipped nationwide, and gave a floor tour.

Owner Tom Stensrud talked about geometry involved with the plastics and outdoor furniture products they make, which are shipped all over the world.

In the photo above, students observed the dipping machine in the process of doing a paint job.

December 2019

Mr. Barnes'

NOTES FROM THE PODIUM

Holiday Concerts | All-State Auditions | Honor Bands

Holiday Concerts & Bake Sales

7-12 Band & Vocal:
Sunday, December 8th
2:00 pm

Elementary Programs:
Thursday, December 12th
K-1 @ 6:00 pm
2-4 @ 7:00 pm

All-State Auditions

On Saturday, October 26th, senior Austin Efflandt (trumpet), and sophomore Bella Hoch (flute) participated in the Iowa All-State Band Auditions.

Austin and Bella prepared solo excerpts, two etudes, all 12 major scales, and the chromatic scale for their auditions. Both students had excellent auditions!

Austin Efflandt ('20), Bella Hoch ('22)

Junior High Band Students Participate in Honor Band

On Saturday, November 16th, N-K Junior High students Kamryn Backhuas (trombone), Kenny Conlin (trombone), and Christopher Madsen (trumpet) participated in the North Central Iowa Bandmasters Association's Middle School Honor Band at Algona Middle School.

While there, Kenny Conlin was selected via audition to play 1st trombone for the All-Iowa 8th Grade Honor Band - a select ensemble of the top eighth grade musicians from across the state which will perform at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention in May.

Kenny Conlin ('24)

The NCIBA Middle School Honor Band had approximately 200 students from 40 schools divided into two 100-piece honor bands. The bands were conducted by notable Iowa educators Leon Kuehner from Hampton, and Elizabeth Driskell from Cedar Rapids.

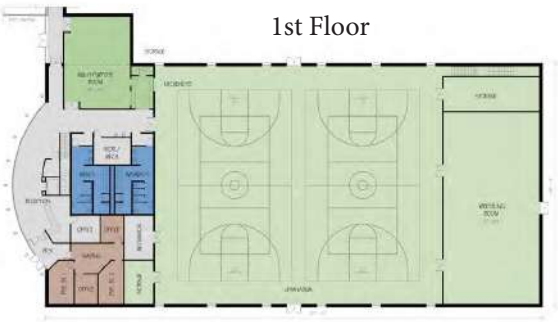
(L-R): Kamryn Backhaus ('25), Kenny Conlin ('24), Christopher Madsen ('24)

Vikings Activity Center

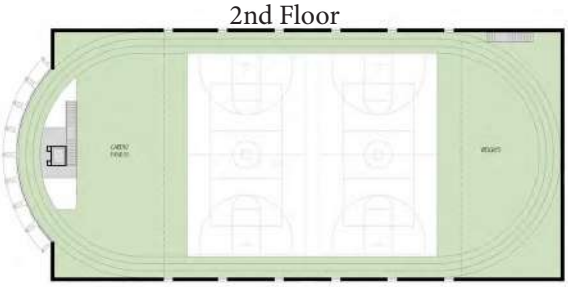
What is the Vikings Activity Center? The Activity Center is a wellness center that will be available to all members of the community and N-K students, as it is planned to be attached to the N-K High School. The bottom level of the facility includes two full-sized wooden basketball/volleyball courts; baseball/softball pitching and hitting areas; a wrestling room capable of fitting two full-sizes mats, which can also double as a cheerleading practice room; a multi-purpose room; a men's & women's locker room; two office spaces available for rental to offset operation expenses; and a receptionist desk. The upper level contains a walking/running track, space for cardio machines, and a separate space for weightlifting. With the growth of youth programs and activities space is limited and we cannot accommodate the needs of all age groups adequately. The committee has partnered with the school and we feel the Activity Center would be an asset to both our school and community.

Our committee represents a group of citizens working to provide an increased opportunity for health & wellness in a partnership between the school and community. (The school board had a similar vision for the future as did the community.) It makes sense to partner together to build the facility. Our committee's goal is to push that vision forward by raising funds. The Activity Center has an estimated cost of $5.4 million dollars. The school has committed 4 million dollars to the project. In order to break ground and begin construction for a center available to the community we need to raise 1.4 million dollars by January 31, 2020. Without community financial support some of the project amenities open to the public may be eliminated.

1st Floor



2nd Floor



We are actively seeking and accepting tax deductible donations for this project from the community. If you have any questions before donating, you can contact any one of the committee members or send a message to our Facebook page. By donating at this time, we can show the school and community that there is strong support for this project and that the community wants and needs this facility. There will be a donor list published on social media and in the Northwood Anchor. Follow us on Facebook @ Vikings Activity Center for updates. Please consider donating to this worth-while project that will enhance the quality of life for not only N-K students, but children, adults and senior citizens in Northern Iowa/Southern Minnesota and surrounding area. Let's put Northwood and the Vikings Activity Center on the map!

Vikings Activity Center Donation

Name(s) or Business Name _____

All donation levels $1000 and above will be recognized on the "Wall of Fame"

_____Diamond ($100,000+) _____Gold ($5,000-$24,999)

_____Platinum ($25,000-$99,999) _____Silver ($1,000-$4,999) _____Other ($_____)

Donations can be made payable to N-K Booster Club –Vikings Activity Center
% Bradley Christianson - President
97 5th Ave N. Northwood, IA 50459 or
accounts have been set up at NSB Bank and PayPal.

vikingsactivitycenter@gmail.com

Thank You, We Appreciate the Support!

Committee Community Members

Bradley Christianson Ron Hengesteg

Wendy Weisert Keith Fritz

Amber Julseth Kris Kenison

Shana Brunsvold Steve Peterson

Jared Johanns Regina Krambeer

Platinum ($25,000-$99,999)

$50,000 City of Northwood
$50,000 Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation
$31,965.07 Ron Olson Trust

Gold ($5,000-$24,999)

$5,000 N-K Booster Club
$5,000 Northwood Dental
$5,000 Worth County

Silver ($1,000-$4,999)

$1,000 Steve & Lisa Hartman & family
$1,000 Butler Construction -
Van & Margie
$1,000 Crozier Rentals
$1,000 Northwood Anchor -
Kris Kenison

Other

CK & Mary Christianson
Blake Severson
Kalvig Boarding Kennels
Ann Low
Richard Patterson
Larson Manufacturing
A&I Auto Inc.

VIKINGS
ACTIVITY CENTER
1 2 3 4
COMMIT TO BE FIT
#strongertogether

Northwood-Kensett Vikings

Legacy Bricks

Here is your chance to etch your name in stone in the new **Vikings Activity Center**!

* A Legacy Brick is an 8" X 8" brick paver, made of granite stone. Each brick will have the N-K Vikings logo, and an additional 4 lines for personalization.

* All of the Legacy Bricks will be displayed on a wall within the Vikings Activity Center.

* The Legacy Bricks will be made by the same company that made the brick pavers for the plaza in front of US Bank Stadium in 2016.

* These Legacy Bricks will also make great gifts, memorials, class donations, etc.

$$$ The cost of a Legacy Brick is $300. We are offering a second, duplicate brick that you can display in your home/office/workplace/etc. for an additional $200.

Order your Legacy Brick(s) today - we would like to get these orders in by **December 31, 2019**. See order form below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

_____ Option 1: Legacy Brick displayed in Vikings Activity Center $300

_____ Option 2: Legacy Brick displayed in Vikings Activity Center + 1 duplicate $500

Personalization: 4 lines, 16 characters per line, including spaces

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please send order form and check to: N-K Booster Club - Vikings Activity Center
Bradley Christianson - President
97 5th Ave N, Northwood, IA 50459

OR

Email your order to vikingsactivitycenter@gmail.com, and either send a check to the address listed above, or pay via PayPal to the email listed above