



Northwood-Kensett Community School District

VIKING DISPATCH

April 2023

Creating healthy, educated, ethical and productive citizens.

In This Issue:

From the Desk of Mr. Costello	1
From the Desk of Mr. Crozier	2
From the Desk of Mr. Fritz	3
Athletic Director News	4
Elem. Counselor's Corner	5
Jr. Sr. Counselor's Corner	6
Classroom News	7-24
Nurse's Corner	25

1496 480th St.

Northwood, IA 50459

(641) 324-1127 (Elementary)

(641) 324-2021 (Superintendent)

(641) 324-2142 (MS/HS)

Administration

Michael R. Crozier, Superintendent

Brian Costello, Elementary Principal

Keith Fritz, Secondary Principal

School Board Members

Larry Hovey

Susan Kliment

Cindy Pangburn

Bradley Christianson

John Anderson

From the Desk of Mr. Costello

Spring Weather

March exited like a lion, so does that mean April will come in like a lamb? Wouldn't it be nice to think a gradual winter thaw and slowly rising temps would be in store for us this spring? Unfortunately, living in north Iowa, the weather rarely provides us what we want; instead, Mother Nature keeps us on our toes. With that in mind, please pay close attention to the weather forecast. It's not uncommon for us to have significant fluctuations in our temperatures throughout the day or week. We'll still go outside for recess with these temperature changes, so proper outside clothing is important. As I mentioned in an earlier newsletter, we have some extra coats, gloves, and hats that we can loan out, but not enough for an entire class.

Thank you for your help with this.

Preschool registration is coming up!

On April 12 we will hold our preschool registration for the 2023-2024 school year. The hours will be 11:00-7:00. Any children three years old by September 15 are eligible for our three-year old program. Registration will take place in the preschool room. Please enter at the exterior preschool door on the north side of the building. If you have questions, please call the office at 324-1127.

From the Desk of Mr. Crozier, Superintendent of Schools

During this school year, Northwood-Kensett Community School District tested its Elementary building for radon. Radon gas cannot be seen, smelled or tasted, and moves upward through cracks and other openings in the foundations of buildings from the soil under a building. In the United States, radon is the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among nonsmokers.

We saved taxpayer dollars by receiving training from the School Radon Training & Support System (SRTSS) on how to accurately do the initial radon testing ourselves. Preliminary test results for the majority of the building came back below the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) suggested action level of 4 pCi/L, which was good news.

Test results for a few spaces came back at slightly above the action level of 4 pCi/L. This summer we will fix the radon elevation in consultation with SRTSS, corrective maintenance methods suggested by the EPA, and by hiring a certified radon professional to install an active mitigation system.

The State of Iowa requires radon testing at least once every 5 years for all Iowa public school attendance centers, licensed preschools and licensed child care centers. We believe all of our staff and students should be safe. The district has proactively placed all of our school building(s) on a multi-year rotating radon test schedule.

For most students and staff, research suggests that schools and workplaces are actually the second largest contributors to radon exposure. The home is likely to be the most significant source of radon exposure. Please test your home for radon and if necessary, take action to reduce the risk of lung cancer by reducing elevated radon concentrations. If you have questions regarding radon testing for Northwood-Kensett Community Schools, please feel free to contact Michael R. Crozier, superintendent, at 641-324-2021 x301. More information regarding residential radon testing can be found at www.epa.gov/radon.

Last Day of School for the 2023-2024 School Year

The board has decided to make up four of the days we have missed for weather. The last day of school will be May 25, 2023 and it will be a 12:20 dismissal at the elementary and 12:30 dismissal at the Middle School/High School.

From the Desk of Mr. Keith Fritz, Jr. MS/HS Principal



Parent/Guardian/Caretaker support group meetings at the Clear Lake office will begin on April 20.

Every third Thursday of the month | 12:30-2pm or 5:30-7 pm

Contact Loni Jorgenson at ljorgenson@centralriversaea.org or
Kandi Bienfang-Lee at klee@centralriversaea.org with questions.



Caring for children can be a challenging endeavor. Starting on Thursday, April 20, there will be monthly Parent/Guardian/Caretaker support group meetings held at the Central Rivers AEA Clear Lake office. Important details can be found below.

- Meetings will be held from 12:30–2 pm, or 5:30–7 pm, every third Thursday of the month.
- They will be held only at the Clear Lake office location at this time.
- The support group is for all parents, guardians and caretakers of children ages birth–21.

Please fill out the [Google Form to RSVP](#). Contact [Loni Jorgenson](#), Family Educator Partnership Coordinator, or [Kandi Bienfang-Lee](#), School Social Worker, for questions or information.

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

News from Jordan Reindl, Athletic Director!

APRIL

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



NEWSLETTER

HOME EVENTS

Track

4/14- Girls Viking Relays
4/24- Boys Viking Relays
5/2- JH Co-Ed Relays
5/11- Districts

Golf

4/6 Quad
4/20- Quad
4/27-Triangular
5/9- Glenville-Emmons

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please email Jordan Reindl if you're interested in working at any of our home track meets this year.
jreindl@nkvikings.com

OPEN POSITIONS

Assistant Football
Assistant Wrestling

2023 District Track

📍 Northwood-Kensett

May 11th

4:00 PM

1

S

2

T

3

A

4

R

5

T

START

Viking Activity Center

Hours

Monday-Thursday: 5:30 AM- 9:00 PM

Friday: 5:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Saturday: 5:30 AM- 8:00 PM

Sunday: 5:30 AM - 9:00 PM

Phone Number: 342-2142 ext. 350

WANT TO BE AN OFFICIAL?

Contact Ken Robbins:
kenrobbins2390@gmail.com



Guidance Class

April is a busy month for elementary students! As we approach the end of the school year, guidance class will be filled with a lot of fun learning activities.

K-2nd Grade students will begin to learn about the importance of teamwork. They will get to do a variety of team building activities and have discussions about what went well and what we could do differently to improve.

3rd-5th Grade students are working on their career unit. In this unit students are exploring different career options and exploring which careers align with their interests/talents. 3rd grade students will have the opportunity to interview people in and outside of school about their career and will get to share this with their class. They will also get to write a letter to their future selves about what they think they will be doing when they grow up. These will be saved and given back to the students at a later date. 4th and 5th grade students get to make a presentation on a career of their choice and present this to their class.

Dakota Hansen
Elementary School Counselor
dhansen@nkvikings.com

Counselor's Corner, Mrs. Amy Hansen**Counselor's Corner**

Amy Hansen, 6-12 School Counselor

Hello again, Vikings!

It seems too strange to be true, but it's time again for me to work to end the year for our Seniors and other students, and start planning ahead for next year. This includes modifying students' 4-Year plans for next year, Concurrent Enrollment & PSEO registration, orientation for 5th grade students, transition for 8th grade into 9th grade, and once again finalizing the Master Schedule. With the transition to a middle school model this year, we will be making a few adjustments for next year.

There will be new Social Studies electives offered next year. Mr. Monte DeArmoun will teach Current Events 1st semester and "The 1980's" 2nd semester next year.

After a whole year with the 6th grade incorporated into our building, we are adjusting our schedule to better meet the needs of students. Mr. Hartman will lose two of his classes to take another section of 8th grade Basecamp, and we are going to separate 7th & 8th grade reading and writing classes and will focus more on independent reading during Interventions time.

Mr. Davidson will be able to teach a couple of NIACC-level business classes next year, and we're excited about that, too! A lot of thought and effort has been given to make next year's schedule the best it can be for the students in our district. There may be a few more adjustments yet to come!

The 4 Year plan review schedule will come out very soon. Students will each be scheduled for a ten minute time appointment with me to review the four-year plan I have on file to make changes for next year and make sure that they are still "on track" for graduation in four years. I will send notification to families when schedules have been added to JMC and are ready for online review.

We finished the first section of eighth grade's Four Year Plans in Life Skills last week. When all have been submitted and reviewed by me, I will be sending home copies for parents to review and sign. An email confirmation is also an accepted form of approval. The second section will get right to work on theirs when the Hex changes on April 17.

5th grade's tour of the secondary building has been set for the morning of May 4th, and there's a separate special tour for some students earlier that week. Look for a separate email with more details coming in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, you can email me at ahansen@nkvikings.com with any questions about the happenings I've discussed.

Classroom News-Speech Team by Mrs. Beth Butler

Northwood-Kensett Speech Team

The Northwood-Kensett Speech Team had eleven students participating this year with six participating in large group speech and eight participating in individual speech. Results from each contest are listed below. Congratulations to all of our performers!

District Large Group Speech Contest

Saturday, January 21 @ Mason City High School

- Ensemble Acting – Jadyn Beland and Teagan Johnson – Division I rating
- Improv – Jadyn Beland, Teagan Johnson, Grady Buenzow, Pete Kelly – Division I rating
- Improv – Weston Willand and Addyson Runde – Division II rating

State Large Group Speech Contest

Saturday, February 4 @ Waterloo West High School

- Ensemble Acting – Jadyn Beland and Teagan Johnson – Division II rating
- Improv – Jadyn Beland, Teagan Johnson, Grady Buenzow, Pete Kelly – Division II rating

Northwood-Kensett Large Group Speech



Addyson Runde (9), Teagan Johnson (12), Pete Kelly (12), Grady Buenzow (12)
Jadyn Beland (12), Weston Willand (9)



State Large Group Speech

Jadyn Beland (12), Teagan Johnson (12), Andrew Breitsprecher (Class of 2022),
Pete Kelly (12), Grady Buenzow (12)

Classroom News! By Mr. Preston Davidson, Business Education



On Tuesday, March 21 st Evan Fritz, MBT Director of Retail Banking and 2012 N-K Alum took time out of his busy schedule to speak with students in N-K's Accounting and Personal Finance classes.

The discussion covered topics such as: Evan's educational and work experiences from N-K to MBT, daily duties and working environment, industry labor demands, banking products and services, inflation and interest rates, the status of the banking industry, and more.

Thank you to Evan and MBT for your generosity in your time and knowledge.



Classroom News! By Mr. Michael Kessel, PE Instructor

Each photo desc clockwise: 2nd grade elementary pe class playing a fun game of scooter hockey. Hadley Anderson practicing her serving technique during volleyball skill work, a group of 2nd graders working on the basketball skills of dribbling, passing and shooting, Haydan Pectorious delivers the first roll of the day during our HS bowling unit. 4th graders are running the "PACER" test. This test is designed to measure aerobic capacity. The objective of the PACER is to run as long as possible while keeping a specified pace. Students run back and forth across a 20 meter space at a pace that starts out slow and gets faster each minute. We are very fortunate and are grateful to Matt and Wes from the Strike Zone who allow our 8th-12th grade PE classes to participate in this great lifetime activity!



Classroom News! By Mr. Trevor Hunt, MS/HS. PE Instructor

PE students in 6th-12th grade recently started their archery unit. This past summer, Coach Hunt became a certified National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) instructor. Over the course of the unit, students will learn the 11 Steps to Archery Success, how to construct a String Bow, how to correctly shoot from various distances, how to score on an archery target, and various other activities related to archery.



News from the classroom - Math Club by Mrs. Tiffany Tiedemann

Pi Day Shenanigans @ NK



We want to Thank EVERYONE that donated items for the pie auction and raffle. We raised \$520 that will go towards a field trip and calculator to graduating seniors.

News from the classroom – FCS-Mrs. Megan Thorson PG 11-15



The Northwood Kensett FCCLA (FAMILY, CAREER, COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA) recently attended the Iowa State FCCLA Conference.

Our Club received a Silver in the Iowa FCCLA Honor Chapter Award.

Kensy Tomlinson accepted the award on behalf of the Chapter.

Members in attendance were Mia Fierova, True Hackenmiller, Bailey Thorson, Christopher Madsen, Addyson Runde, Ivy Toresdahl, Maci Smith, Maya Johnson, Quinn Schroeder, Macy Thorson, Kensy Tomlinson, Kenly Solberg and Ivy Urbatsch

Students participated in STAR competitive events which stands for Students Taking Action with Recognition. Students receive a bronze, silver or gold rating based on a score out of 100. The top 2 GOLD placings in each category are eligible for Nationals. Some other students participated in Iowa Events which are fun competitive events that are placed 1st through 3rd and scored out of 20 points. These events do not move on to higher competitions.



Maya Johnson, Mia Fierova and True Hackenmiller received a silver award in their Repurpose and Redesign Star Event.



Addyson Runde received a silver award in her professional presentation on Mental Health Star Event.



Maci Smith and Ivy Toresdahl received 2nd in their Place Setting while Kenly Solberg and Ivy Urbatsch received 1st in their place setting for Iowa Events.



Bailey Thorson received a Gold award and qualified for Nationals for her presentation on Vaping.



Quinn Schroeder received 2nd in the \$15 Clothing Challenge and Christopher Madsen participated in the Food Truck Challenge Iowa Events.



Kensy Tomlinson received a Silver on her Star Event Project Food innovations.

Macy Thorson (below) received a Gold and qualified for Nationals in her Chapter in Review Portfolio Star Event. Macy also ran for State FCCLA officer which involved a 2 minute speech to her peers about how we can help with mental health awareness in our schools and community. She also had to answer a situational question on stage about FCCLA. She received the Vice President of Community Service of the IA FCCLA chapter. She will travel around the State of IA to help plan and implement FCCLA events.



March was Reading Month here at NK Elementary!

Title Reading and Special Education Report a High
Score of Reading Madness!



Buddy Readers..a one on one **Matchup** that never
fails to inspire the love of reading!

Well Played Book Champion On our Court! Author Visit!

Thanks to the **Northwood-Kensett Community Education Foundation**, NK Elementary students were inspired by a well known Iowa Author, *Jill Esbaum*. It was a great day filled with **motivational advice**, that anyone can become an author!



It was a **PACK THE STANDS** set of events that involved Family and students together!



Read in bed	Read aloud to a pet or soft toy	Re-read a book you enjoy	Design a new cover for a book you read	Read a library book
Read wearing a hat	Read on a Friday	Read to a family member	Read in your pajamas	Read while sitting under a table
Tell someone about a book you read	Read for 20 minutes	FREE SPACE	Read a nonfiction book	Read with a flashlight
Read a silly book	Have someone read a book to you	Read in a bathtub without water	Read in a silly voice	Read while eating a snack
Read upside down	Read in the car	Read without being asked	Read twice in one day	Read standing up

To kick off March Reading Month, during the week of February 27th-March 3rd, students and teachers got to participate in themed dress up days. We got to see hats, jerseys, pajamas, and a lot of **WACKY** outfits!

During the entire month of March, students were able to complete reading tasks at home in order to win prizes at school. **Thank you to parents** for signing and sending back Book Bingo sheets with your students!

Every year the classrooms get to decorate their doors to promote reading. This year we had some very fun and creative doors!

1st place winners

Mrs. Eskildsen and Mrs. Haxtons' Preschool classrooms



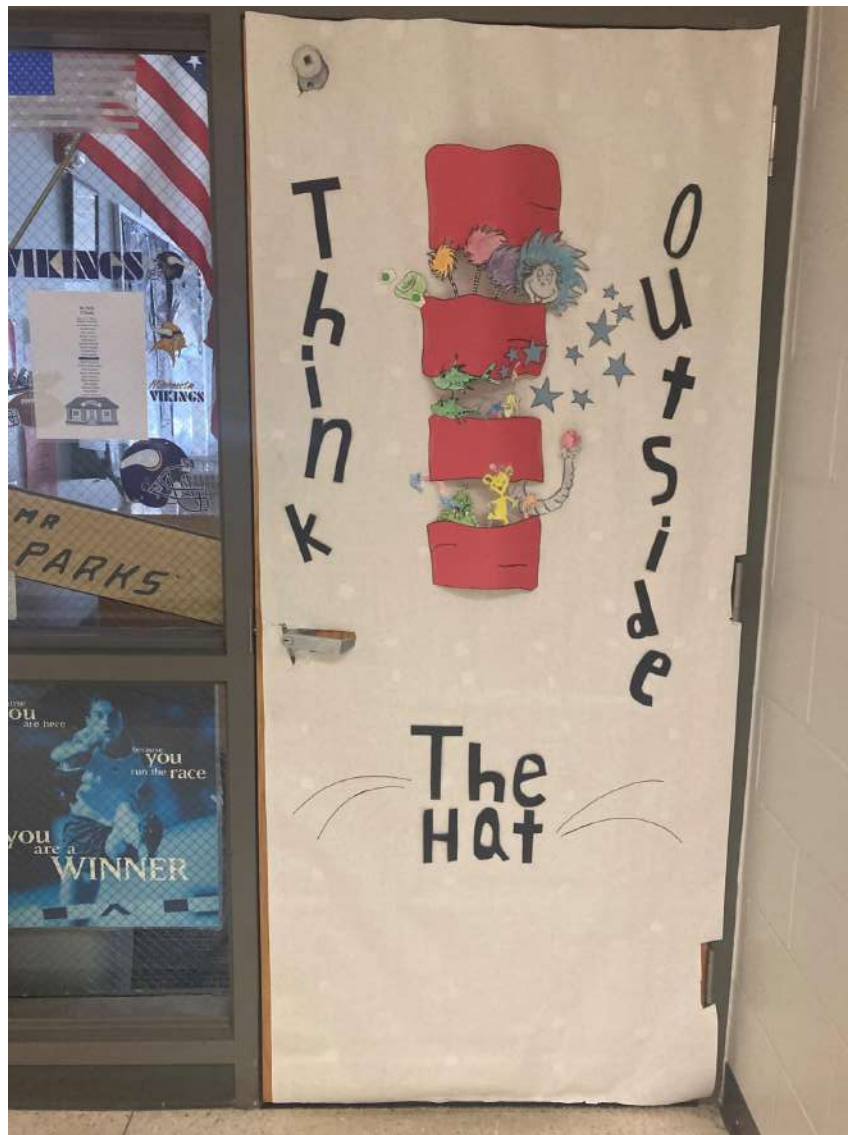
2nd place winners

Ms. Hebels Kindergarten class!



3rd Place Winners

Mr. Parks 4th grade class!



Each class at NK elementary got to nominate a book to enter into a March Madness Book Bracket! Classes all then got to vote to determine our 2023 Book of the Year!



Another Championship Title!

The winner is... **Ms. Hagens Class!**

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

Classroom News, MS. HS. Student of the Month

					
Jamie Sims	Kaitly Solberg	Peyton Wilder	Lindsey Moore	Sierra Fife	Annamarie Block
					
Kooper Julseth	Laney Miles	Gavin Halbach	Chloe Leonard	Terry Ausborn	Michael Janssen
	  <p>March 2023</p>				
Olivia Genz					Davanna Jackson
					
Henry Hanson					Kaitlyn Davidson Jacobs
					
Haddie Hanson	Landen Nelson	Brooklyn Orth	Reagan Johnson	Mackensy Tomlinson	Brayden Hoegner
<p>Student of the Month</p>					
	Sara Wubben	Ella Leonard	Kenedie Berry	Maci Platts	Trinity Roush

Nurse's Corner by Kaitlyn Bruns, RN

**FREE SPORTS PHYSICAL CLINIC
GRADES 6-12th**

We will again be hosting a Sports Physical Clinic at the High School for all students **FREE** of charge. A sports physical is required for all athletic participants and is valid for 1 year and one month after the issue date. We will be holding the clinic on 2 different days to accommodate schedules.

Below is the assigned date and time for your child. We have split them up by grade level. Please review these and have your student come at the correct time and date assigned to them/their grade.

Current 6th, 7th, and 8th graders:

Location: Vikings Activity Center: Community Room

When: Wednesday April 5th at 3:30 pm.

Current 9th, 10th and 11th (12th grade track and baseball/softball athletes) graders:

Location: Vikings Activity Center: Community Room

When: Wednesday April 19th at 3:30pm.

If this assigned day doesn't work, please let Mr. Reindl or myself know and we will get them in on a different day. Coaches have agreed to be cooperative in letting their athletes participate.

Students will be seen on a 1st come 1st serve basis. Last time the wait in line averaged about 30 minutes if students didn't arrive right on time, please remind them to not get discouraged and to not leave if the line is long! It might help to let them know that this service is FREE and benefits both them and you☺ They don't have to go at an inopportune time and you save money; maybe the wait time could be spent doing homework!

A consent to treat form is required to be filled out in order for your student athlete to participate; this is found on the school's website under "Nurse", along with the physical form. We ask that you help your child fill out the health and family history section on the physical form. Copies of the treatment consent and blank physical forms can also be found in the High School office.

Have your child bring the consent and physical forms with them on the day of their clinic.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Reindl or myself with any questions.