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# CENTRAL HEIGHTS NEWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 288



521 Ellis Road  
Richmond, KS 66080  
<http://www.usd288.org>

January 2010

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Superintendent.....	785.869.3455	785.869.3809 .....	Middle School
High School.....	785.869.3555	785.869.3355 .....	Elementary School

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## Important Information Inside

### Students Vaccinated

All Central Heights students who desired H1N1 vaccinations have received them through support of the Franklin County Health Department. Students and staff here received vaccinations in three waves over the course of several weeks. First the elementary students, then middle school students and finally the high school and staff members received their H1N1 vaccinations. The H1N1 vaccinations were provided for at no cost to the students or staff. We thank the Franklin county Health Department for the benefits provided to our school.

### News from the Superintendent...

I just wanted to take a minute to remind patrons and high school students to take extra care around school busses. Occasionally, we learn of a car passing a school bus while the stop sign is extended.

When the stop sign is extended, a school bus can not be passed in either direction. One of the toughest jobs in a school district is that of a bus driver. I thank you for making our school bus driver's jobs a little easier.

Jim Reece, Superintendent  
[jreece@usd288.org](mailto:jreece@usd288.org)  
785.869.3555

## CHS Notes: Dealing with Current Events and Happenings

The Robotics team received a \$5000 grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The money will pay the team's entry fee for the competition in March. The grant is called a sustaining grant. Robotics sponsor, Clint Jackson applied for the grant on behalf of the Central Heights School District. Clint is a high school math teacher at Central Heights.

Franklin County Head Start submitted a grant that would have created a preschool at Central Heights. The Head Start preschool would be an addition to the one that Central Heights developed. The grant was extremely competitive. Unfortunately, the local Head Start did not receive the grant. Franklin County Head Start may choose to reapply at a later time.

Can you spell "Laodicean?" That was the word the national spelling bee champion spelled correctly last year. The Central Heights Elementary School will conduct its spelling bee at 1:00 on February 1, 2010 in the auditorium. The county bee will be on February 11, 2010 at the Ottawa Middle School

Ron Sluder and Angie Wiederholt recently attended Kansas Association of School Board's annual convention that was held in Overland Park. Both school board members attended breakout sessions on various subjects. KASB rotates the conference between Wichita and Overland Park

Reminder: Central Heights is a tobacco free. Tobacco use is not permitted on school property.

### **Helping Out—Volunteering—Assisting—Supporting**

Patrons who wants to volunteer at the school is encouraged to contact Jim Reece at (785)869-3455 ext. 205 or by email at [jreece@usd288.org](mailto:jreece@usd288.org). There are many different ways that a person can volunteer.

**Patriot's Bank is sponsoring the Central Heights athletic calendars for this 2009-2010 school year. Patrons can find the schedules at their local Patriot's Bank or at the school.**

## CHS Notes: Dealing with Current Events and Happenings

**“Save the Date”  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Enrollment for High School  
for 2010-2011 School Year  
7:00 p.m. on March 11, 2010**

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### **Changing of the Guard**

First year head basketball coach Rusty Cannady won’t have to move far on the bench on game night. After serving three years as an assistant under Bud Welch, his seat will be about three feet to the left. Coach Cannady served as an assistant basketball coach at Ottawa University from 1994-2000 before joining the Central Heights coaching staff in 2006.

Rusty’s wife, Stephanie, is an elementary music teacher in Ottawa. Rusty and Stephanie have two children. Alex is in second grade at Central Heights. Max will enter kindergarten next year. Rusty works on the family’s dairy near Princeton with his father and uncle. Rusty noted that “milk has been leaving the driveway since 1918.”

Coach Cannady has not changed the program a lot since taking over the reins from Coach Welch. “We might allow more transition but it depends on the personnel” stated Rusty.

The team has strong senior leadership. There are eight seniors, four juniors, four sophomores, and eight freshmen.

Central Heights will travel to Eureka for sub-state. Other schools in the Eureka sub-state include Burlington, Erie, Fredonia, Marion, Council Grove, and Neodesha.

Doug North and Ottawa University standout Phil McClintock will be the assistant coaches for the Vikings.

Coach Cannady added that the boys have been working very hard in practice.

## CHS Grads in Service to America

CHS is creating a published list of those graduates, former students, and district patrons who are currently serving our county in the various military organizations.

Submit any names and current address information to [macarey@usd288.org](mailto:macarey@usd288.org) or contact the high school office at 785-869-3555.

The following CHS graduates may be contacted at the addresses below.

SPC Christopher Gordon  
B 2/130 FA  
Unit 31530, MFO 53  
APO, AE 09833

SPC Nate Schultz  
B 2/130 FA  
Unit 31530, MFO 53  
APO, AE 09833

SPC Tony Wilson  
B 2/130 FA  
Unit 31530, MFO 53  
APO, AE 09833

### **New Additions**

CTT2 Caleb Ackmann  
PSC 45 Box 553  
APO AE 09468

Caleb is stationed at RAF Menwith Hill, a Royal Air Force station near Harrogate, North Yorkshire which provides communications and intelligence support services to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The Newsletter will also publish newsy updates on those graduates and former CHS students who are currently serving in our nation's military.

### **We Remember Our Own**

Sgt. Jeff Mersman, US Army, Lane, killed in Afghanistan, November 2007

#### **Internet Information Services from Central Heights**

Central Heights utilizes PowerSchool as its student management system. PowerSchool can be a very helpful tool. Parents and students can monitor classroom grades. The system can also send emails summarizing your student's grades to you. In addition, the student meal account balance is available.

If you are interested in finding out how to use PowerSchool, contact Bob Stegner at (785) 869-3455, ext. 202. Mr. Stegner can also be reached at [rstegner@usd288.org](mailto:rstegner@usd288.org).

## District Office: Food Service

Hope everyone had a great holiday.

Our Senior Citizen Luncheon was a great success. We had approximately 54 guests join us for lunch. The entire day was a success. Everyone from board members, office personnel, students and even the director of technology pitched in.

My staff in Food Service did an outstanding job preparing the meal. I know what it's like to fix a meal for my sons and their families. It can be a little overwhelming. The ladies in the kitchen prepared for nearly 600 people. That's a lot of turkey! Thank you to

everyone for a great day for our school and community.

If you would like to speak to me concerning free/reduced meals, please feel free to give me a call. I will be happy to help you in any way I can. My number is 785-869-3455, ext 207.

Here's wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Dawn Burns  
Food Service Director  
dburns@usd288.org  
785-869-3455

## Preschool News

The Central Heights Preschool has some very exciting news! We were chosen as one of the recipients for the "PTO Gives Back Grant."

Due to the fact that we are only in our second year here are Central Heights, we really needed some help with equipment. We were able to get a new piece of equipment for the playground called Endless Adventures Adjustable Mountain Climber and an Adjustable Height Basketball Goal for us to use. These pieces are all Little Tikes and are age appropriate.

The existing equipment on the playground states that it is only for ages 5 and up. Since we are a four year old only program, we are unable to use any of that equipment. We had one piece of equipment donated to us earlier in the year, and it just wasn't enough for all of us. We are very thankful to the PTO for this grant. We appreciate all that they do for us. Thank you PTO!!!!

Ms. Jean Mace  
jmace@usd288.org  
785-869-3355

## Weight Room Face Lift

Central Heights' students will reap the benefits of Bailey Baker's senior project for years to come.

Bailey Baker is very familiar with fitness centers. She works at Bruce Laird's *Nautilus-Ottawa Health Club*. In addition, Bailey's mom manages the health club. So it didn't take Bailey to select a task in the fitness field.

The district has debated how to improve the weight room. But a tightening budget ended the discussion. The high school football coaches under the guidance of Mike Swendson worked through the summer painting the locker room side of the facility.

Bailey decided to renovate the Central Heights weight room. "Several students told me that the weight room was in bad shape" stated Bailey. She added, "I knew that Bruce Laird recently donated some fitness equipment to the district." Senior projects must include seven hours of community service. Mr. Lane, the teacher who oversees senior project program, stressed that it is a project, not a report.

So how did Bailey start such a big

project? She did it one lift at a time. Bailey organized a bench press competition at Laird's *Nautilus-Ottawa Health Club*. It was based on a power ratio so lighter competitors could fairly compete against their heavier counterparts. Bailey had t-shirts printed for the winners. Bruce Laird generously donated a gym membership. Bailey also received generous cash donations from people like Will Jongehagen.

Bailey raised \$180. She purchased paint with most of the proceeds. She painted the weight room. "My mom, Donna, and Deb Horne helped a lot" noted Bailey. After painting, Bailey proceeded to deep clean the weight room.

Many students and staff members have thanked Bailey for improving the weight room. But she isn't done yet. Bailey wants to paint the top part of the weight room and install a display for weightlifting records.

Bailey did an outstanding job. Central Heights has an improved weightlifting facility thanks to her hard work.

## The Kinyon Korner

### Quilting with "Everyday Use"

Stitching Heirlooms

by Cortney Kinyon

On Friday, November 20, English 10 students hand-pieced a 12 inch nine-patch Snowball block. Since they just finished reading Alice Walker's "Everyday Use" which is a story about valuing one family's heirloom quilts, I wanted the students to understand the time and effort it takes to make a quilt. I thought if they knew the effort, they would be more appreciative of the value of these heirlooms.

At first, the students seemed leery of trying to quilt. However, as the hour(s) progressed many became comfortable with their needles and thread. Many of the students seemed to enjoy this relaxing hobby!

To help celebrate, I had a beautiful cake made for them; the cake was decorated in the nine-patch Snowball pattern as well. I also invited the Ottawa Herald and the Osawatomie Graphic to take pictures for the newspapers.



## Central Heights FFA

### FFA Contests and More

Central Heights FFA is focused and goal oriented this year! Over the last two months, our Chapter and Greenhand officers have been working hard at parliamentary procedure and ritual officer parts. This practice and determination paid off at the East Central District (ECD) leadership contest. The officer team took 4<sup>th</sup> place in ritual, 7<sup>th</sup> place in parliamentary procedure, and 8<sup>th</sup> place in the general information test. As a team they received 6<sup>th</sup> place.

The Greenhands did exceptionally well this year also. They brought home 5<sup>th</sup> place in parliamentary procedure, 7<sup>th</sup> place in the general information test, and 4<sup>th</sup> place in ritual. As a team they finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place over all.

Three members excelled to achieve master ritual awards. Casey Droddy earned master ritual Vice President, Julie Werkowitch earned master ritual Sentinel, and Morgan Scheckel earned Greenhand master ritual Treasurer as well as 8<sup>th</sup> in the general individual information test. Caitlin Scheckel placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the senior division for job interview. Please take time to congratulate these members!

The Central Heights FFA Chapter would like all of its members to follow the examples set by the officer teams at the leadership contest. Anyone interested in competing contests this year should come or contact Mr. Page or Cubit. Our chapter would like to have your help in continuing our CDE success!

### **Counselor Corner: College Goal Sunday**

February 21, 2010 - YOU CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO ATTEND

College graduates earn twice as much as high school graduates. With the right financial aid advice, going from high school to college is not only smart – it's easy. Come to College Goal Sunday on Feb. 21, 2010. From 2-4 p.m.; you'll receive free financial aid assistance at 20 locations throughout Kansas. It's all the help you'll need to get you closer to a college education. Plus, you can win a \$500 scholarship while you're there! That's right. Four college-bound students at each College Goal Sunday location will win a scholarship to the college or trade school of their choice. Sites are in Kansas City, Olathe, Iola, Overland Park and Lawrence. Go to: <http://www.collegegoal.org/> for more information.

Linda Allen, Guidance  
lallen@usd288.org  
785-869-3555

## Chad Cargill's ACT Workshop

For more information: .....<http://www.chadcargill.com/homepage/home>  
 Date of workshop: ..... January 7, 2010, Thursday  
 Time: ..... 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. (Bus would leave at 6:30 a.m.)  
 Place: ..... Eureka High School, Eureka, KS  
 Fee: ..... \$30 (sorry, no fee waivers are available)

**Any interested Junior or Senior is invited to attend.**

**What is it?** This is a 3 hour workshop on strategies to improve your ACT score. Many colleges award academic scholarships on the basis of grade point average and College Admission test scores. The ACT is a college admissions test required by 4 year colleges for admission. School administrators and counselors who have had Chad Cargill present his ACT workshop at their schools are very positive about the value of this workshop and continue to have him present each year.

**When and where is it?** This prep session is at Eureka, Kansas. It is the closest and earliest session we could find this time of year. It is on January 7, 2010, a Thursday and CHHS will take a bus if there are enough interested students. The sessions runs from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. We would need to leave CHHS at 6:30 a.m. Students would need to bring money for lunch or bring their own lunch. We will stop in the Eureka area for lunch. We will return by the end of school.

**Payment:** The prep session is \$30 and must be paid on January 7, 2010. Checks should be made out to Eureka High School. Cash is great but debit/credit cards cannot be used.

### 2009-2010 ACT Assessment Tests Schedule

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
Feb. 6, 2010	Jan. 5, 2010	Jan. 15, 2010
Apr. 10, 2010	Mar. 5, 2010	Mar. 19, 2010
Jun. 12, 2010	May 7, 2010	May 21, 2010

**Central Heights is now on Twitter at  
<http://twitter.com/USD288>**

PTO Notes...

PTO received two applications for the "PTO Gives Back" grant program. Grants were awarded to Ms. Mace (preschool) and Ms. Riemer (special education). The preschool will receive some additional playground equipment and special education will receive educational materials. The deadline for spring grant applications is February 15, 2010.

Thank you to everyone who donated toys for the toy drive. Your generosity made a big difference this year!

Look for information coming home about Game & Craft night coming up in late January/early February. Also, PTO will be sponsoring four assemblies this year. The first, "Math Magic", will be January 27, 2010.

**Due to winter break, the PTO meeting scheduled for Monday, January 4, 2010 has been moved to Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.**

We hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday!

Sara Brown  
PTO President  
browntownks@yahoo.com  
785-878-3563

**SENIOR PARENTS**



**SENIOR PARENTS**



# **Financial Aid Meeting**

**Thursday, January 14, 2010**

**7:00 P.M.**

**At**

**Central Heights High School Theatre**

**All Interested Parents & Students are Invited to Attend**

Gary Bateman from the financial aid office of Ottawa University will discuss financial assistance for post-high school training (college, junior college, trade and technical schools). He will also explain the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and student/parent loan programs. This is important information for parents/guardians of CHHS seniors, but parents of underclassmen are also encouraged to attend.

**Central Heights News**

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