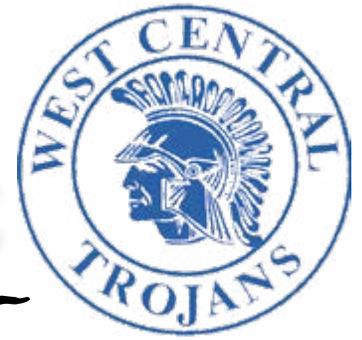


AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2022

West Central Public Schools
Humboldt/Hartford
SD District 49-7



WEST CENTRAL WIRE

*"To prepare all students for learning and living in a changing world."
~West Central Schools Mission Statement*

www.westcentral.k12.sd.us

It is my sincere hope that each of you reading this article is enjoying the summer of 2022. Over Father's Day weekend, I was able to see SE South Dakota and NW Iowa; both were awash in green and growth. As a child, I was aware of so many phrases and "old sayings", but one that has always stuck in my head is "Knee-high by the 4th of July". Our corn certainly seems to have attained that already, with some of the beans approaching that. South Dakota is such a beautiful state when water is plenty.

Previous West Central Wire articles from me have focused on growth and the blessings therein. For this article, I want to share some of the specific projects our District is seeing take place this summer. Without further ado, let's begin highlighting a few of the projects that are taking place presently.

The first project, as with all projects in the scope of this article, are combination in nature. They contain much more than simply one thing that is being maintained, improved or built fresh. Our high school roof is being replaced as the previous one had reached it's end-of-life. A very general overview of the replacement is as simple as the following. The present ballast is being removed, with the insulation below being replaced/repared where necessary. Once that is completed, the actual roof surface will be replaced and the ballast returned. This project is taking place as of the writing of the article.

The second project is bringing valuable additional freezer/refrigeration space to the MS/HS food service program. This project is taking place on the west wing of the MS/HS building, near the doors to the Becker Center. The project is also presently ongoing; it will be ready for the 2022-2023 school year.

The next project that is slated to begin in the coming weeks, beginning just before the 4th of July, is the resurfacing of the HS, Humboldt Elementary and Administration Building parking lots. These are

considered maintenance projects and follow the MS lot resurfacing which was completed in the summer of 2018. As indicated, these projects are "in the works", but have yet to officially begin.

The final big project that is actually ongoing is that of the Hartford Elementary renovation/expansion.

We are presently in the design stages looking at different layouts, room designs and programming needs that will affect the aforementioned layout. Upcoming meetings for the exciting project will involve staff input and then the project will go to bid in the early Fall of 2022.

Proof that not everything goes as planned is the fact that one project that was scheduled to have been taking place now is that of the Humboldt HVAC improvement. The sheer number of projects that construction firms are seeing now means that they are scheduled out for years to come. Couple that with ever-present supply chain issues and we ended up in a situation where there were no bids for that project. We will be going to bid for it soon enough, however the project date will hopefully be for the summer of 2023.

We are so thankful and blessed with the many projects and improvements that are taking place in our schools. Now is a wonderful time to be a West Central Trojan! Take care and as always, if you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me in the Administration Office, I will be happy to assist as I am able.

Daniel Hoey
Superintendent of Schools
West Central School District 49-7



DISTRICT-WIDE NEWS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

District-Wide News

Superintendent Front Cover
 WC School Board 2
 WC School Directory 2
 Early Dismissals 2
 School Calendar 3
 School Closing Information 3
 New Student Registration 4
 Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act 4
 Gate Receipts and Admissions 4
 Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records 4
 K.A.R.E. News 5
 Equal Opportunity Employment 5
 Equal Educational Opportunities 5
 Nondiscrimination Statement 5
 Bullying; Prevention and Education 6
 Educational Rights for Children 6
 Student Records Notification of Rights 7
 Public Notice of Intent to Release Information 7
 Public Complaints about School Personnel or Procedures 8-9
 Parents' Rights to Know 9
 Notice to All Parents or Guardians 9
 Nurse's Corner 10
 Back to School Registration 11
 District Student Registration Day 12
 Transportation 13

Nutrition Services

Information / Payment Options 14

Elementary News

From the Principals 15
 Elementary Welcomes New Staff 15

Middle School News

From the Principal 16

High School News

From the Principal 17
 2022-2023 Computer Fees 17

Special Services

Welcome 18
 Elementary Title I Programs 19
 Early Childhood Screening 19

Co-Curricular Activities

Sports Information 20
 Band News 20

Organization

FFA 21-22

West Central Libraries

Library News 23

West Central Booster Club

WC Booster Club 24



WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD

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 508 Mulligan Cir, Hartford, SD 57033
 Alison.McGillivray@k12.sd.us

Alexia Klinkhammer, Vice President 201-3495
 509 N Sagehorn Dr, Hartford, SD 57033
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 26208 462nd Ave, Hartford, SD 57033
 Justin.Eich@k12.sd.us

Amanda Kayser 201-7510
 26646 461st Ave, Hartford, SD 57033
 Amanda.Kayser@k12.sd.us

Please note: Regular school board meetings are held the second Monday of each month in the Board Room at the Administration Office. Meetings begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted. All meetings are open to the public. If a person desires to have an item placed on the agenda, please contact the Administration Office one week prior to the scheduled meeting. All meeting agendas can be located on the West Central webpage under District Board of Education. All school board proceedings are published in the Minnehaha Messenger.

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Daniel Hoey, Superintendent 528-3217
Dr. Andrew Barron, High School Principal 528-6236
Mark Rockafellow, Middle School Principal 528-3799
Amy Johnson, Humboldt Elementary Principal 363-3131
 or 528-3325
Ashley Bahrenfuss, Hartford Elementary Principal 528-3215
Krista Stuessi, Business Manager 528-3217
Michelle Becker, Director of Special Services 528-3210
Carrie Schaefer, Curriculum Director 528-3217
Andrea Johnson, Activities Director 528-6236
Dr. Brandy Hernandez, Dean of Students 528-6397
Chris Waltner, Director of Technology 528-3217
Tanya Thomas-Parsons, Food Service Director 528-6238
Rick Coker, Transportation Supervisor (Bus Garage Office) 528-6235

EARLY DISMISSALS FOR 2022-2023

School will dismiss early for staff developments, teacher work time days, parent/teacher conferences, Thanksgiving break, winter break, and the last day of school. School will dismiss at 1:30 pm on the following days:

October 7	December 22	March 9
October 21	January 27	May 18
November 23	February 16	

2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 3	New Student Registration 9:00 am-3:00 pm
August 8	District Picture Day/Registration Day 11:00 am - 7:00 pm High School New Gym
August 10-11	New Teacher In-Service
August 17	Teacher In-Service
August 19	All Staff In-Service (Certified-all day, Classified-am only)
August 22	All Staff In-Service
August 22	Humboldt Elementary Open House 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
August 22	Hartford Elementary Open House 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
August 22	Middle School Open House and Sixth Grade Orientation 5:00 pm-7:00 pm
August 23	1st Day of School
September 2	NO SCHOOL
September 5	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
October 7	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Staff Development
October 10	NO SCHOOL - Native American Day
October 17	NO SCHOOL, Parent-Teacher Conferences 11:00 am-7:00 pm
October 21	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Teacher Work Time, End of 1st Quarter
November 23	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Thanksgiving Break Begins
November 24-25	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
December 22	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Winter Break Begins, End of 2nd Quarter
December 23-30	NO SCHOOL -- Winter Break
January 2	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
January 3	Return from Winter Break
January 16	NO SCHOOL -Teacher In-Service
January 27	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Staff Development
February 16	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:00-9:00 pm
February 17	NO SCHOOL - Comp Day for Teachers
February 20	NO SCHOOL - President's Day
February 24	NO SCHOOL - Comp Day for Teachers
March 9	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Teacher Work Time, End of 3rd Quarter
March 10	NO SCHOOL
March 17	NO SCHOOL
April 7	NO SCHOOL
April 10	NO SCHOOL
May 13	Graduation
May 18	School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, End of 4th Quarter, Last Day for Students
May 19	Last Day for Teachers

Inclement Weather or Make-Up Days: The first five make-up days are built into the school calendar. If we exceed five days of absence, one day will be scheduled onto to the end of the school year for each day missed. The days that will be utilized, if necessary are: May 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26.



SCHOOL CLOSINGS INFORMATION

The Campus Messenger System is our primary notification system for parents/guardians and staff. It will be utilized for school closings, delays, or early dismissals.



Please call **Caryl Nolz at 528-3217** for changes in phone numbers.

In addition, the following TV stations will be notified in the event that school should be cancelled or dismissed early due to inclement weather conditions:

Television Stations: KELO, KDLT, KSFY

We make every effort to provide this information to families prior to 6:30 a.m. However, the changing weather in South Dakota may make this a challenge on some days. In any case, we will notify these stations as soon as possible.

We care very much about your children and do our best to make appropriate decisions based on student safety and student achievement. Please remember that as a parent or guardian, you have the right to keep your child home on any day that you feel it is unsafe for your student to travel to school due to weather conditions.

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Registration for new students in the West Central School District is set for **Wednesday, August 3, 2022** at the high school from **9:00am-3:00pm**

Parents/Guardians are asked to bring with them their child's certified birth certificate, immunization records, and medicaid card (if applicable) to complete the registration process. A copy of the certified birth certificate will be made in the office. Proof of residency (parent) must be provided.

Families not able to attend the registration should contact the school to set up an appointment to register their child(ren). West Central Administration requests that families make contact with the school by August 3rd if unable to come to register so that planning for the upcoming school year will include accurate student numbers.

Elementary

Building in Humboldt (K-5) 363-3131
Or 528-3325

Building in Hartford (PreK-2) 528-3215

Middle School (6th, 7th, & 8th) 528-3799

High School 528-6236

If you are unable to reach anyone at the above school numbers, please call the Administration Office at 528-3217.

ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT

In October 1987, the U.S. Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. Asbestos is a fiber, which in the past had been used in building construction materials, and has been identified as being a disease-causing agent, including a cause of cancer.

The purpose of the legislation was to insure that school students are provided with a safe environment in which to learn. Asbestos abatement (removal) has been completed throughout the district. The only asbestos-containing material that remains in the district is floor tiles at the Maintenance Shop. Should any parent/patron have questions regarding the Federal law or its application to our district, those persons are invited to direct any inquiries to Krista Stuessi, Business Manager at 605-528-3217.

GATE RECEIPTS AND ADMISSIONS

The following is a list of admission prices to varsity activities, excluding chorus and band concerts. At all high school concerts, we ask for donations to help benefit the West Central music program.

Adult Patrons of West Central Schools:

\$5 per event or \$50 for a season pass

Students Attending West Central Schools:

\$3 per event or \$1 per event if student shows ID or \$15 for a season pass

Visiting Coaches and Administration:

Admitted Free

West Central Employees and Their Spouses:

Admitted free by displaying complimentary pass (*Passes available from Administration Office*)

Senior Citizens (65 years and older):

Admitted free

Play and Musicals:

\$5 adults - \$4 students

NOTICE OF DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS

Special Education records which have been collected by the West Central School District related to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of Special Education in the district, must be maintained under state and federal laws for a period of 5 years after Special Education Services have ended for the student. Special Education services end when the student no longer is eligible for services, graduates, completes his or her educational program on June 30th of the year after he/she turns 21, or moves from the district.

This notification is to inform parents/guardians and former students of the West Central School District's intent to destroy the Special Education records of students who ended special education services prior to or during the 2016-2017 school year. These records will be destroyed in accordance with state laws unless the parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student notifies the school district otherwise. After five years, the records are no longer useful to the district, but they may be useful to the parent/guardian or former student in applying for Social Security benefits, rehabilitation services, college entrance, etc. The parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student may request a copy of the records in writing or in person at the following address: West Central School District 49-7 / Special Services Department / 705 E. 2nd Street, PO BOX 730, Hartford, SD 57033 phone:605-528-3217

Requests for copies must be received by September 30, 2022 (30-45 days after letter has been sent or "reasonable amount of time"). These records will be destroyed after 10/01/2022.

K.A.R.E. NEWS

The KARE program at Hartford Elementary provided by the Sioux Falls YMCA provides many fun and enriching activities for students in grades K-5.

The before school program is available starting at 7:00 am and the after school program begins when school is dismissed until 6:00 pm. The KARE program is not open on days when there is no school or if school dismisses early due to weather. Transportation will be provided between Humboldt and Hartford Elementary.

The KARE program is full for the 2022-2023 school year. To be added to the waitlist contact the YMCA at one of the options below.

Caitlyn Dikoff
605-274-9622
cdikoff@siouxfallsymca.org

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT

The Board subscribes to the fullest extent to the principle of the dignity of all people and of their labors and will take action to ensure that applicants are employed, assigned, and promoted without regard to their age, race, creed, color, sex, marital status, political affiliation, or national origin.

Every available opportunity will be taken in order to assure that each applicant for a position is selected on the basis of qualifications, merit and ability.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

All students of the district will have equal educational opportunities. The Board will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, handicap, economic status, national origin, or ancestry in its policies or programs.

To accomplish this policy of nondiscrimination, the Board will make every effort to provide all students equal access with respect to admission or membership in school-sponsored organizations, clubs, or activities; access to facilities; distribution of funds; academic evaluations; or any other aspect of school-sponsored programs or activities.

The Board recognizes that children vary widely in capabilities, interests, and social and economic background, and that no two children can be treated exactly alike if the fullest development of each is to be achieved.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The West Central School District #49-7 does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational programs (*including career and technical education programs*) on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or other human differences and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Requirement for admission to the Career and Technical Education courses is completion of prerequisite coursework of each area.

Career and Technical Education offered at the West Central School District

Agriculture - Floriculture, Horticulture, Animal Science, Natural Resources, Bio-Technology, and Agriculture Leadership

Architecture and Construction - Introduction to Technology, Production Technology, Computer-Aided Drafting, Carpentry, and Building Trades

Food and Tourism Classes - Independent Living, Food Management, and Family Relations

Technology - Multi-media, Web Design, Animation, Computer I, and 3-D Programming

Inquiries specifically concerning the application of Title VI, Title IX, or section 504 may be referred to:

- Title VI (discrimination based on national origin/ race).....Special Services Director**
- Title IX (discrimination based on gender).....**
-Activities Director**
- Section 504 (discrimination based on disability)**
-Special Services Director**

Both Special Services and Activities Director can be reached at:
West Central School District
705 E. 2nd St.
Hartford, SD 57033
605-528-3217

Or

Kansas City Office
U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights
8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037
Kansas City, MO 64114-3302
Phone: 816-268-0550
Fax: 816-823-1404; TDD: 877-521-2172
E-mail: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov

BULLYING; PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

The West Central School Board supports a secure school climate conducive to teaching and learning that is free from threat, harassment, and any type of bullying behavior. The purpose of this policy is to promote consistency of approach and to help create a climate in which all types of bullying are regarded as unacceptable.

Bullying is defined as any written, verbal, or electronic expression, physical act or gesture or a pattern thereof, which is intended to cause distress upon any person in the school environment. For purposes of this policy the school environment includes school buildings, grounds, vehicles, busses, bus stops and all school-sponsored activities and events.

A person who engages in any act of bullying is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. The severity and pattern, if any, of the bullying behavior shall be taken into consideration when disciplinary decisions are made.

The Superintendent, or designee, shall develop a comprehensive program to address bullying at all school levels. The program shall be aimed toward accomplishing the following objectives:

1. To foster a community of mutual respect.
2. To recognize and praise positive behaviors on a regular basis.
3. To foster a productive partnership with parents and community members in order to help maintain a bully-free environment.
4. To support victims of bullying by counseling.
5. To help develop peer support networks, social skills, and confidence for all.
6. To send a clear message to students, staff, parents, and community members that bullying will not be tolerated.
7. To train staff and students in taking pro-active steps to prevent bullying from occurring.
8. To implement procedures for immediate intervention, investigation, and confrontation of people engaged in bullying behavior.
9. To initiate efforts to change the behavior of people engaged in bullying behaviors through reeducation on acceptable behavior, discussions, counseling, and appropriate negative consequences.

EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Your child has the same rights to school programs and services as all children, including:

- Go to school, no matter where you live or how long you have lived there. You must be given access to the same public education provided to other students.
- Enroll in school without giving a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment.
- Continue in the school attended before you became homeless, if that is your choice, it is feasible, and in the best interest of the child. The school district's education liaison must assist you, if needed, and offer you the right to appeal a decision regarding the choice of school should it go against your wishes.
- Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or other documents required for enrollment.
- Enroll and attend classes in the school of your choice even while the school and you try to resolve a dispute over enrollment. The district must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs and inform you that you have the right to appeal.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other students. These programs could be before and after school programs, pre-school programs, special education, gifted and talented programs, career and technology education, etc.
- Automatically participate in free breakfast and lunch programs.
- Receive transportation to the school and school programs you attended before you became homeless (or the school you last attended).
- Attend a school and participate in school programs with students who are not homeless. Students cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless.

*Unaccompanied youth lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing have these same rights.

For further information or questions regarding this act, please contact the district homeless liaison coordinator.

STUDENT RECORDS NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask West Central School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll

[NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

**Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE INTENT OF WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #49-7 TO RELEASE PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION REGARDING STUDENTS OR FORMER STUDENTS

Directory Information: West Central School District designates the following personally identifiable information regarding its students as Directory Information:

1. Name
2. Address and phone number
3. Date of birth
4. School attending
5. Dates of attendance
6. Parents or guardian of student
7. Participation in school-recognized activities
8. Weight, height, age and grade of members of athletic team
9. Awards received
10. Individual and group photographs pertaining to school activities
11. Similar information which denotes accomplishment or achievement

Right of Parent, Guardian or Student to Prohibit Release of Information:

A parent, guardian, or student over 18 years of age may refuse to permit the release of any of the Directory Information by notifying the Principal of the student's school in writing which of the above Directory Information may not be released in respect to the particular student. Such notification may be made at any time.

Student Records Policy:

The Board of Education has adopted an educational records policy and, in implementing the release of information, that policy shall be considered.

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT SCHOOL PERSONNEL OR PROCEDURES

This policy provides direction for the District to process complaints about school personnel or procedures. For the process of hearing complaints about federally funded programs (including parents of students experiencing homelessness), see District Policy KLDF. Complaints involving identification of or provision of services to students receiving special education and related services are addressed pursuant to the special education rules of the South Dakota Department of Education. The School Board places trust in its employees and desires to support their actions in such a manner that employees are freed from unnecessary, spiteful or negative criticism and complaints.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the School Board as a body, or to a Board member as an individual, it will be referred to the school administration.

Procedures

Constructive criticism of the schools will be welcomed by the Board when it is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program or to equip the schools to do their tasks more effectively.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the School Board as a whole or to an individual Board Member, the individual or group involved will be advised to obtain a complaint form from the District office and to follow the provisions of Board Policy.

The Board believes that complaints and grievances are best handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible, and that the staff should be given every opportunity to consider the issues and attempt to resolve the problem prior to the involvement by the School Board or administration. Therefore, the proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline, will be as follows:

1. Teacher/classified employee
2. Director of Activities (*as may apply*)
3. Principal
4. Superintendent of Schools
5. School Board

The School Board expects the professional staff and all employees to receive complaints courteously and to make a proper reply to the complaint.

Matters referred to the superintendent and/or School Board must be in writing and should be specific in terms of the action desired.

Complaints involving the Board, its members or policies may be pursued through the state court system.

Complaint Resolution

Whenever a complaint about a school employee or program is received by the administration from a patron of the district, a copy of the policy and procedure for the filing and resolution of the complaint shall be given to the patron.

Step 1:

The Patron will meet informally with the school employee in an effort to resolve the matter quickly at the lowest level possible. If the informal process is not satisfactory to the complainant, the matter will be reduced to writing on the District's complaint form (See File KLD-E) and submitted to the program supervisor to resolve the issue. If the issue is not resolved, the patron may submit it to the Principal. A copy of the complaint will be given to the employee by the Principal. The employee may respond in writing.

Step 2:

The Principal will meet with the patron and employee individually or jointly in an attempt to resolve the problem and conduct such other investigation as the Principal deems necessary. The Principal shall render his or her decision to both parties in writing within ten (10) working school days or less. If resolution is agreeable to the patron and the employee, the Principal's decision shall be delivered to the Superintendent. If no agreement is reached, either the Patron or the Employee may go to Step 3 provided notice is given to the Superintendent within five (5) working school days of receipt of the Principal's decision.

Step 3:

The complaint with the Principal's action and any information developed by the Principal's investigation will be given to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will meet with the patron, employee and Principal together or individually. The Superintendent shall conduct such further investigation as the Superintendent deems necessary. The Superintendent writes a decision within five (5) days of completing his or her investigation and notifies the patron, employee, and Principal. The Superintendent's decision may affirm, reverse or modify the Principal's decision. The patron or employee may within five (5) working school days go to Step 4 by notifying the Superintendent in writing of the desire to go to Step 4.

PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW NOTICE

West Central School District accepts Title I, Part A funding and must notify parents that parents can request information regarding their child's teacher, including:

1. whether the teacher has met the State requirements for licensure and certification for the grade levels and subject-matters in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. that each Title I school will provide notice if a parent's child has been assigned or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified;
3. whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
4. the college major and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree; and
5. whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

Currently, all of our staff at West Central, both certified and paraprofessionals meet the highly qualified status under No Child Left Behind and the State of South Dakota. If you have a question about any of the qualifications concerning your child's teacher, please contact the Administration Office at 528-3217.

Continued article from pg 8 . . .

Step 4:

The School Board will consider the complaint while meeting in executive session. The Superintendent will provide the Board with the file packet, which contains the complaint, employee's response, Principal's decision and Superintendent's decision. The Board may affirm the Superintendent's decision upon the written record as it then exists. The Board may determine to conduct a formal hearing on the matter. At this hearing, the patron will explain the complaint, the Superintendent will explain the Administration's response. Any party to the hearing may call such witnesses as they deem

NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS OR GUARDIANS

On Dec. 10, 2015, President Obama signed into law the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This reauthorization, known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), replaces the previous version of the law enacted in 2002, the No Child Left Behind Act. States will be in a period of transition until all provisions of the ESSA take effect.

State Plan

ESSA requires all states to develop a plan for education that addresses major federal requirements. South Dakota's state plan was developed over the course of a year, with input from stakeholders across the state, including educators, parents, students, legislators, tribal representatives, representatives from higher education, and others. The public comment period regarding this plan ran from May 31 to June 30, 2017.

The core academic subjects are English; Reading or Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; Foreign Language; Social Studies (Civics, Government, Economics, History, Geography); and The Arts (Visual Arts & Music).

If you have any questions regarding your child's teacher's qualifications, please feel free to contact the district office. For additional information about teacher state certifications, please visit Teacher 411 at the South Dakota Department of Education website: <https://apps.sd.gov/de04public/TeacherLookup/TeacherSearch.aspx>.

necessary. The Board may summon such additional witnesses or documents as it deems necessary. All testimony or statements at this hearing shall be under oath and the parties shall be reminded that penalties for perjury can be imposed regarding testimony given under oath. The School Board will render its decision within thirty (30) days of the hearing, which will be implemented by the Superintendent. The Patron or the Employee may appeal this decision within 90 days to the Circuit Court as per SDCL 13-46. All federal program complaints, shall be addressed under the Federal Program Complaint Procedure KLDF.

NURSE'S CORNER

I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer. The start of school is just around the corner and that means time to check to see if your student(s) have met all their immunization requirements to start school. Currently, South Dakota requires incoming kindergarten students to have DTaP, IPV, MMR, and Va-ricella to start school. Below is a copy from the Department of Health of the requirements. According to SD State Law (13-28-7.1), a student will be excluded from school for failure to present required immunizations. Please make sure that your student(s) are updated on their immunizations before the start of school.

IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR KINDERGARTEN ENTRY IN SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Codified Law 13-28-7.1 requires students entering school or early childhood programs to present certification that they have been adequately immunized, according to the recommendations of the Department of Health. The law applies to all children entering school for the first time, including transfer students. Minimum immunization requirements are defined as:

1. Four or more doses of diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus containing vaccine, with at least one dose administered on or after age 4. Children 7 years and older needing the primary series only need three doses. The first dose of the primary series should be Tdap and the second and third doses should be Td, with at least 6 months between dose two and three. Children receiving six doses before age 4 do not require any additional doses for school requirements. The maximum a child should receive is six doses. If a child 7 years and older has an incomplete DTaP primary series, please contact the Department of Health Immunization Program (1-800-592-1861) for assistance.
2. Four or more doses of poliovirus vaccine, at least one dose on or after age 4. (Although not the recommended schedule - if a child has three doses of polio with the third dose administered on or after the age of 4 and at least 6 months after the second dose, no other doses are required.)
3. Two doses of a measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR) or submit serological evidence of immunity. Minimum age for the first dose is 12 months. Administer the second dose routinely at age 4 through 6 years. The second dose may be administered prior to age 4 provided at least 28 days have elapsed since the first dose.
4. Two doses of varicella vaccine. The minimum age for the first dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is 12 months. History of disease is acceptable with parent/guardian signature. Administer the second dose routinely at age 4 through 6 years. The second dose may be administered prior to age 4 provided the minimum interval between the two doses is 3 months.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF INCOMING 6TH GRADERS

New immunization requirements were signed into law in the Spring 2016. South Dakota Department of Health requires all 6th Graders to have **Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) and Meningococcal (MCV4)** vaccine before they start 6th grade. As the school nurse, I am required by law to report the immunizations to the Department of Health at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

Please get your student(s) immunized prior to school starting. The school nurse must review all immunization records BEFORE the school year starts. According to the SD State Law (13-28-7.1), a student will be excluded from school for failure to present required immunizations.

Please make an appointment NOW with your Primary Care Physician to take your child in for a well check and immunizations.

Any questions can be directed to: annette.sichmeller@k12.sd.us.
Thank you! Annette Sichmeller, RN

**It's the Rule...
Shots before School!**

**New 6th Grade
VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS**

South Dakota requires all 6th grade students to get:

- One dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (**Tdap**) vaccine on or after the 11th birthday
- One dose of Meningococcal (**MCV4**) vaccine on or after the 11th birthday

For more information, talk with your family physician or your local community health nurse about these and other vaccinations your preteen should receive.

VACCINATE YOUR 11-12 YEAR OLDS

SD HEALTH
SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH
1-800-592-1861



BACK TO SCHOOL

West Central

AUGUST 8, 2022
11 AM - 7 PM

Picture Day

Scherling Photography will be set up and ready to take your child's 22-23 school pictures.

Registration Support

Having problems registering online? We can help. We will have computers set up with hands-on support.

Payments and More

Transportation, Activity Passes, Yearbooks, Nutrition Services, Trojan Apparel, and Computer Fees

HS Computer Pick Up!



NEED A REGISTRATION PASSWORD RESET?

Complete the form below. You will receive an email when your password has been reset.

NOTE - This form will NOT be monitored regularly until August 1, 2022. Please be patient.

<https://bit.ly/39QjtRb>

DISTRICT WIDE REGISTRATION AND PICTURE DAY

AUGUST 8, 2022

11am - 7pm at the High School

Registration will be done **ONLINE** by accessing parent portal through the West Central website at www.westcentral.k12.sd.us.

Payments will also be made online through the "on-line payments" link also available on the West Central website. "How to" instruction for registration, payments and tech support can be found on our "Back-To-School" page at: www.westcentral49-7.com/backtoschool

On August 8 from 11 am - 7 pm parents/students (grades JK-12) may come to the High School front entrance for school pictures to be taken by Scherling Photography, if desired. School pictures will also be available later in the school year on picture makeup day.

In addition, we will have several computers set up to provide individual, hands-on support for online registration for those who do not have access to a computer or are struggling with the process. Registrations must be completed for the upcoming school year by end of day on August 8th and payments need to be completed before services rendered. For example, computer fees must be paid before a device can be provided.

Registration Day will include computer pickup for high school students and stations for payments, school nurse, transportation and food service. Also available will be activity passes, booster club spirit wear, and offerings from the PTA and other West Central School organizations.

REGISTRATION CHECKLIST:

Online registration through parent portal

Online payments through Revtrak on district website

- **Transportation** (*Required for In-Town Bussing*)
- **Computer Use Fee** (*Required for All middle school and high school students*)
- **Activity Passes** (*Optional*)
- **Computer Damage Payment** (*only if there is an outstanding technology fee*)
- **Band Bill Payment** (*only if there is an outstanding band fee or payment needed*)
- **Yearbooks** (*Optional*)
- **Instrument Rental Fee** (*Optional*)
- **Junior Class Fees** (*Required for 11th grade students*)

Food Service Payments

Back to School Forms
available on the District Website at
www.westcentral.k12.sd.us
under the "Back-To-School" Tab

- School Supply Lists
- Medicaid Consent
- Prescription Medication Form
- Physical and History Forms
- Special Diet Request Forms
- Free & Reduced Meal Packets



WEST CENTRAL TRANSPORTATION

Register to ride for rural and in-town busing! In-town busing is available for students K-8 and rural busing for K-12. Registration this year will be part of the school registration process. If you plan to ride in-town or rural busing, you must indicate "yes" within the on-line registration within the student services questions and complete the required pickup and delivery information. Payment for in-town busing is preferred to be submitted with an on-line payment for less money handling, but may also be dropped off to the administration office or a building secretary. Bus drivers will call families on their routes sometime the week before school begins to give you the pick-up and drop-off locations and times.

Shuttles between Hartford and Humboldt. Shuttles will leave at **8:10 every morning from both Hartford and Humboldt.** Please have your student at the school early so they won't miss the bus! The drop-off location for students riding the shuttle from Hartford to Humboldt will be the circular drive for passenger vehicles on the corner of Feyder and 2nd Street. Students are to use the crosswalk to the sidewalk and into the cafeteria where all students wait for the buses. "Hanging out" at the bike racks or on the sidewalks is not allowed. Use Cross-walks! **NEVER cross between buses!** Those shuttling from Humboldt to Hartford will be picked up at the bus drive in Humboldt. This shuttle also leaves at 8:10 am. There is no charge for riding the shuttle.

Riding the bus is a privilege that can be lost for not behaving properly. The bus is an extension of the classroom. Students should behave as they would in the classroom. Respect for other students and their property, the bus, and the driver are required. Proper behavior is necessary to maintain a safe environment and a safe ride to school.

Food and drink are NOT ALLOWED on the bus. Please feed your students before they get on the bus. Breakfast is also available at the school. Additionally, buses do not stop for restroom breaks. Once a student gets on the bus they must stay on until they reach their school or arrive at their afternoon stop.

Be ready and at your bus stop early. While we strive for consistency, please remember that bus stop times can vary by about 10 minutes. Things beyond our control such as, weather, students not riding, mechanical problems, road conditions, etc., all factor into this.



DROP OFF LOCATIONS

High School and Middle School Students:

- Drop off for all high school and middle school students not riding the bus will be in the west parking lot in front of the middle school entrance or at the west high school doors at the ramp. Please enter this parking lot from 2nd Street, drive south, go around the parked cars, and then head north to the doors in front of the school.
- The horse-shoe driveway area next to 2nd Street will remain a pick-up and drop-off area for **buses only**. Please do **NOT** enter this area in personal vehicles.

Humboldt Elementary:

- Drop off and pick up of students must be done using the circular drive on the north side of the building.
- The bus drive is on the east side of the building and is for **buses only**. Buses will come in from Ford Street on the east, and exit out the same gravel road. Please keep all personal vehicles out of this area.
- **DO NOT DROP OFF STUDENTS TO ENTER THE BACK OF THE BUILDING!**

Hartford Elementary:

- Students who ride the bus to the elementary school in Hartford will be dropped off by the bus on the east side of the school.
- Students going to Humboldt will load on the west side of the school.
- Students will wait for the bus in the elementary school cafeteria.
- Use Crosswalks! **Do not cross the drive in between buses!**
- Students who arrive or are picked up in personal vehicles will use the loop drive on the corner of Feyder and 2nd Street. The alley on the East side of the playground may be used for drop off in the mornings only. Please do not block traffic waiting for the bus in your vehicle.
- Students should **not** be dropped off on the south side of the building off of 1st Street. This is for school van drop off and pickup. **Personal vehicles may not use this drive!!**
- Students should also **not** be dropped off on 2nd street in front of the school.

We appreciate your cooperation when dropping off and picking up students at each location. Please always pull up to the sidewalk, allow your children to safely exit your vehicle, and then pull your car away **promptly** so others can safely unload their students in a timely manner. Please do **not** use bus lanes.

Transportation Contact Number: If your student is not riding the bus, you must notify us **before 6:30 a.m.** the day they are supposed to ride. Call the **transportation office at 528-6235** and leave a message identifying which bus or driver, your address and the student's name. Messages may be left at this number 24 hours a day. You may also communicate this information ahead of time by email. Please send email to Rick.Coker@k12.sd.us If you have any questions regarding transportation or the bus routes, please contact the transportation office by phone or email.

WEST CENTRAL NUTRITION SERVICES

Welcome back to school 2022-23.

First, let me introduce myself. My name is Tanya Thomas-Parsons, I am the Child Nutrition Director for the West Central School District as of May 1, 2022. I have a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nutrition that I earned from South Dakota State University. I have an extensive background in the nutrition field, and I am excited to combine my knowledge with West Central's Child Nutrition Department. I would like to encourage anyone with questions to please reach out to me at 605-528-6238 or Tanya.Thomas-Parsons@k12.sd.us.

We, at West Central Child Nutrition Services, believe that nutrition is key to learning. Research shows offering highly nutritious meals to students reduces obesity, poor health, food insecurities and increases test scores.

A MAJOR change for 2022-23 is that free meals will NOT be offered for the entire student body. Please see the prices for 2022-23 below. If you feel your family would qualify for Free and Reduce Meals, please fill out an application as soon as possible. If a student does qualify for Free or Reduced meals, breakfast and lunch are served at no charge OR reduced charge of .30 for breakfast and .40 for lunch.

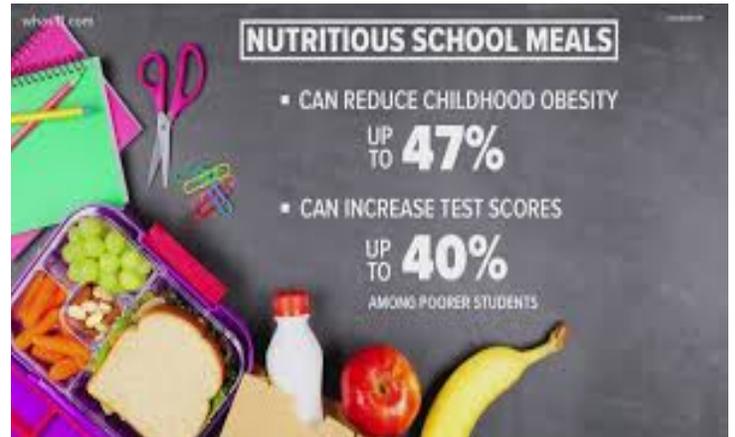
The national food supply disruptions will be another challenge that we anticipate will continue for the 2022-23 school year. We will work diligently with our distributors and suppliers to manage these disruptions but it may mean menus could change without notice. Meal prices will increase due to the rising food costs.

Prices will be as follows:

		BREAKFAST	LUNCH
K-5		\$1.70	\$2.90
Middle School		\$1.70	\$3.10
High School		\$1.70	\$3.25
Adults		\$2.25	\$4.15
Extra Milk	\$0.50		
K-2 Snack Break	\$0.60		
Ala Carte Range	\$.40-\$4.00		

Breakfast will be served at each site. Every student has the options of milk, fruit, grains/bread. The student must take 3 items with a mandatory 1/2 cup of fruit/fruit juice.

Lunch for K-2 will have one option for lunch along with a choice of milk, fruit, and vegetables. Grades



3-5 will occasionally have entrée options along with choices of milk, fruit, and vegetables. Grades 6-12 will have entrée options along with a choice of milk, fruit, and vegetables.

Menus can be found on the West Central website under the calendar tab.

Snacks help our little children, who need to eat a little more often to keep their tummies from grumbling, to learn better. Snacks will be offered for a cost of .60 and be charged to the student's lunch account. The snack will include 1% milk along with a whole grain cracker, a whole grain bar, a whole grain, a fresh fruit, or a fruit snack. Peanut and tree nuts are not offered at either both elementary buildings. We do our best to stay away from manufacturers that process peanuts.

Special Diets: If your child has a special diet or special diet modifications please complete a Special Diet Form, which can be found at <https://www.westcentral49-7.com/foodservices>. This does need to be completed and signed by a licensed medical professional. If you have questions, please contact the Child Nutrition office at 605-528-6238 or the school nurse Annette Sichmeller, Annett.Sichmeller@k12.sd.us.

There are children in our district that do experience food insecurities. These children can count on a healthy breakfast and lunch at West Central Schools. Please consider a donation to "Project 22" which helps these children who do not qualify for free and reduced meals. Please call me, Tanya, with any questions at 605-528-6238 or Tanya.Thomas-Parsons@k12.sd.us.

Finally, we will be celebrating:

National School Lunch Week - October 10-14, 2022

National School Breakfast Week - March 6-23, 2023

I am excited for the 2022-23 school year and the opportunity to meet many of the West Central families.

Go Trojans.

Tanya Thomas-Parson, Child Nutrition Director

ELEMENTARY NEWS

From the Desk of Ashley Bahrenfus, Principal
605-528-3215

The summer is winding down and we are ramping up for another great school year at Hartford and Humboldt Elementary! While it's always difficult to say goodbye to the summer, we are so excited for all that is in store for the 2022-2023 school year. In this issue of Elementary News, you'll find some important dates to mark on your calendar, as well as introductions to new teachers we are welcoming this year!

Important Dates:

August 3rd: New Student Registration Day - If you are new to the West Central School District, please plan on coming to the main entrance of the high school on August 3rd to register your child(ren). Registration for all grade levels will be at one location this year. You will need to bring proof of residency and your child's birth certificate to registration day. If you have any questions, please call the district office at 605-528-3217.

From the Desk of Amy Johnson, Principal
605-363-3131

August 8th: District Registration Day - Additional information on this event can be found within this newsletter.

August 22nd: Elementary Open House Night - Both Hartford and Humboldt Elementary will host their Open House events from 5:00pm-7:00pm.

August 23rd: First Day of School for students in 1st grade and up! Junior Kindergarten/Kindergarten families will schedule a time for a 'Meet and Greet' with their teacher! Information will be coming to those families soon!

August 24th: First Day of School for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten!

September 2nd & 5th: No School!

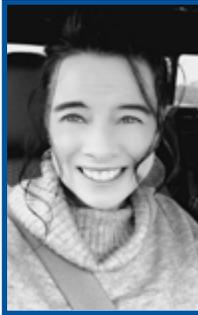
September 12th-16th: Homecoming Week!

September 15th: Early Childhood Screening: This is an optional developmental screening available to families living within the West Central School District whose children are birth to five years of age.

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Robyn Bruna - Hartford Elementary

Early Childhood: I'm excited to be joining the West Central Hartford Elementary School staff in the Early Childhood Special Education Position this coming fall, as an SDSU Alumni, with a little bit of USD thrown in, I've had a variety of work experiences in the education field with most recent being 21 years as the ECSE Teacher with the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative with services for the Canistota, McCook Central and Montrose School Districts.



My family and I live in Madison, my husband, Michael, works at the Madison Farmers Elevator, my oldest son Devon is a teacher at Madison Elementary and track coach, his wife Aly is a teacher at Chester, and they are kept busy with our 3 grandchildren, Riley, Indiana and Armie. It seems that teachers run in the family, Cade is our next oldest and will be starting his 2nd year teaching Music Education in the Mitchell School District. Last but not least is Angelia, our teenager still at home who will be a sophomore this coming fall at MHS. I am an avid runner, a late bloomer of sorts, with my first longer run in the spring of 2016 - since then I've ran 45 Half Marathons in 33 states with another 5 scheduled this year. I also enjoy biking, nature trails, reading books and sunshine.

Lexy Lueth - Hartford Elementary Speech/Language Pathologist:

My name is Lexy Lueth. I went to Augustana University for my undergrad and completed my graduate program at the University of Nebraska- Lincoln. This will be my 4th year as a Speech Language Pathologist working with early childhood and elementary school students. My husband, Anthony, and I live in Hartford with our 2 puppies, Milo and Denali, and are expecting our first little one in November. In my free time I love reading, playing with my puppies, and having a great cup of coffee! I look forward to my new adventure as an SLP for the West Central School District!



Nicole Roth - Humboldt Elementary Special Education:

In 2019 I graduated from the University of South Dakota with a degree in elementary education and special education. After graduation I accepted a position, teaching K-3 special education in Pierre, SD and taught there for 3 years. I was also given the opportunity to coach the girl's JV basketball team and I loved every minute of it. I enjoyed my time out there, but am ready to get back closer to home as I am originally from Salem. I am excited to start my fourth year at West Central.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

From the Desk of Mark Rockafellow, Principal
605-528-3799

As I write this article, June is flying by and the Fourth of July is just around the corner. I hope the summer has been enjoyable and you have had some time to enjoy family activities. Preparations for the next school year are progressing.

One preparation for next year is student schedules. Most of the work has been done for the schedules. However, be on the lookout for an email in early August asking parents to complete a music selection survey. Students in sixth grade are required to take either band or choir. Students in seventh and eighth grades are encouraged to take a music class but are not required to do so.

The summer months are busy times for the custodial staff as they prepare our buildings for the upcoming year. I like to mention our custodial staff each year because they work hard to shine up our buildings each summer. I love the opportunity to walk into the rooms with freshly waxed or shampooed floors. We are blessed with a custodial and building and grounds staff that takes great pride in their work. Please show respect for their efforts by helping keep our facilities clean.

We have two new teachers preparing for their new experiences at West Central. Ms. Corissa Sweeter will be serving as our eighth-grade Social Studies teacher and teach a couple of exploratory classes. Ms. Sweeter was a teacher in Sioux Falls last year. Ms. Breanna Welch, a West Central graduate, returns to West Central as the Art teacher in a shared position with the high school.

Our tech staff has been busy working to update the iPads and to get them ready for the upcoming year. We are blessed to be able to provide a 1:1 technology opportunity for our students. With privileges come responsibilities. A couple responsibilities worth noting include charging the device at home and proper care. Students will need to charge the iPad at home. This is no more difficult to do than charging a cell phone

but essential for the effective use of technology for the next day. We also encourage students to leave their charging cords at home so as not to risk the loss of them while transporting to and from school.

Preparations continue for the following events:

New Student Registration
August 3rd • 9AM - 3PM

District Registration Day
August 8th • 11AM - 7PM

Middle School Open House
Sixth Grade Orientation
August 22nd • 5PM - 7PM

First Day of School
August 23rd • 8:30AM - 3:30PM

The middle school years are filled with a multitude of changes for students. We are excited for the opportunity to work with the middle school students and their families as students progress through those changes. Please call or stop in if you have any questions or concerns.

HELP WANTED!

Educational Assistant • Van Driver
Food Service Worker • Custodian (and others)

Wages starting at \$16.50/hour (\$15.50 for subs)

**Want a work schedule that follows
the school calendar?**

WEST CENTRAL HAS OPENINGS!

**Visit www.westcentral49-7.com
to view current openings or
call Naomi at: (605) 528-3217 ext. 1003**

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

From the Desk of Dr. Andrew Barron, *WCHS Principal*
605-528-6236

It may be summer, but the high school is still a busy place. Summer school, driver's ed, and sports camps keep our building in use all summer long. Our custodians and summer helpers are busy giving the whole building a deep clean and a fresh coat of paint. Our administration and office staff work all summer long to make sure we are ready for the first day of school. So while it may be a break from the daily demands of the school year, we continue to serve the community by providing a safe, productive place for children to learn.

Here are a important dates to remember this summer as we gear up for next school year:

August 3, New Student Registration

August 8, Registration and Picture Day

August 23, First Day of School

There are a few new developments and projects we want everyone to know about for next year:

2022-23 COMPUTER FEES

How much will it cost for an iPad and / or MacBook for my child?

Students in grades 6 - 8 will pay \$30 each and students in grades 9 - 12 will pay \$40 each.

Payments should be made through the on-line payments link on our website, www.westcentral.k12.sd.us. The device fee and all unpaid repairs from the previous year must be paid in full before a device will be handed out for the new year.

When can I pickup my iPad or MacBook?

Middle School devices will be distributed the first day of school.

High School students may pick up computers **August 8th 11am-7pm**. Payment must be made online prior to pickup. The next available pick up will be the first day of school.

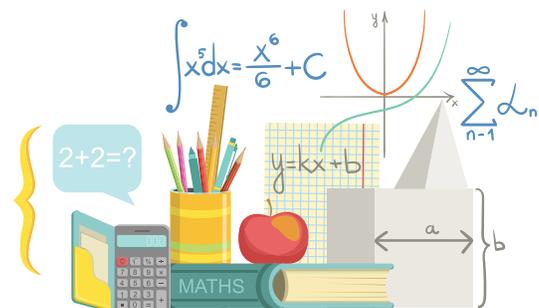


- The high school schedule will be 8:45-3:30 next year. This change will allow us to simplify the high school schedule and eliminate 9:00 starts on alternating Tuesdays.

- We will welcome a new dean of students as Andrea Johnson moves to being a full-time activities director. Our new dean, Dr. Brandy Hernandez, joins us with years of experience, most recently at Hayward Elementary in Sioux Falls.

- There are a few construction projects happening this summer that will improve the high school. We are replacing the press box at the football stadium. The new press box will add an upper observation deck and ground level storage. We will add a receiving room on the middle school side of the building, and a new freezer for food service. The most important project is also the least visible. The high school will receive a new roof this summer!

As I reflect on my first year as principal, I am grateful for all the dedicated teachers and staff who made my year so successful. We had 100% of our seniors graduate this year, and results like that do not happen by accident. They happen through the hard work of our teachers and staff. We have a great team at West Central!



SPECIAL SERVICES

Michelle Becker, Director of Special Services
 Michelle.Becker@k12.sd.us 605-528-3210

WELCOME TO THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR!

The West Central Special Services Department is dedicated to provide a full range of educational programs for our students in compliance with state and federal laws. These services are provided to qualified individuals residing within our school district. Programs through special services vary for each child and are customized to the student's individual needs. **Special education, Section 504, English Language Learners, and Title** programs and services are available for assisting our students with varying educational needs and are provided by our highly qualified staff.

Special education services are provided for eligible children from birth through twenty one years of age in accordance with the child's individual education plan (IEP). The West Central School District provides special education services to approximately 225 students across our buildings. The Special Education department is responsible for the identification, evaluation, and programming; as well as the transitional needs, related programs and educational records for children who are identified with a disability. Students are educated in the general education curriculum and classrooms to the maximum extent possible. There are certified special education teachers and educational assistants in each school building at West Central. Support personnel may include a school psychologist, behavior interventionist, speech and language pathologists, and an occupational and physical therapist. Consult services for vision or hearing needs are also available, if necessary.

If a student is not eligible for special education services through an individual education plan (IEP), but needs special accommodations in the general educational environment, the student may be eligible for a **Section 504** accommodation plan. The student's team determines if there is a qualifying impairment that limits major life activities for the student. If a qualifying impairment is determined, the team then creates a plan to help the student be successful in the educational environment.

English Language Learner (EL) students are provided support through differentiated instructional strategies and our EL teacher. The EL teacher, general education teachers and administration work together to help English Language students (ELs) succeed. West Central is also a member of a South Dakota EL consortium, where additional resources can be accessed.

Title 1 services are provided to elementary students who may need additional reading and/or math support. All students can receive additional services while no student identification of being a "Title I student" is made. Students identified as most at-risk are given additional assistance. Certified teachers work in small group or individual settings, and may provide assistance to the classroom teachers as well.

The **West Central School District** is dedicated to creating inclusive schools with programs and services that promote the success of all our students. We support collaboration between students, families and the school staff. Please contact your child's teacher, principal or the special services department if you have any questions, concerns or would like more information.

If you have **children that are between the ages of birth to 5, please consider attending our FREE early childhood screening** on Thursday, September 15 at the St. George Catholic Church Hall. Please see the boxed advertisement for this important event within the newsletter.

Our district website is a valuable place to help find the resources that you need to support your child(ren). The link: <https://www.westcentral49-7.com/specialservices> will take you to the West Central Special Services page.

As always, feel free to contact me directly with any questions. I look forward to working with your families again this year. I can be reached at 528-3210 or through my email at Michelle.Becker@k12.sd.us.

Michelle Becker, Special Services Director

HAVE A GREAT YEAR!

ELEMENTARY TITLE I PROGRAMS

Title I is a federally funded program designed to ensure that all students have a fair and equal opportunity to obtain a high quality education. Both Hartford Elementary and Humboldt Elementary are Title I school wide schools and have the assistance of Academic Interventionists to help support students in the content areas of reading and mathematics. The staff in these buildings regularly examine all students' assessment data. Students displaying a deficit in an area of reading or math may receive additional support to help them become proficient. The support offered may be very flexible.

Services may be offered to struggling students without the stigma attached to the Title I student classification. Flexible instructional groups based on assessment data and using Response to Intervention (RtI) continue to allow for specific, targeted instructional practices in all classrooms. Schoolwide Title I allows for increased differentiation opportunities and support based on student needs. Any student in grades kindergarten through fifth grade may receive additional services based on assessment data. While parent notification of additional services to students is not required in a Schoolwide program, it remains important to us at West Central that families are communicated with on a regular basis.

As a part of the Title I program's federally required documentation, all Title I families will be provided a school-parent compact in monthly elementary newsletters. This compact is a promise that the school, the parents, and the student will all work toward helping the student meet academic standards. Family engagement is very important, and in fact, one of the components of a schoolwide program requires the school to employ strategies to increase family engagement. We believe that active family involvement is essential and is a shared responsibility for the success of each and every student. One great way to be involved this fall is to mark your calendars now to attend the WC Trojan Reading Bowl on Monday, October 3 at 6:30pm. There will be more information to come on this event.

As always, feel free to contact a building principal, an academic interventionist, our curriculum coordinator, or me with any questions you may have. Check out the West Central Title I website at this link: <https://www.westcentral49-7.com/title> for more information and to view the required Title I documents.

Michelle Becker, Federal Programs Director

Early Childhood Screening Box

Parents often wonder if their child's development is typical of that seen in peers of the same age. Developmental screenings are designed to address these concerns and help parents learn more about their child's skills. The West Central School District offers a free developmental screening. These screenings are conducted by a team of District educators and the Birth to 3 program and are available to families living within the West Central School District whose children are within the ages of birth to 5 years of age.

An Early Childhood Screening Assesses your child's development in the areas of:

Communication
Gross Motor
Fine Motor
Problem-Solving
Personal-Social
Vision

**Thursday, September 15, 2022
9:00AM – 7:00PM**

**Location: St. George Parish Center
408 S Western Ave, Hartford, SD**

*Sign up will be online at www.westcentral49-7.com
If you need assistance with making an early
childhood screening appointment please
contact Donna at 528-3217.*

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Andrea Johnson, Activities Director
Activities Office 605-528-6236

Happy Fall Y'all!

I hope you all found some time to relax and enjoy the summer and are ready for another great school year! This will be my third year as the Activities Director and my 12th year with West Central. The Trojans are known for their many successes in activities and we are excited to see what 22-23 will bring and what our Trojans can accomplish again this year.

Over the summer we have been working diligently to upgrade many things including a new and improved pressbox in Uttecht Stadium, a new sound system for the stadium, new scoreboards in the Colosseum, new concession stand / storage shed on Anderson Soccer Field, and more. These upgrades have been much needed and will undoubtedly prove their worth over the coming years.

I would also like to again announce the addition of two new programs to the Activities Department. Beginning this year we will be offering boys soccer in the Fall season and girls softball in the Spring season. We are thrilled to be growing and offering more opportunities to our students.

TROJAN TIDBITS

1. Activity registration will again be a part of the back to school registration through Campus Parent Portal. Please register students by August 8th.

More information can be found at <https://www.westcentral49-7.com/backtoschool>.

2. Physicals are required annually. These must be uploaded into the online registration or dropped off to a building secretary prior to the first practice. No student can practice without this. SDHSAA Physical Form.
3. The Code of Conduct can be found on the school website. Please familiarize yourself with the activity policies as well as school and district policies. Code of Conduct.
4. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Email is the best way to reach me. ANDREA.L.JOHNSON@K12.SD.US

START DATES:

Girls Soccer - Practice starts on **Tuesday, Aug 2nd**

Boys Golf - Practice starts on **Monday, Aug 8th**

Football - Practice starts on **Monday, Aug 8th**

Volleyball - Practice starts on **Thursday, Aug 11th**

Cross Country - Practice starts on **Thursday, Aug 11th**

Band - Marching Band Preview Show -

Saturday Aug. 13th @ 7:30pm

MS Football - Practice starts on **Tuesday, Aug. 23rd**
(tentative)

MS Volleyball - Practice starts on **Tuesday, Aug. 23rd**
(tentative)

WC BAND NEWS

The Marching Trojans have been busy this summer getting ready for their competitive season in the Fall. They will be presenting their annual **Preview Show** on August 13th at 7:30 pm on the football field at Jim Uttecht Stadium. This year's show is titled LUCK and will be performed under the student leadership of Drum Majors Hannah Conkling, Kamden Knudson, and Anthony Bjerggaard. They will also be performing their parade song titled Los Troyanos (The Trojans). The song was written specifically for the West Central Marching Band by world-renown composer Victor Lopez! The song will feature a trumpet duet by Madison Empey and Abby Lee.

Middle school band students should make sure that their instruments are in good working condition.

That means tuning slides move freely, valves don't stick, pads and corks are intact. Poppler's Music and Schmitt Music in Sioux Falls are great places to have them looked over. Percussionists need a pair of Vic Firth SD1 General drumsticks at school. Reed players should have at least 2-3 new reeds. 6th and 7th grade students need to have Sound Innovations for Concert Band Book 1 (Alfred Music Publishing) for their specific instrument. 8th graders will need Essential Elements for Band Book 2 (Hal Leonard Publishing). Feel free to reach out to Mr. Eye if you have any questions.

Daniel.Eye@k12.sd.us

<https://danieleye.wix.com/westcentralband>

Director of Bands

FFA

West Central FFA Advances Two Teams to National Competition

State winning teams in the FFA Career and Leadership Development Events (CDE/LDE) earn a berth in the national competition. Through Career and Leadership Development Events, participating FFA members in grades 9 to 12 are challenged to develop critical thinking skills and effective decision-making skills, foster teamwork and promote communication while recognizing the value of ethical competition and individual achievement. CDE and LDE events occur at the local, state and national levels.

Participants in the **Agricultural Issues Forum Leadership Development Event (LDE)** research the pros and cons of an agricultural issue and present their findings to a panel of judges.

This team LDE challenges students to investigate a variety of current local, state, national and international issues facing agriculture through classroom instruction. Students then demonstrate through portfolio, presentation and questioning an understanding of the principles and fundamentals of agricultural issue analysis.



Ag Issues Team / to r - Linda Petersen, McKenna Sichmeller, Grace Harden, Wilson Droge, Josslin Jarding, Jude Jarding, Maia Kennedy, and Keighlor Nolz

Communication, leadership and teamwork skills are critical to event success. This event connects agriculture students with professionals in the industry as they research, present and then understand complicated issues facing the agricultural landscape - making it especially attractive to students with an interest in agricultural policy, law and international relations.

West Central's Agricultural Issues Team took on the topic of Honey Fraud and consists of **Josslin Jarding, McKenna Sichmeller, Wilson Droge, Grace Harden, Jude Jarding, Keighlor Nolz, and Maia Kennedy**. The team won their state level event in December. The national event will be held face-to-face during the 95th National FFA Convention and Expo held in Indianapolis in late October.

The National FFA **Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event (CDE)** is a competitive event in which FFA members test their knowledge and skills in nursery practices and landscaping. Participants must complete a general knowledge exam testing horticultural principles including plant anatomy, production, marketing, turf, landscape design and maintenance. Each participant must also complete practicums involving a landscape estimating, plant propagation or potting, identification of plants, disorders and equipment. Each team competed on local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their state at the National FFA Convention & Expo.

West Central FFA members **Andrew Rick, Jack Linneman, Bennett Sebert, and Connor Siemonsma** won the state level contest in April by winning the state competition in April. This event will be in a Hybrid format with written exams, written customer assistance, and identification practicum events taking place in early-October. All teams will advance to face-to-face competition during the National FFA Convention in October in Indianapolis, IN.



Nursery Landscape Team / to r - Linda Petersen, Andrew Rick, Jack Linneman, Bennett Sebert, Connor Siemonsma

10 State Winning AgriScience Fair Projects Advance to National Level

The FFA Agriscience Fair recognizes students who gain real-world, hands-on experiences in agricultural enterprises. Students use scientific principles and emerging technologies to solve complex problems related to agriculture, food, and natural resources. The agriscience fair is for middle and high school students. Participation begins at the local level and progresses to state and national levels. 23 of the projects conducted by West Central FFA Members were named state-level finalists, placing in the top three projects in their category and division. Official results of the State level competition were announced during the State FFA Convention in April held in Brookings.

State winning AgriScience Fair Projects are as follows:

Animal Systems Division 4 - Spencer Rieff and Carter Evans

Animal Systems Division 6 - Ali Zacharias and Emma Kuhlman

Environmental Systems Division 5 - Jack Linneman

Environmental Systems Division 6 - Andrew Rick and Bennett Sebert

Food Systems Division 4 - Jocelyn Nilson and Jazelle Jarding

Food Systems Division 5 - Maia Kennedy

Food Systems Division 6 - Grace Harden and Wilson Droge

Power, Structural and Technical Systems Division 5 - Addi Bahrenfuss

Power, Structural and Technical Systems Division 6 - Hanna Lee and Jesse Kline

Social Systems Division 6 - McKenna Sichmeller and Josslin Jarding

All State Level Finalists earned cash awards made possible through the South Dakota FFA Foundation. All First place projects will advance to the national-level competition. National Finalists will be named in early August with finalists presenting their research virtually to a panel of judges in September. All National finalists will be engaged in an immersion research experience during the National FFA Convention and Expo.. During this time, students will present their research and engage/network with universities and sponsors about their research.

Final Results will be announced during the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN October 26-29, 2022 with the top three award winners receiving cash prizes of \$500, \$750, and \$1000. All National AgriScience Fair Finalists will also receive a Gold, Silver, or Bronze medal.



LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to school!

Please make the library one of your first stops!
If you happen to have any library books from last school year, please bring them to any of the school offices. Thank you!

Q: Where are the libraries located?

A: West Central hosts a school library at Hartford Elementary, Humboldt Elementary, and the High School / Middle School. There is an exciting collection of age-appropriate reading materials at each location, along with activities to get students excited about reading!

Q: How can I monitor my school library account?

A: Check out the West Central Libraries website at <https://westcentrallibraries.weebly.com/>, which has a link to your school library account. You will be able to see which items are checked out, the requests you have made, due dates, and any fees that have accrued.

Q: Can I return school items to the public branches?

A: Please return school items to any of the West Central school locations. All public library materials need to be returned to one of the Siouxland branches. The school library and public library are not affiliated with each other.

Q: How do I get in touch with one of the West Central librarians?

A: Here's their contact information:

WC High School/Middle School:

DaNann Kistler (*District Librarian*)....danann.kistler@k12.sd.us

WC Elementary - Humboldt:

Meredith DeCou.....meredith.decou@k12.sd.us

WC Elementary - Hartford:

Laura Johnson.....laura.j.johnson@k12.sd.us





**West Central School District
Administration Office**
P.O. Box 730
Hartford, SD 57033

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BOX HOLDER

West Central Booster Club

Our Mission Statement: *To provide support to athletes & athletic programs at West Central School through volunteer projects, fundraising, business & personal donations.*

WHO

The WCBC is a team of elected officers, parent representatives who collaborate with coaches & teams, as well as any parent or guardian of a 7th-12th grade student athlete at West Central.

WHAT

The WCBC provides funding for each athlete on a team, approves fund requests from coaches to enhance programs, seeks donations from businesses for financial, coordinates West Central Trojan merchandise sales & manages concession stand at Football Games & Track Meets.

HOW

You can get involved by volunteering to help with concessions when your athlete's team is assigned for an event! The reps send out sign-up sheets to register for the event. You can also assist with our Trojan merchandise store at events, Open Houses, Parent/Teacher conferences, etc. We are a volunteer-run organization & every helping hand matters!

Go to the West Central School District 49-7 home page; Click on *Community*, find *WC Booster Club*

Email: westcentralboosterclub@gmail.com

Find us on  **WEST CENTRAL BOOSTER CLUB**

Come on out to join us at the next event and cheer on your Trojan Athletes!

While you're there, check out our Apparel Store for all your Trojan Wear needs! New items added every year.

And remember, our online stores are always open! Each sport season will have their own specialized order for athletes & their families, so keep an eye out for the notification! Let's Go Trojans!

