

The Leigh Legend



October 2023



A Note from Mr. Fischer...

Here at LCS, we are off to a great start to the school year. Students have settled into a routine and activities are very busy throughout the week. The atmosphere in and around the building is fantastic, and I cannot wait to see what we accomplish this school year !

This past year there have been some significant changes to school budgeting and planning. This next year LCS will receive roughly \$300,000 in additional state aid based on \$1500 per student in foundational aid. The state has also committed to providing an increase in special education reimbursement up to 80% that was previously around 40%. This was designed to reduce reliance on property taxes. In conjunction with the changes in funding, the state legislature also placed restrictions on school districts tax authority on how much they can request in property taxes.

The district does have to account and consider increases in salaries, wages, insurance, supplies, and operational costs when developing the 2023-2024 school budget. The adjustments in the funding formula will allow LCS to keep its tax asking similar to what was taxed for the last budget cycle. Since there was an increase in valuations, you will see the cent levy decrease based on the fact that property and land is assessed to be worth more.

There are two more questions you may ask in regards to the resolution that was passed at the August Board Meeting: why did we need to pass the resolution and what does it mean? It is the Board of Education's job to work within the constraints provided by the state, keep property taxes as reasonable as possible, while also ensuring that we have what we need to provide a quality education in our district. What the 7% resolution does is give the district the ability to raise the budget authority percentage by up to seven percent. What it does not do, is raise taxes seven percent, just our budget authority. Many school districts throughout the state passed a very similar resolution. The goal is always to keep our tax asking to only what we need to provide the best education possible for the children in our district.

If there are any questions about the resolution or tax request, please feel free to reach out to me during school hours.

Some dates for your calendars....Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for September 27th with a 2:00 p.m. dismissal. On October 3rd, we will host a Highway 91 Career Fair, there will be NO SCHOOL for the Elementary and JH and HS will report as normal and be involved in various career activities. This also means there will be a regular start on Wednesday, October 4th instead of a Late Start. Lastly, due to hosting East Husker Conference Play Production, there will be NO SCHOOL on November 14th. Teachers will report accordingly on that day.

I hope you all have a great fall and hope to see you at various LCS activities!

BE THE BEST!

Cole Fischer
Superintendent/Elementary Principal

Leigh Community School
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
August 14, 2023

President Kamin Held called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Verification of Notice by Kamin Held (Published on August 9th, 2023 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on August 9th, 2023 at Leigh Community Schools, Just Another Mini Mart and the Leigh Post Office)

Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held

Secretary Brabec read the roll call. Present were Machmueller, Went, Brabec D, Folken, Held K, Higby, Hoffman.

Also present were Superintendent Fischer, Principal Faltys, Secretary Brabec.

Urban J Arrived @ 7:32 pm

Excuse Absence of Wietfeld M

Approval of Agenda

Public Comment - None

Principal's Report – Transportation; Class Scheduling; Friday's at Northeast; Upcoming Events; School Year.

Superintendent's Report – Start of School; Career Day Oct. 3rd; EHC-Play Production Nov. 14th; Graduation Date; Services from Clarkson; Facilities; Legislative Update; Budget; Good Luck to Fall Activities; Reminders.

Consent Agenda approved the July 12th, 2023 meeting minutes, Treasurer/Financial Report, Bills/Payroll.

Discussion Item – resolution on increasing the school district's base growth percentage.

Motions Passed – Approved AG 91 Propane Contract; Approved School Census Report 2023.

Moved by Urban J, seconded by Higby to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. All present voting "aye". Motion carried.

A Special Board meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, August 28th, 2023 at the Leigh High School STEM Room (B138). Next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 11th, 2023 at the Leigh High School STEM Room (B138).

April R. Brabec, Board Secretary

Leigh Community School Board of Education
Special Meeting August 28, 2023

President Kamin Held called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Verification of Notice by Kamin Held (Published on August 16th, 2023 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on August 16th, 2023 at Leigh Community Schools, Just Another Mini Mart and the Leigh Post Office)

Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held

Secretary Brabec read the roll call. Present were Held K, Higby, Urban J, Brabec D, Folken. Absent were Hoffman, Machmueller, Went, Wietfeld M.

Also present were Superintendent Fischer and Secretary Brabec. Went Arrived @ 7:31 pm

Excuse Absence of Hoffman, Machmueller, Wietfeld M Approval of Agenda

Public Comment - None Hoffman Arrived @ 7:33 pm

Consent Agenda approved the August 14th, 2023 meeting minutes & additional bills for '22-'23 fiscal year.

Discussion: Handout/Budget Discussion about the '23-'24 State of Nebraska Leigh School District Budget Form/Numbers.

Motion Passed - Approved to adopt the resolution increasing the school district's base growth percentage used to determine the school district's property tax request authority to 7%.

Moved by Urban J, seconded by Higby to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. All present voting "aye". Motion carried.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 11th, 2023 at the Leigh High School STEM Room (B138).

April R. Brabec Board Secretary

Leigh Community School District #39 Colfax County
Budget Hearing September 11, 2023

President Kamin Held opened the Budget Hearing at 7:00 p.m. at the Leigh High School STEM Room (B138). Verification of Notice by Kamin Held. (Published on September 6th, 2023 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on September 6th, 2023 at Leigh Community Schools, Just Another Mini Mart and the Leigh Post Office)

Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held. Present during the hearing were Board Members Went, Wietfeld M, Folken, Held K, Higby, Hoffman, Machmueller, Urban J. Absent was Brabec D. Also present were Superintendent Fischer, Principal Faltys and Secretary Brabec. Excuse Absence of Brabec D.

Public Comment – Property Tax/Budget Questions; Board Frugality.

Discussion Item – Proposed Budget

Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Higby to close the hearing at 7:17 p.m. All present voting “aye”.

April R. Brabec, Secretary

Leigh Community School District #39 Colfax County
Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request September 11, 2023

President Kamin Held opened the Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request at 7:17 p.m. at the Leigh High School STEM Room (B138). Verification of Notice by Kamin Held. (Published on September 6th, 2023 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on September 6th, 2023 at Leigh Community Schools, Just Another Mini Mart and the Leigh Post Office) Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held. Present during the hearing were Board Members Folken, Held K, Higby, Hoffman, Machmueller, Urban J, Went, Wietfeld M. Absent was Brabec D. Also present were Superintendent Fischer, Principal Faltys and Secretary Brabec. Excuse Absence of Brabec D.

Public Comment – ELEM 4 Classroom Addition; Board Member Frugality

Discussion Item – Proposed Tax Request

Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Folken to close the hearing at 7:23 p.m. All present voting “aye.”

April R. Brabec, Secretary

Leigh Community School Board of Education
Regular Meeting September 11, 2023

President Kamin Held called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m.

Verification of Notice by Kamin Held (Published on September 6th, 2023 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on September 6th, 2023 at Leigh Community Schools, Just Another Mini Mart and the Leigh Post Office)

Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held

Secretary Brabec read the roll call. Present were Held K, Higby, Hoffman, Machmueller, Urban J, Went, Wietfeld M, Foken. Also present were Superintendent Fischer, Principal Faltys, Secretary Brabec.

Excuse Absence of Brabec D

Approval of Agenda

Principal’s Report – Rain 360; MAP Testing; After School Study Hall; Parent-Teacher Conferences; Homecoming; Career Fair; Upcoming Events.

Superintendent’s Report – Elementary Notes; Facilities; PT Conferences; Teacher In-Services; Negotiations; NASB State Board Conferences; Questions.

Consent Agenda approved the August 28th, 2023 meeting minutes, Treasurer/Financial Report, Bills/Payroll.

Motions Passed: Approved the budget for the 2023-2024 school year; Approved the tax request of \$3,557,576.00 at a levy of .709856 for the General Fund, the tax request of \$353,535.00 at a levy of .070542 for the Special Building Fund and the tax request of \$747,475.00 at a levy of .149146 for the Bond Fund with a total levy of 0.929544 for the 2023-2024 school fiscal year.

Discussion Items: Transportation Fleet Updates; Resolution on School District Standards for Acceptance or Rejection of Option Enrollment Applications and Special Education.

Moved by Hoffman, seconded by Wietfeld M to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. All present voting “aye”. Motion carried.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Monday, October 9th, 2023 at the Leigh High School STEM Room (B138).

April R. Brabec, Board Secretary

Behind the Ag Business Doors

There's a new business happening in Leigh Community Schools. The Ag Business class has been working hard to create a business with the CNC Plasma Cutter. Students have been working on creating advertisements and promotions to help get the word out about this new business idea. Currently, there have been approximately 10 designs that have been created for individuals who have ordered them, along with signs made to take photos of for advertising purposes.

Some of the advertisements that have been created have been mostly done through flyers that are hung up around the school and community, along with facebook posts made on the Leigh Community Schools facebook page. Students are currently working on online promotions by creating a facebook account dedicated to signs and other shop projects that will be for sale. Along with the facebook page, students have created a name and logo to put in news papers for the community to see. Our next advertising idea is to create a commercial to play on the vision board during sporting events to help get this word out.

Custom signs can be ordered by any individual simply by contacting a senior Ag Business member or Mr. Bazata. Students have set prices on signs based on the current cost of metal and the intricacy of the signs. Currently, signs will cost approximately \$10 a square foot. Prices may vary based on time taken to create the product. We currently have signs made that are for sale but can do customization.

Be sure to check out our flyers and like us on facebook to see what we have to offer. There are also a few fall sign designs that we will be releasing soon.

Math News

Welcome back for the 2023-2024 school year.

With having the summer break students need to get back into a routine and get back into remembering topics that have maybe been forgotten. So that means the first things we do in class is review topics that students have had but need to be able to build upon. While also build relationships within the classroom. So what are we reviewing and learning about:

Pre Algebra is reviewing the properties of Integers (positive and negative whole numbers) along with multiplication tables. These are needed in evaluating expressions and solving equations along with formulas. Also used in your golf game or so you hope.

Alg II is reviewing solving equations and formulas along with linear functions and the various forms they can be written. They are exploring different type of functions like absolute value and Step-functions along with piecewise functions.

Geometry is reviewing properties of segments and angles. Along with finding measurements using protractors and rulers. Our latest Unit deals with how to reason using logic so that they can come up with the correct solutions to problems and explain their reasoning.

It has been a good beginning to the school year. Students are involved in many activities and will need to learn how to balance that with their academics, while still getting a good nights rest. It sounds like everyone had a good summer break and are eager to get back to school.

Go PATS and Be your Best

Mr. Korus

Counselor's Notes:

Due September 25th

Our first round of MAP (Measures of Academic Performance) testing is complete with our upper elementary, junior high, and high school students. Our next round of MAP testing will be in February followed by NSCAS Growth testing for 3rd-8th grade students in April. As always, we encourage our students to give nothing but their best!

Information for Seniors and Parents:

According to the Federal Student Aid Department, the redesigned FAFSA form is the most ambitious and significant redesign of the federal student aid application and delivery in decades, and will significantly simplify how students, parents, and other educational stakeholders use the FAFSA form starting this year. The new FAFSA form is expected to open sometime in December 2023. FSA has been working—and will continue to work—to launch a 2024–25 FAFSA form as early as possible.

Seniors created their FSA IDs with Mrs. Gall; first time senior parents are encouraged to make an account as soon as possible. If you have had a child previously graduate, please try logging in to your account created for that child, you do not need to make a new account for each child, but please make sure you have a verified email registered with your account. The student and parent each must have their own accounts. Please check your emails from Mrs. Gall as she will be sending out updates to parents/guardians.

The senior class participated in the Apply to College Day put on by EducationQuest during the month of September; each student was able to create their FSA IDs and apply to at least one college. Some seniors have applied to three to four colleges/universities. Parents, if you have any questions regarding the FAFSA, college applications, or scholarships please contact Mrs. Gall.

ACT Test Dates and Registration Deadline

The seniors will not take the ACT at school again, if they are wanting to test again they will need to register through their own ACT account. The juniors will take the ACT required by the state in March 2024.

2023-2024 Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
September 9, 2023	August 4	August 18	September 1
October 28, 2023	September 22	October 6	October 20
December 9, 2023	November 3	November 17	December 1
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19	February 2
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22	April 5
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17	May 31
July 13, 2024*	June 7	June 21	July 5

College Fair

On September 20th, the juniors attended the College Fair at Central Community College. This is great opportunity for our students as it gives them the opportunity to talk about higher education with 47 colleges, universities, and military representatives



FAFSA Changes for 2024-25 Explained

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) is changing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), affecting all students and families who complete the application for the 2024-25 academic year. Read on for the specifics of what this means for you.

When will the 2024-25 FAFSA open?

The FAFSA will open in December 2023, but FSA has not specified an exact date.

What's changing with the FAFSA?

Let's cover the substantive changes. First, your FSA ID will be more important than ever. Both students and parents must create an FSA ID using full legal names, birthdates, and Social Security Numbers. The Social Security Administration must verify the FSA IDs before tax information can be accessed for the FAFSA, so allow at least three days.

Both parents and stepparents must have an FSA ID so their tax information can be accessed accurately. Parents who don't have a Social Security Number must also create an FSA ID. More direction on that will be forthcoming from FSA.

Second, the parent you include on the FAFSA could change. For dependent students with separated/divorced parents, the parent who provided the most financial support in the last 12 months must be included. If the support were equal, you would use the parent(s) with the highest income/assets. This aligns with the previous requirement of including the custodial parent for many students.

Third, and perhaps most notably, the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) will become SAI (Student Aid Index). The most significant implications of this change are that the net worth of small businesses and farm assets will now be considered in the SAI calculation. Parents will no longer report child support paid, but child support received will be considered. Also, the number of students a family has enrolled in college will no longer factor into the SAI calculation. What does this mean for you? Unfortunately, your financial aid eligibility could decrease.

Where do I go to learn more about FAFSA changes and get help?

The best way to stay informed of the latest developments with the FAFSA is to sign up for EducationQuest's FREE Countdown2College newsletter (located at the bottom of our home page) and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

<https://educationquest.org/blog/fafsa-changes-for-2024-25-explained/>

By Regan Anson

Leigh Community Schools

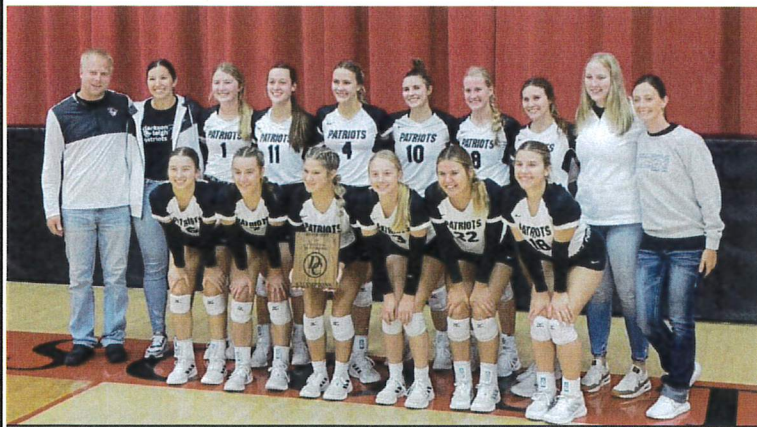
October 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<div>1</div> <div>5th Grade Youth VB Practice 2-4:00 p.m.-Leigh New Gym</div>	<div>2</div> <div>JV FB vs Lyons/Decatur @ Lyons 5:00 p.m.</div> <div>JH/JV FB vs Howells/Dodge @ Leigh 4:30/6:00 p.m.</div> <div>Var. SB Subdistricts @ Beaver Crossing; 2:00 p.m. Centennial vs Fairbury; 4:00 p.m. Highway 91 vs Pierce; 6:00 p.m. Championship</div> <div>JH VB vs Howells/Dodge @ Howells 6:00 p.m. (B then A game)</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>3</div> <div>C2 - Girls Golf Districts @ Quail Run, Columbus - 9:00 a.m.</div> <div>Var. VB Triangular @ Leigh (Plainview & LHNE) 5:00 p.m.</div> <div>NO ELEMENTARY CLASSES</div> <div>6:30 p.m. TaekwonDo in Elem Gym</div> <div>Highway 91 Career Fair @ Leigh - Grades 9-12 will attend the Career Fair, Grades 7&8 will go to WSC for a college tour</div>	<div>4</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>5</div> <div>C/J/V/V VB @ Humphrey St. Francis 5:00 p.m.</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Homecoming Coronation in Leigh after game</div> <div>Var. FB vs Cross County @ Leigh 7:00 p.m.</div> <div>Var. SB District Finals - TBD</div> <div>4th Grade Youth VB Practice 4-5:00 p.m. in Leigh</div> <div>NECC Honor Choir</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Homecoming Dance in Clarkson</div> <div>Var. SB District Finals - TBD</div> <div>4th & 5th Grade Youth VB game vs Howells/Dodge at Leigh - 8:00-10:00 a.m.</div>
<div>8</div> <div>5th Grade Youth VB Practice 2-4:00 p.m.-Leigh New Gym</div>	<div>9</div> <div>JH/JV FB @ Humphrey/LHF 4:30/6:00 p.m.</div> <div>Girls Golf STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS</div> <div>JH VB Triangular @ Clarkson (HSF & Stanton) 5:00 p.m.</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Girls Golf STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS</div> <div>6:30 p.m. TaekwonDo in Elem Gym</div> <div>One Act Practice 7:00 p.m.</div>	<div>11</div> <div>SB State Playoffs @ Hastings</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Var. FB @ Madison 7:00 p.m.</div> <div>SB State Playoffs @ Hastings</div> <div>Var. VB - EHC Tourney -TBA</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>13</div> <div>SB State Playoffs @ Hastings</div> <div>4th Grade Youth VB Practice 4-5:00 p.m. in Leigh</div> <div>4th Gr Youth BB Practice 5-6:30 p.m.</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Var. VB - EHC Tourney @ Leigh - TBA</div>
<div>15</div> <div>5th Grade Youth VB Practice 2-4:00 p.m.-Leigh New Gym</div>	<div>16</div> <div>FCCLA - District Leadership Conference at CCC in Columbus</div> <div>SB STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS @ UNO</div> <div>One Act Practice 7:00 p.m.</div>	<div>17</div> <div>J/V/V VB (No C Team) vs Oakland/Craig @ Clarkson 5:30 p.m. - Broadcast on KLLR 101 FM radio</div> <div>6:30 p.m. TaekwonDo in Elem Gym</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>18</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div> <div>4th Gr Youth BB Practice 5:15-6:30 p.m.</div>	<div>19</div> <div>FB Playoffs - Round 1</div>	<div>20</div> <div>NO SCHOOL</div>	<div>21</div>
<div>22</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Var. VB C2-7 Sub Districts - TBD</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div> <div>Midland Honor Choir</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Var. VB C2-7 Sub-Districts - TBD</div> <div>6:30 p.m. TaekwonDo in Elem Gym</div> <div>One Act Practice 7:00 p.m. (dependent on VB)</div>	<div>25</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div> <div>4th Gr Youth BB Practice 5:15-6:30 p.m.</div>	<div>26</div> <div>One Act Practice 7:00 p.m.</div>	<div>27</div> <div>FB Playoffs - Round 2</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Var. VB District Finals - TBD</div>
<div>29</div> <div>4th Gr Youth BB 3 on 3 Tourney in Norfolk</div>	<div>30</div> <div>One Act Practice 7:00 p.m.</div> <div>County Government Day - Seniors</div>	<div>31</div> <div>6:30 p.m. TaekwonDo in Elem Gym</div> <div>One Act Practice - 7:00 a.m.</div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div>

OCTOBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Chicken Patty/Bun, Tri Tater, Green Beans, Pears	3 BR: Poptart, Cereal L: Taco, Breadstick, Refried Beans, Mand. Oranges	4 BR: Tornado L: Pork Patty/Bun, Sweet Potato Fries, Peas & Carrots, Peaches	5 BR: Yogurt, Bun L: Pancake, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Patty, Hash Brown, Juice	6 BR: Cinnamon Roll L: Pizza, Lettuce, Broccoli, Hot Apples	7
8	9 BR: Rice Krispie Bar, Cereal L: Tater Tot Casserole, Garlic Bread, Green Beans, Applesauce	10 BR: Mini Donuts L: Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Tropical Fruit	11 BR: Cereal, Cheese Stick L: Pulled Pork, Sweet Potato Fries, Broccoli, Mixed Fruit	12 BR: PBJ L: Popcorn Chicken, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Corn, Peaches	13 BR: Cinni Mini L: Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Chips, Baked Beans, Mand. Oranges	14
15	16 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Pulled Chicken, Tri Tater, Broccoli, Pineapple	17 BR: Bagel Bites L: McRib, Bun, Corn, Pears, Cookie	18 BR: Sausage/Pancake on a Stick L: Chicken Alfredo, Garlic Bread, Green Beans, Peaches	19 BR: Muffin, Cereal L: Hoogie, Chips, Carrots, Applesauce Cup	20 NO SCHOOL	21
22	23 BR: PB&J L: Meatball Sub, Green Beans, Pears, Ice Cream Cup	24 BR: S'more Bar, Cereal L: Corn Dog, Broccoli, Sweet Potato Fries, Pineapple	25 BR: Sausage on bun L: Sloppy Joe, Hash Brown, Baked Beans, Mixed Fruit	26 BR: Rice Krispie Bar, Cereal L: Chicken Nuggets, Bun, Mac & Cheese, Peas & Carrots, Tropical Fruit	27 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Breakfast Sandwich, Tri Tater, Juice, Cinni Mini	28
29	30 BR: Poptart, Cereal L: Hot Ham & Cheese, Spud Bites, California Blend, Peaches	31 BR: Empanada's L: Spaghetti, Cheese Breadstick, California Blend, Pineapple		Milk is included with all menus	All Breakfasts include fruit or juice	

THE LEGEND
222 W 4TH STREET
P O BOX 98
LEIGH NE 68643

From the Principal's Desk:



LHS is off to a fantastic start and is already over a month into school. We have completed MAP testing for the Fall session and Parent-Teacher Conferences are in the books. LHS has a few big weeks ahead of us with conference events, career fair, and homecoming. Due to rain that we received over the weekend, the softball conference tournament was moved to West Point on Monday with the Cyclones getting 5th place. The volleyball conference tournament will be held in Clarkson and Leigh on October 12th and 14th, with the finals being

held in Leigh. The Patriots are currently 19-0 and have won the Centennial, Stanton, and David City tournaments. The conference golf tournament, held in Pender, was moved to Monday as well due to the rain on Saturday. Homecoming was moved to October 6th and everyone is invited to enjoy the tailgate at the football field before the game with an open field night for the kids. Mrs. Gall and neighboring Guidance Counselors put together a career fair on October 3rd for ALL students in grades 9-12. On the same day, 7-8 grades will go to Wayne State College for a college visit. Overall, I feel like we are off to a fantastic start and have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming months. It's a Great Day to be a Patriot!