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## School Foundation Hosts Upcoming Banquet

The Central Lyon School Foundation was formed in the spring of 2001 with the approval of the Board of Education. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide funds for academic programs, encourage post-secondary education through scholarships, and to develop and extend the facilities, services, and resources of the Central Lyon School District. The first priority of the Foundation Board, at this time, is to build the fund balance to help provide scholarships for students continuing their education after graduation from Central Lyon.

The Foundation Board will be hosting a fund-raising banquet Saturday, October 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the Forster Community Center. Central Lyon graduate Dana Dykhouse, President and CEO of First Premier Bank of Sioux Falls, is the featured speaker. Central Lyon students will be providing the entertainment. Please consider joining us in our efforts to enhance the quality of education and the opportunities available for Central Lyon students. The cost is \$25.00 per meal. Entrée choices are Prime Rib, Stuffed Pork Chop, and Chicken Cordon Bleu. Reservations and payment may be made at the following locations: US Bank, Frontier Bank, the Central Lyon Superintendent's Office, and the CAC office.

Please feel free to contact any Foundation Board member listed below with questions you may have. We anticipate an enjoyable evening and hope to see you there.

Foundation Board members are M.R. Austin, Dave Foltz, Karen Heitshusen, Ken Mellema, Jane Barker, Kendall DeGroot, Dave Halse, Sue Vinson, and Cindy Wellein.

### **A Proclamation Establishing November 17-23, 2002 as American Education Week in Our Community**

WHEREAS, public schools are an American tradition; and

WHEREAS, we are proud of the schools in our community and the ways they are changing to meet the needs of every student; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that our schools are only as strong as our community's support and involvement; and

WHEREAS, we understand that the education of our youth depends on more than classroom instruction; and

WHEREAS, we know that the future of our community and of our nation depends on educating each student so that he or she can achieve his or her maximum potential; and

WHEREAS, our nation is celebrating the week of November 17-23 as American Education Week with the theme "Making Public Schools Great for Every Child;"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William Hutchinson, do proclaim that the week of November 17-23, 2002 is Education Week in our community. I further encourage community members to support our local schools by participating in school-sponsored activities and by volunteering to help with those activities.

DATED THIS 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2002.

### **American Education Week** Making Public School Great for Every Child



**November 17-23, 2002**

# Secondary Thoughts

By David Ackerman, Secondary (High School) Principal

Recently there has been a great deal of talk about testing in schools. The recent national legislation called “No Child Left Behind” emphasizes that all schools shall test their students and demonstrate sufficient progress toward making sure every student achieves at a proficient level. Tests such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED) are common tests given by school districts to grades 4, 8, and 11.

The ACT is another test which eleventh grade students commonly take if they have an interest in going on to college. Recently, a report arrived from the ACT testing service indicating some very positive results. The report read as follows:

Dear Principal:

In accordance with the Iowa Postsecondary Probable Success Indicator requirement, we are pleased to provide you with the following information. These data are based on the year 2002 ACT-tested graduating students from your high school.

Of your 29 ACT-tested 2002 graduates, the percentages of student scoring at or above the state’s identified college success indicator of an ACT score of 20 are indicated below:

ACT	Composite	ACT English	ACT Math	ACT Reading	ACT Science Reasoning
LOCAL	90%	83%	76%	72%	83%
IOWA	69%	61%	62%	67%	72%
NATION	58%	54%	50%	58%	59%

Obviously, this is an excellent report of the progress of our students. I believe it is the result of a combination of good parenting, strong teaching, excellent facilities, great students, and a strong emphasis on education. I congratulate the students, parents, and teachers of the Central Lyon School District for yet another great performance.

## FFA Activities

By Dwayne Pastma, High School FFA Advisor

After a busy summer, the Central Lyon FFA chapter officers have been very busy planning the upcoming meetings and activities. Officers are: Desiree Stubbe (president), Drew Metzger (vice-president), Meghan Folkens (treasurer), Tara Fastert (secretary), Jeanne Herbert (reporter), Jesse Steenhoven (sentinel), and Roger Smidstra (officer-at-large).

The FFA homecoming supper is Friday, October 4. A big thank you to everyone who supports this annual meal.

A couple of other important activities coming just around the corner are fruit sales and the harvest of our corn test plot. Fruit sales begin October 18, with delivery approximately the week of December 9. Money from this, our largest annual fundraiser, is used for state and national conventions, the senior trip, our FFA farm, and various community-supported activities.

Our test plot is located at the southwest corner of the Rock Rapids airport. Feel free to stop and check the different varieties of corn any time. We would like to extend a big thank you to Jim and Tom Lupkes for their assistance with the plot.

Finally, congratulations to our president, Des Stubbe for her selection as Central Lyon High School Student of the Month for September.



FFA members Drew, Chris & Steve inspecting the test plot.

## Testing Changes This Fall

By Terry Tausz, High School Guidance Counselor

The Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED) will be taken by grades 9, 10, & 11 this fall on October 7 and 8. For the past several years the ITEDs have been taken only by grades 9 and 11 in the month of September. Also, in the past they were taken over a period of six days with only one period a day being used for testing. This year, the tests will be taken during two mornings.

While grades 9, 10, & 11 are testing, seniors will have alternate group activities to participate in. On Monday morning, the College Planning Center from Des Moines will be here to give three presentations on:

- College Planning
- Financial Aid
- Credit Card Management

Additional activities being considered for Tuesday morning are a video and discussion on the subject of depression or perhaps a motivational guest speaker. Some other ideas are also being explored.

### Note-Worthy Dates

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| ✓ Mass Band Show                    | 10/18    |
| ✓ Nat'l School Bus Safety Week      | 10/20-26 |
| ✓ <b>Parent-Teacher Conferences</b> | 10/29-30 |
| ✓ All-School Musical                | 11/8     |
| ✓ NHS Assembly                      | 11/19    |

## Iowa Tests of Basic Skills

By Dan Kruse, Elementary/Middle School Counselor

It's great to see the students' smiling faces throughout the building. By the time you read this article the first quarter will be drawing to a close. I can't believe how fast the school year goes.

The students in grades 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8 will be taking the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills October 21-25. This is a standardized test taken by students all over the United States. One of the main purposes of the test is to provide us with information that can be used to improve instruction here at Central Lyon.

The results from the ITBS will be used to monitor the students learning of the many important skills taught in school. These tests cannot replace a teacher's observations and judgment, but they can provide supplemental information for the teacher, parent and student. When the results are used in conjunction with other information from the classroom and the home, teachers and parents can work together to identify and address the individual needs of each child.

Please encourage your child to do his/her best on the upcoming tests.

## Freshman/Parent Conferences

Starting in late October/early November, Mr. Tausz would like to meet individually with each freshman student and his/her parents to set up a four year plan of study for the student's high school years. Hopefully, this helps give the students a sense of direction while in high school to better prepare them for their post-high school experience. Letters to freshmen parents should be arriving any day to get the conferences scheduled.

Another school year is underway and changes are seen in a few areas. Many children diagnosed with ADD/ADHD are now taking a sustained release medication, which means they do not need to have medication administered at school. If your child is taking medication, it is still helpful for the school to know this. If you would like your child's behavior evaluated quarterly to see if the medication is effective, I can add you to my list.

By Mel DeJong,  
School Nurse

Thanks to all the parents who have updated me on their child's medical conditions that may have changed over the summer. I will be contacting the remaining parents to get updates for the health files.

I am presently auditing vaccination cards. You may receive a letter if our vaccination record on your child is incomplete. If so, please complete the form sent to you and return it to school.

If your child is a senior and plans to go on to school, colleges may have different requirements for vaccinations. Be aware that it is less expensive to get shots before the age of 19.

As in the past, my schedule continues as follows:

- Monday & Thursday at Central Lyon 472-4041
- Tuesday at George/Little Rock 475-3675
- Wednesday at West Lyon 753-4917

If I am not at the school when you call, or if you would like to leave me a message, you may call my office at Health Services of Lyon County.

Welcome to the 2002-2003 school year. The Elementary/Middle School staff and I are working on very important aspects concerning our school climate: bullying and teasing.

The elementary grades have developed a curriculum that emphasizes a new, good character traits for each month of the school year. The school year started with a speaker on citizenship for the kindergarten through third grade students. Throughout the year, the elementary teachers will continue to work on the areas of citizenship, caring, fairness, responsibility, respect, trustworthiness, self-esteem and kindness/love through the use of speakers and a variety of activities.

The middle school students are learning about bullying and teasing through both our literature and technology programs. The bullying and teasing curriculum will be used in teacher presentations throughout the year. It was also discussed in our Pride program at the beginning of the school year and the curriculum will be practiced throughout the year.

We hope that our curriculum and school climate concerns extend to extra-curricular activities, as well. Our sports programs will be emphasizing fairness and respect for their opponents throughout the school year. Sportsmanship is a priority at Central Lyon.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MEMOIRS

### Mock Trial

By Terry Vanberkum, Mock Trial Coach

For the past 13 years, Central Lyon has participated in a program called Mock Trial. The Lions have competed at the middle school and high school levels. The district can be proud of their performances. Both levels have represented our region at state competition.

Mock Trial consists of 7-10 students per team. They are given a case, which they need to prepare to take before judges. The teams must prepare both sides of the case, thus defending one round and prosecuting the other. Each team supplies 3 witnesses and 4 attorneys. The witnesses must go from a sworn affidavit sent from the Iowa Bar Association. The attorneys must prepare openings, closings, directs, and cross examinations.

After many weeks of hard labor during early mornings and late nights, the teams head to regional competition. Regionals consist of 8-20 teams, with up to 3 teams continuing on to the state level. From the regionals, 32 teams advance to state and compete in 3 rounds. After

the first round, the 16 undefeated teams compete head-to-head, while the losing teams compete against each other. The undefeated teams continue to go head-to-head until there are only four undefeated teams. These teams continue competition on Saturday morning and then on to the finals Saturday afternoon. All teams are guaranteed three rounds on Friday.

At the high school level, the champion of the state of Iowa continues with a new case and competes against the other state champions. Iowa has one of the largest programs in the United States. We average 300 schools at the middle school and 200 at the high school levels.

This year Central Lyon will have two teams from the middle school and two teams from the high school. Regional competition will be held at Central Lyon this year. Middle school will compete on November 9 and high school on March 15. Anyone can attend these competitions. They do get exciting!

### The Keyboards Are Back!

By Jan Null, Music Teacher

Central Lyon elementary and middle school students are looking forward to learning many new songs on keyboards, which are part of a project that is in its fourth year. The 24 electronic keyboards were purchased and are shared by six school districts. The original keyboard project was funded by a federal grant through the Grant Wood Area Education Agency. While only four schools participated in 1981 when the project began, hundreds of schools now participate.

The students will be learning scales, chords, note reading, rhythms, composing, and other skills on the electronic keyboards. They progress from non-symbols to the traditional note-reading symbols. Kindergarten students are using the Area 4 kristal bell set, along with their other activities.



Second grade students are happy that "they're back!"

## \$\$ HELP EARN MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL \$\$

By Ann Ageson, PTC member

This year the Central Lyon Parent-Teacher Council (PTC) is participating in a fundraising program sponsored by General Mills called *Box Tops for Education*. Through *Box Tops*, the goal is to earn cash to purchase school supplies. This fundraiser does not require door-to-door selling and provides several ways for the Central Lyon PTC/School to benefit.

The first way that patrons of the district can help is by clipping *Box Tops* logos from any of hundreds of General Mills products and sending them to the school. Please cut out the *Box Top* logo only—do not send the entire top of the box. Participating products include Big G cereals, Betty Crocker products, Yoplait yogurt multi-packs, among many others. Our school will receive 10 cents for each *Box Top* redeemed, up to \$10,000 per year. These *Box Tops* can really add up and will assist the school in providing necessary supplies, thus helping our children. Please help us by saving the *Box Top* logos.



A second way to earn cash for Central Lyon is by shopping online at the Box Tops for Education Marketplace found at the following web site: [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com). Designate Central Lyon as your school of choice when registering at stores such as [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com), [eddiebauer.com](http://eddiebauer.com), or [petsmart.com](http://petsmart.com), and up to 10% of your qualifying purchase will be donated to Central Lyon. When ordering, the school name should be printed **exactly** like the following example:

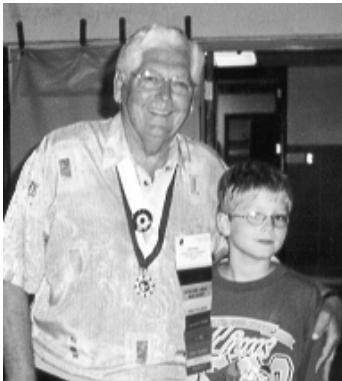
**CENTRAL LYON ELEM SCH – ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA**

A third way to help earn money for your school is by collecting UPC labels from Best Yet, IGA, Marquee, Captain's Cove or Rainbow products. Just cut the UPC code from the label and send it to the school.

Thank you for your assistance with these fund raising efforts in partnership with the Central Lyon PTC.

## Citizenship

By Julie Boekhout, Kindergarten Teacher



A man of character with his grandson.

On Thursday, August 29, kindergarten through third grade students learned the value of citizenship from Bernie Wolfswinkel, a native of Hull, Iowa. Bernie was asked by his daughter, Blythe Fields, to speak to the children because he was named Outstanding Citizen in 1991 while residing in Chino, California. He has been very active in many communities and has an impressive

record of community service accomplishments. For example, Mr. Wolfswinkel organized and spearheaded a fund-raising auction that brought in more than \$30,000 to help renovate a former telephone company building in downtown Chino and turned it into the Seventh Street Community Theatre.

He shared with the children what his wife Beverly laughingly claims that others say when her award-winning husband is near: "Here comes Bernie; keep your hands on your wallet." On a more serious note, he talked about the importance of helping others. He encouraged the kids to go visit elderly people that they know and share some of their time and smiles with them.

Bernie was asked to speak to the children, not only because of his admirable character, but also as part of the Character Counts curriculum. We will be having various speakers throughout the year who are excellent role models of good character in our community.

## Professional Development

By William Hutchinson, Superintendent

During the 2002-2003 school year we have scheduled seven professional development days during which the students will be dismissed and the school staff will "go to school." Three of these professional development days are full-day sessions, while four are half-day sessions. The first of these in-service days is scheduled for Monday, October 7, when students will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m. On that day the staff will conduct an item analysis of the ITED and ITBS tests taken by our students as one measure of achievement. It is our desire that the analysis demonstrates any gaps or omissions in our curriculum, which can be corrected in the future. The analysis might also indicate areas of skill development which need more emphasis.

Our students perform well on these standardized tests; however, it is our goal to continue to improve in our teaching and learning techniques.

By Joleen Metzger,  
Fifth Grade Teacher

## Outdoor Learning

Central Lyon fifth-graders traveled to Lake Pahoja on Tuesday, September 17, to participate in the Lyon County 5th Grade Outdoor Classroom. The day provided hands-on experiences on using a compass, looking for organisms in the lake, exploring the properties of water, and learning about soil. The children visited the one-room school at the park sponsored by the Historical Society and were also taught about wildlife taxonomy. The children enjoyed the day and learned a great deal!

ELEMENTARY EDITION

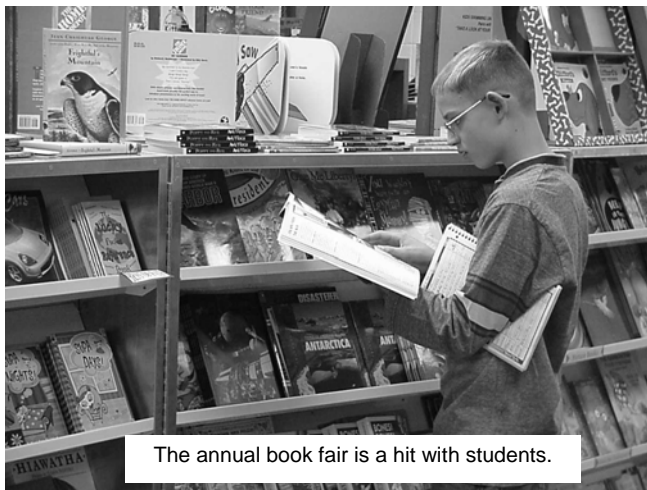
## Mark Your Calendar

### Book Fair

By Nancy DeJongh,  
Elem/MS Media Specialist

Central Lyon Elementary/Middle School, along with the help of the Parent Teacher Council, is sponsoring a BOOK FAIR in the Elementary/Middle School Media Center. The fair will be held October 7-11 and will be open between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. each day. This fair also coincides with Hot Lunch Week.

Hundreds of titles from over 100 publishers will be available, along with computer games and other gift items. Profits from the book fair will be used to fund special media center activities and to purchase books and equipment for the media center. The public is welcome to attend!



The annual book fair is a hit with students.

The Central Lyon Health class is, once again, sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday, October 31.

### Blood Drive

The Bloodmobiles from Sioux Falls and Sioux City will be on the east side of Central Lyon High School between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. You must be at least 17 years of age and weigh at least 100 pounds to give blood. Parental consent is required for students under the age of 18. Your attendance (and blood) would be greatly appreciated.

By Hank Grant,  
High School Health Teacher

### Whopper Feed

By Pat Wiener, Central Lyon Teacher

Although this date is weeks away, the Central Lyon Education Association would like to inform you of a fundraiser that will be held on Friday, January 10, in conjunction with the West Lyon basketball games. A "Whopper Feed" will be held on that night, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Central Lyon Foundation. More details to come later, but be sure to mark this date on your calendar now.