

Inside this issue:

Secondary Thoughts	2
Jazz Band	2
Speech State Competition	3
Online Training	3
Counselors' Corner	4
Volunteers for Education	4
Looking Back & Moving On	5
Community is Vital	5
Be Like Mike	6
Jump Rope for Heart	6
Seeing Double	6
BABES	7
Updates	8
Noteworthy Dates	8

School District 2004-2005 Budget

By William Hutchinson, Superintendent

At their meeting on Monday, April 12, the Central Lyon Board of Education approved the school district budget for 2004-2005. This budget will provide no "new money" due to our continuing decline in enrollment and the effect this loss has on the budget formula calculation. Consequently, our general fund spending authority is no greater than it was five years ago. Because of this spending limitation, it has been necessary for the district to meet the demands of increasing costs by making cuts in services. These cuts, which have been made

across the budget, include staffing, supplies, equipment, maintenance, and transportation. The district has attempted to avoid the loss of essential instructional programs and will continue to hold to this practice as long as our limited resources allow.

Many Iowa school districts are dealing with similar budget problems resulting from declining enrollment and low allowable growth provided by the Iowa Legislature. It is essential that the Iowa Legislature backs its stated high priority of public schools with the necessary resources to allow Iowa schools to maintain their top standing in the nation.

CL Activity Center, Historical Plaza Progresses

It is expected that the construction of the new and remodeled building at the north end of the school campus will be completed by mid-May. It is also planned that some or all of the adjacent Historical Plaza will be completed by mid-June. To commemorate both projects, a dedication program and open house is scheduled for Saturday, June 19, 2004 at 3:30 p.m. at the site of the new construction. If weather allows, the dedication will be held outside on the school lawn. The program of events is part of the Heritage Days celebration, and the public is invited.

The building to be dedicated is designed to support the remodeled gymnasium, weight room, and fitness center that remain following the removal

of the former high school. The new structure includes public restrooms, locker rooms, and a "common" room to be used for a wide range of school, community, and other events. In addition, new street and parking areas will be provided.

The Historical Plaza, located on the same site, is meant to represent the history of the former high school and the school district. It has been partially financed by the sale of engraved bricks, granite pavers, and granite benches purchased by supporters of the school district. It will feature the existing flagpole dedicated to the class of 1924 as well as limestone urns and

interpretive plaques saved from the former high school. The entrance to the plaza will feature an archway constructed from the limestone door surrounds of the former high school. The flagpole and entire area will be illuminated by a new lighting system.

Persons interested in purchasing engraved bricks, granite pavers, or benches to be a part of the plaza should call the school at (712) 472-2664.



Construction progresses on the CL Activity Center.

Another Successful Prom

By David Ackerman, Secondary (High School) Principal

Prom is an event that can be extremely nerve-racking for principals because there is so much potential for things to go wrong. Every year at prom time, my neck bulges up in tension as though I were lifting weights and working solely on that area. Inevitably, this year, as has every year, prom goes off without a hitch. The kids are great; the meal is fantastic; the dance goes well; and the after-prom activities were well run. All in all, another successful prom is registered in the memory books, and eventually, the bulge in my neck subsides.

"It is awesome to live in a community which comes together to support our kids."

Thanks to Mr. Grant and Mrs. Sheldon for all their work in setting up the prom. Thanks to the Intermission for hosting the meal, and to the Kiwanis group for their efforts in providing a safe, supervised after-prom event for the students. Finally, once again our local merchants came through in a big way by donating prizes for the after prom event. It is a huge group effort of many volunteers who value the well being of our kids that makes such an event possible. It is awesome to live in a community which comes together to support our kids.



The Intermission, even though no longer in business, opened its doors to host the meal for prom.

Jazz Band

By Sherwin Langholdt, High School Band Director

The Central Lyon High School Jazz Band I had an excellent competitive season for the 2003-2004 school year, showing great improvement with each performance. Their first competition for this year was held January 28 at Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville. The jazz band competed in class 1A along with twelve other area schools. Although the band did not finish in the top three, they gave a great performance and received many individual outstanding soloist awards.



Rachel on piano, Reuben on the bass, and AJ on the trapset for jazz band.

The band participated in their second performance on February 10 at Morningside College in Sioux City. They were judged in two different categories for this contest. Overall awards were

given for each class, and the top two bands were also chosen from each class for the Northwest Iowa District. Our jazz band finished third overall in their class, and second in the Northwest Iowa District class. This second place finish allowed them to qualify for participation in the Iowa Jazz Championships.

The CL Jazz Band returned from the State Jazz Championships with a fifth place finish. In addition, three individuals received outstanding musician awards; Nathan Karasch on flugel horn, Rachel Unekis on piano, and Brandon Bloemendaal on trombone. Since this is only the second year of competition for the jazz band, a fifth place finish is an outstanding achievement. The band finished seventh at the Jazz Championships last year.

Congratulations to all of the band members for an outstanding season! To end the season the Jazz Band I, along with the Swing Choir and the Jazz Band II, was featured at the Central Lyon High School Swing Show on April 23.

Individual Speech State Competition

By Jan Meester, High School
Speech Advisor

Ten individual speech participants representing thirteen entries performed at LeMars on Saturday, March 20. The Central Lyon students had a successful day, returning home with eleven 'I' ratings and two 'II' ratings. On Monday, March 22, Heather DeBey discovered she had been selected to perform at the all-state speech festival.

The all-state festival was held on the University of Northern Iowa campus on Monday, April 5. The honor is especially rewarding to



These young ladies represented Central Lyon at the state speech contest.



Andrea Knobloch rehearses her storytelling selection "Howay for Wodney Wat."

Heather because she was named all-state performer last year, but a snow storm caused the festival to be cancelled. She performed her Public Address *Cali Khouri's Commencement Address to the Sweet Briar Graduating Class*.

The following students received 'I' ratings on their performances: Alissa Ver Steeg, Miranda Meyer, Sara Leuthold, Brittany Van Berkum, Meah Knight, Heather DeBey, Alli Ladd, Andrea Knobloch, and Hannah Drewes. Maria Delfs and Brittany Van Berkum received a 'II' rating on their selections.

**Congratulations to the Central
Lyon "Speechies!"**

Iowa AEA Online Training for Parents

Iowa Area Education Agencies are providing five online resources to all Iowa accredited schools. The Iowa AEA Online Resources have been available to AEA 4's students and teachers since the beginning of the current school year and will be available for the next two school years as well. Available 24/7 at both school and home to students with Internet access, the online resources give teachers and students access to a wealth of information for assignments, research, and personal interest. The online resources include **Atomic Learning**, which is an electronic help desk and training system for your computer applications. **Clipart.com School edition** is a collection of over 2.5 million searchable clipart, photos, images, fonts and sounds. **Ebsco** provides full-text periodicals, newspapers and reference tools for students. **Multimedia Archives** is a database of Associated Press Archives, which allows access to AP stories, photos, graphics and sounds. **World Book Online Reference Center** includes all the articles from the 22 volume print set plus additional articles, videos and animations, sounds, and linked web sites. When accessing these online databases, students use information skills such as finding, evaluating and using information; technology skills; and literacy skills in reading, analysis, and problem solving.

To best utilize these resources, students need to understand the type of information available and now how to use the databases. AEA 4 has put forth a concerted effort to provide the necessary training to help educators make the most of these resources in their classrooms. However, since not all learning and classroom assignments are completed at school, parents or other family members may also be interested in learning how to use the online resources in order to better help their children.

To address this need, four evening workshops will be offered to parents/guardians at four different sites in AEA 4 this spring. Parents may participate at any of the four locations. To register, contact Marcia Westra at 712-722-4378, 1-800-572-5073, or email mwestra@aea4.k12.ia.us.

Date	Time	Location
April 26	7 – 9 p.m.	Sioux Center High School
April 29	7 – 9 p.m.	South O'Brien High School
May 3	7 – 9 p.m.	H-M-S Middle School
May 12	7 – 9 p.m.	Central Lyon High School (in Business Lab #129)

Note to Parents of Seniors

By Terry Tausz, High School Guidance Counselor

Please make sure your senior student has provided us with the following information.

1. **Name of post-secondary school he/she will be attending.** We will send them a final transcript, which is needed for admittance.
2. **Scholarships awards received.** At Awards Day we will recognize any scholarships seniors are receiving and we will list them in the graduation program, provided we are informed in a timely manner.

Thanks for your help with this!

Greetings

By Dan Kruse, Elementary/Middle School Guidance Counselor

It's hard to believe we're at the end of another school year. Where does the time go? Thanks to everyone for all the support you've given to Central Lyon this past year. It's been a great year.

With the end of the year, we have lots of field trips and activities lined up. Feel free to call if you have any questions regarding these events. Because of snow days the last day of school will be May 27.

This is the last article I will be writing from the guidance office. As you might know, I will be taking over for Mr. Olson as principal next year. I am extremely excited about this opportunity. I feel I am ready for the challenge, even though I have big shoes to fill. Mr. Olson has been a great boss.

Toby Lorenzen will be assuming half-time guidance counselor duties in addition to continuing elementary physical education. I am confident that he will do a great job. Have an enjoyable summer!

FAFSA

In February during parent teacher conferences, ten families took advantage of the parent sessions where they received help completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online. This was a FREE service provided by The College Planning Center from Des Moines. The feedback was positive, so we hope to do it again next year.

For a student to be eligible for loans and grants, the FAFSA must be completed by June every year that you have a student in college.

Class Schedule

We have been working on the class schedule for next year. If you are unaware of the classes that your student is taking, you should visit with him/her.

The school board recently passed a new policy stating that all students must take six classes *plus* physical education each semester. The old policy required five classes plus physical education. If you have any questions about this change, please feel free to contact the school.

Volunteers for Education

By Lance Olson, Elementary/Middle School Principal

We appreciate the volunteers for education in the elementary grades who help students in so many ways. Listed to the right are volunteers that we would like to thank and recognize. We are sorry if we omitted anyone. If interested in volunteering for education, please call Central Lyon Elementary at 712-472-4041.



Volunteer Doris Wiarda helps Lawrence Broesder with reading.

Elisha Yeakel	Trish Bloemendaal	Jodi Schrick
Sue Warner	Kay Wynia	Dawn Knobloch
Lavonne Grooters	Shirley Zollinger	Jeanne Knobloch
Sally Fastert	Julie Metzger	Xochitl Robinson
Angie Sippel	Pat Huisman	Michelle Leuthold
Wendy Huisman	Brenda VandenTop	Amy Borman
Delores Metzger	Robin McMath	Amy Huisman
Heather Ring	Audrey Postma	Barb Grimes
Doris Calkins	Carol Molitor	Peggy Metzger
Stacie Haselhoff	Rachel Eckenrod	Doris Wiarda
Betty Medema	Dennis Haselhoff	Dr. Kracht
Lori Popkes	Donna Inderwisch	Paul Ring
Lisa Vande Stouwe	Cindy Witt	Barb VerMeer
Laurie Knoblock	Ginger Rasmussen	Dee Klocko
Shelly Popkes	Amy Schulte	Vicki Jansma
	Jodi Schaa	

Looking Back and Moving On

By Lance Olson, Elementary/Middle School Principal

I have been very fortunate to have worked at the Central Lyon Community School District and equally fortunate to have lived in Rock Rapids. Our community has given my family a great place to live and an excellent educational experience for our children. I chose to become a teacher and an administrator because I enjoy being around young people and watching them develop into successful adults.

I would like to look back at some of the changes which have occurred with the assistance of Central Lyon's educational team. Some of these programs include all-day, everyday kindergarten and integrated technology programs for the elementary and middle school. A junior high concept developing into a middle school philosophy enhancing student success and responsibility

programs in the elementary and middle school are just some changes implemented during the time I have worked at Central Lyon. Thanks to all staff members for their dedication in providing a positive educational experience for all children.

Moving on, I plan to spend more time with my family, read good books, fish all day and not care if I catch a fish, and spend time helping kids.

Thanks Central Lyon parents for the privilege to have worked with your children and to have received your support over the years.



Mr. Olson is retiring after 17 years as a principal at Central Lyon.

Cooperation of School & Community is Vital

By Rhoda Lange, Visual Arts Teacher

In an effort to determine how much interaction and cooperation there is between the school and community, a five member committee consisting of John McDonald, Hank Grant, Sherwin Langholdt, Mark Swartz, and Rhoda Lange gathered information from businesses and school personnel. Here are the condensed, cross-section results of information they compiled.

COMMUNITY TO SCHOOL

- Rochelle Ebel, our Lyon County naturalist, presents science lessons for students at Premier Estates, RR Health Care Centre, and Lyon Manor.
- Third grade students tour the hospital and seventh grade students tour the court house.
- Water treatment and waste water treatment plants are toured by chemistry students.
- Numerous guest speakers and readers visit the elementary and high school.
- Local attorneys assist mock trial teams.
- Pizza Ranch and Pizza Hut provide free pizza for students and faculty during fall workshop, prom, and incentive programs throughout the school year.
- Jubilee donates supplies and assists programs.
- Community members hold mock interviews and serve on panels during May term.
- A community advisory group give input on the vocational program and Hall-of-Pride creation .
- G&D Baitshop has annually donated the 5th grade aquatic life and food for a fresh water pond.
- DGR conducts a tour of the facility after calculus and physics classes attend an engineering presentation.

SCHOOL TO COMMUNITY

- Elementary and high school classes frequently visit Lyon Manor and Rock Rapids Health Centre for seasonal activities, musical events, or monthly special friends.
- Service-learning, FFA, and elementary classes assist in spring clean-up in Doon and Rock Rapids.
- Classes or groups monthly attend and perform for Rock Rapids Dinner Date, community celebrations, and organizations.
- The FFA annually assist Natural Resources and Conservation Services with loading and unloading trees.
- The FFA is responsible for manure removal and the setting up /taking down curtains in the commercial exhibit hall during the Lyon Country Fair.
- The FFA cleans 7 miles of Adopt-A-highway on US 75 between Rock Rapids and Doon.
- Central Lyon provides community education classes.
- Work study students work with community mentors daily.
- The student council sponsors benefit dances, packages daffodils, and assists the PTC supper.
- Students in grades 2-7 display their talents for local and county groups, activities, and organizations --VFW, Heritage Days, hospital, Jubilee, Pizza Ranch, Pizza Hut, Soil Conservation, etc.
- Elementary students decorate Christmas trees for the post office and Frontier Bank.
- The FFA pooper -scoopers "bring-up-the-rear" during Heritage Days.

Be Like Mike

By Dan Snyder, Fifth Grade Teacher

Mike Klinkenborg visited our fifth grade class on November 25 and spoke to students for the *Character Counts* program. Mike talked about his responsibilities as a student and athlete at the University of Iowa.

He explained his daily schedule which begins everyday at 6:00 a.m. and finishes at 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. every night. Being a college student-athlete has many responsibilities. Even though few will become college athletes, all students should strive to display the character that Mike displays as a hard-working student.

Seeing Double

By Julie Boekhout
& Jaci VanVeldhuizen,
Kindergarten Teachers

If you've spent any time in the elementary classrooms this year, you may have thought that you were seeing double.

We're writing to tell you that you do not need to call for an eye exam because it's true, you **have** been seeing double! Central Lyon currently has five sets of twins in kindergarten through third grade. We would like to introduce them to you.

Jump Rope for Heart

By Toby Lorenzen,
K-7 Physical Education Teacher

The Central Lyon second and third grade students participated in the American Heart Association Jump Rope for Heart in March. The students collected donations for the activity, and then participated in a variety of jump roping activities in physical education classes during the first week of March. The students worked extremely hard to help raise money for the American Heart Association, and then worked hard in class jumping rope over a three day period to do their part. The students raised over \$1,700 for the Heart Association and the physical education program will receive \$150.00 back to spend on equipment.

In kindergarten, we have Nash and Mattie, twins of Dan and Rejean Knobloch, and Jordan and Phillip (Jr.) Fleming, twins of Kimberly Steenhoven. In first grade, we have Mackenzie and Nicholas, twins of Mark and Dana Lutmer. In second grade, we have Drew and Carter, twins of Rich and Denise Roskam. Finally, in third grade, we have Lexi and Kelsey, twins of Dave and Roxanne Ackerman. Their presence adds yet another very unique and special quality to Central Lyon.



Families with twins, starting at top left and going clockwise are the Lutmers, Ackermans, Roskams, Flemings, and Knoblochs.

BABES

By Lance Olson, Elementary/Middle School Principal

BABES (Beginning Alcohol and Addiction Basic Education Studies) is here at the Central Lyon Elementary School. The third grade has adopted new friends Buttons and Bows, McKitty, Myth Mary, Donovan Dignity, Responsible Reggie, Early Bird, and Rhonda Rabbit, along with the help of a certified presenter who is affiliated with the Northwest Iowa Alcoholism and Drug Treatment Unit, Inc.

As a primary prevention program, BABES is designed to facilitate individual development by providing accurate information to children while they are still forming attitudes regarding health-related matters. Its goal is to help young people develop healthy lifestyles.



The puppet stories include the following topics:

1. Self Image and Feelings
2. Decision Making and Peer Pressure and Positive Influence
3. Coping Skills
4. Alcohol and Other Drug Information
5. Getting Help, and Dignity is Important
6. Wrapping Up and Certification



Ask your third grade child about these new friends (pictured above.)

Rhythms

By Jan Null, Elementary Music Teacher

The third and fourth grade students recently performed at a fine arts concert April 29th.

The students featured *Character Counts* Songs, along with folk songs, spirituals, and others. They demonstrated their skills on the recorders; rhythms on the boom pipes, garbage cans and pails; and note-reading with xylophones, boomwhackers, and recorders.



Fourth graders create rhythms with alternative instruments.

Whopper Feed Update

By Pat Wiener, CLEA President

We, the Central Lyon Education Association, would like to thank everyone who attended the whopper feed in January. We had a successful fundraiser again this year, and our organization will be donating \$500.00 to the Central Lyon Foundation with part of the proceeds. We appreciate the continued support that we receive for this event and look forward to seeing you at our whopper feed fundraiser again next year.

Again, thanks for everything that you, the community, do for the Central Lyon School District.

Note-Worthy Dates

✓Baccalaureate	5/16
✓Awards Day (last day for seniors)	5/17
✓High School Fine Arts Festival	5/18
✓Commencement	5/23
✓All-School Play	5/25
✓ Last Day of School —1:00 dismissal	5/27
✓Staff Development	5/28
✓MS Band to Doon—Memorial Day	5/31
✓HS Band to Kansas City	5/28-31
✓Heritage Days	6/18-20
✓Historical Plaza Dedication —3:30 p.m.	6/19
✓Lyon County Fair	7/19-22
✓Registration for 2004-05 school year	8/10
✓Staff Development	8/23-24
✓ First Day of School (2004-2005)	8/25

School Board Recognition Week

May 9-15



Thank your local school board
members for leading students to
higher levels of achievement.