

## Farewell to Wilson High

By William Hutchinson,  
Superintendent

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The project involving the removal of the former high school building and the construction of a new facility to support the remaining gymnasium and fitness center is progressing slowly. School officials are waiting on notification of the historical significance of the old structure from the State Historical Society, as well as notification of the success of the city of Rock Rapids in their application for a Vision Iowa Grant to supplement the funding of the project.

As reported earlier, a federal Harkin Grant in the amount of \$623,711 provided the initial funding for the project. The grant amount will be matched with funds from the district's physical plant and equipment levy. Should the city be successful in obtaining all or part of the \$650,000 they requested, the project may be done in a more complete and timely manner. The project has been in the planning stages for over a year and may be completed during the 2003-2004 school year.



The old Central Lyon School was formerly known as Wilson High.

The new structure will include an office, rest rooms, locker rooms, storage rooms, and areas for common use by the school and community. All will be handicap accessible. Questions or comments about the project may be directed to the Central Lyon School at 712-472-2664.

## Green School Project Printer Cartridge Recycling

Our school has some exciting news. We've joined the Green School Project Empty Cartridge Recycling Program! This innovative new drop-off program provides a convenient location for collecting laser and ink jet cartridges while it raises funds for our school. Our school receives money (we have received our first check) for the cartridges we collect from parents, as well as local churches or business partners.

By Don Liefeld, Technology Coordinator

Here is how it works: Periodically, our school will mail the empty cartridges collected at our school to the GSP Offices. Those cartridges are counted, and the current market value (approximately \$1 per cartridge) is determined. The Green School Project will then cut a check to our school. So, the more recyclables we collect, the more money and educational programs we receive for our school.



An inkjet collection box, clearly marked and accessible during normal school hours, will be placed in each school office (Superintendent, Elementary/Middle School, and High School). You may drop off your recyclables whenever it is convenient for you. Acceptable laser and inkjet cartridges typically include various sizes of the following brands: HP, Canon, Sharp, and Lexmark. A complete list of accepted cartridges is available by calling 1-800-683-7975 or by visiting [www.greenschoolproject.com](http://www.greenschoolproject.com).

I hope you will start bringing your empty laser and inkjet cartridges to our school immediately to help raise funds. In addition, please urge your neighbors, employer, church, or civic groups to participate in the Green School Project School Recycling Program. Not only is this an easy way to raise funds, it also teaches our students valuable lessons about the variety of materials that can be recycled, and it helps them develop life-long patterns of recycling.

# Secondary Thoughts

By David Ackerman, Secondary (High School) Principal

Lately there has been an incredible amount of coverage and debate on the new legislation labeled No Child Left Behind, or NCLB. In a nutshell, NCLB amounts to volumes of mandates by the federal government for public schools which are meant to assure the public that schools are adequately preparing students. Included in the mandates are such things as: guidelines for testing procedures, assurances that all teachers are teaching in their certified area, guiding principles for religion in public schools, testing requirements and data analysis, as well as several other specific requirements for schools to prove they are educating students adequately.

When initially examining the mandates, it can seem overwhelming to a district to ensure that all the federal requirements are being met. The range of requirements is very large and diverse. The initial reaction of most public schools is one of dismay, as most of us believe we are

accomplishing everything that is being asked of us. In this day and age of data analysis, however, simply believing you are doing a sufficient job of educating is not enough; you must be able to prove it statistically.

“...simply believing you are doing a sufficient job of educating is not enough.”

At Central Lyon, we have chosen to embrace the challenge of NCLB requirements, in spite of the amount of work it requires.

With this attitude in mind, one of the major positives is the process of self-analysis that has taken place. Previously, when ITBS and ITED scores came back, scores and grade equivalents were noted, but not scrutinized. We now analyze our students’ scores, examine the questions on the test, and make curricular plans to improve the performance of

our students. This is but one example of the types of progress NCLB was meant to produce.

One critical note of NCLB is that, in spite of all the mandates on improving education, NCLB does not guarantee a personalized, quality education that comes from caring teachers who set high expectations. A good quality education is not the result of a school fulfilling government mandates. A quality education is the result of an educational environment that is positive and academic, teachers who are well prepared and who work hard to challenge students academically and behaviorally, students who come to school expecting to learn, and parents within a community who accept nothing less. In my biased opinion, Central Lyon is the model school legislators had in mind when they created NCLB. You can be proud, as I am, to have your children attend school here.

By Jan Meester,  
High School Speech Advisor

## “Speechies” End the Season with Two All-Staters

Senior Jared Soroka was presented with a plaque commemorating his four years of participation in Speech Large Group and Individual Events.



Central Lyon sent four entries to the large group state speech contest February 8. Two solo mimes (Nathan Karasch and Sara Leuthold) earned ‘I’ ratings. Two Group Improvisational Acting Groups (Matt Mulder, Nathan Karasch, Meah Knight, Anthony Folkens, and Kim Bos) earned ‘II’ ratings.

Most students began preparing for individual events before large group speech ended, and 14 students representing 17 entries advanced to state competition on March 22. Central Lyon came home with eleven ‘I’ ratings and six ‘II’ ratings. On March 24, the all-state honorees were announced, and Jared Soroka and Heather DeBey were named all-state performers.

Jared qualified for his fourth all-state appearance, this year for his Interpretive Prose selection, *Mustang Davey*. Heather qualified for her first appearance at the festival with her Public Address selection, *Cher’s Eulogy to Sonny Bono*.

This is a festival of the “best of the best,” and in order to be named to the all-state roster, students need to receive at least two votes from the three state judges. Unfortunately, the festival, which was to be held on April 7 at the University of Northern Iowa, was cancelled due to the weather.



The 14 state participants proudly show their state certificates.

**WAY TO GO, SPEECHIES!**

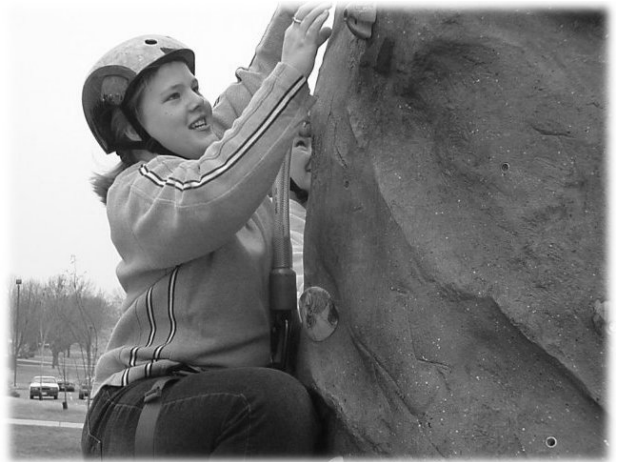
## Rock-Climbing

By Hank Grant, Physical Education Teacher

On March 19, the high school physical education program invited the Army National Guard from Sheldon to bring in a rock-climbing wall for junior and senior students at Central Lyon. Students learned how to climb the wall, as well as how to repel down the wall. Students wore safety gear and competed against each other by racing to the top of the wall.



Brad Schweitzer wins the race to the top against Dan Stewart.



Senior Alicia Wright gives rock-climbing a try.

## @ Your Library

By Cindy DeWandel,  
High School Media Center/  
Technology Coordinator

National Library Week was celebrated April 6-12. This year's theme was, once again, "@ Your Library." The theme is an open one, trying to point out the varied roles of the library media center and the many ways a library can deliver information. Patrons can read periodicals or books, use CD's, DVD's, or videos; or connect to the Internet. They can also create a PowerPoint presentation, word process, or assemble visual aides for a speech, all in the library media center. We deliver it all "@ the library."

In honor of National Library Week, the high school media center planned several activities. Students were encouraged to visit during study halls, where they could win a prize by guessing the number of candies in our treat jar. On Wednesday, we offered various fun activities ranging from NASCAR puzzles to board games. On Thursday and Friday students were allowed to watch *The Rookie*, a movie based on a book that the media center circulates. On Friday we enjoyed snacks while we finished watching the movie.

Even though the media center is often a quiet, working environment, at least once a year we can offer some fun "@ your library"!

## Lucky Dollar

By Rosie Lundquist,  
Drama Advisor

On April 4, the high school drama department presented *Lucky Dollar-Private Eye*, a spoof of the 1940's detective movies starring Nathan Karasch as Lucky Dollar. Lucky hadn't had a case in two years before he was hired to find the "Star of Persia." In his search, he ran into some truly goofy people; Montrose Hogsbreath, a.k.a. Dr. Fatman, and the knife-wielding Kimono, to name a few. The plot took the audience to the beach, the Mintworth Mansion, the insane asylum, and back to Lucky's office where he finally returned the "Star of Persia" to its rightful owner.

The cast and crew continued the tradition of interesting drama productions that entertain audiences and director Mrs. Lundquist appreciated their efforts.



Lucky's dream includes some crazy characters.



## Schedules

By Terry Tausz,  
High School Guidance Counselor

We are now in our May Term schedule and have completed our scheduling for next year. Parents, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning your student's schedule for next year.

## End of the Year

By Dan Kruse, Elementary/Middle School Counselor

It's hard to believe the end of the school year is near. It seems like just a few days ago we were returning from summer vacation. The end of the year is a busy time for the school, when there are field trips and outdoor activities taking place. Please look for letters and notes coming home that detail these activities.

I'd like to thank all of you for a great school year. We are so fortunate to live in a community that truly cares about education. Thanks again for your involvement.

## Senior Information

All seniors were given a handout that asked for some important "end of the year" information. One piece of information I need to know is the name of school(s) to which their final transcript should be sent.

I would also like to know any scholarships/awards that seniors may be receiving so that they can be recognized on Awards Day and on the graduation program insert. If they don't tell me, I can't acknowledge them. Please encourage your student to get this information to me.

## TATU Group

There are thirteen freshmen and sophomore students who joined a group called TATU (Teens Against Tobacco Use) in January. Their first step was to complete a one day training with students from George-Little Rock and West Lyon. Since then they have given some presentations in the elementary-middle school, and they plan to have a booth at the Lyon County Fair this summer.

The students involved in TATU are Jackie Jenkins, Ashley Lemon, Karli McDonald, Jessa Menning, Elizabeth Sayavong, Diana Steven, Sara Christians, Anthony Folkens, Julie Popkes, Jennifer Roemen, Jessica Rozeboom, Amy Tuenge, and Alissa VerSteeg. Staff advisors are Mel DeJong and Terry Tausz.

## Middle School Receives Technology Award

By Lance Olson, Elementary/Middle School Principal



Seventh grade students received their technology award in the ICN room.

Central Lyon middle school was the recent recipient of an award for their innovative use of technology. This technology award was presented by the Iowa Educational Technology and Training Institute at the University of Northern Iowa, Iowa Department of Education, and Iowa's Star School project.

Our middle school technology program, which has been in place for ten years, is very unique. "Tech. Ed." is required as a daily academic class for students in sixth through eighth grades. This year-long program has enabled our school to integrate technology across

the curriculum on a daily basis. Through an integration of technology and social studies, our seventh grade students were able to showcase our state government to elementary students through the use of multimedia.

This unit has a tremendous impact in areas other than technology. Through this project, the goal of introducing the students to our government and election process is fulfilled. The students are able to broaden their understanding of the government process and the importance of freedom. Reinforcing the knowledge learned by teaching the younger students is an added bonus.

A group of students was chosen to make technology presentations to the Rock Rapids Kiwanis Club on April 3, 2003, and will represent Central Lyon at the Iowa Association of School Boards convention in the fall of 2003.

# Seven Habits of Highly Responsible Students

By Lance Olson,  
Elementary/Middle School  
Principal

\* Information found in *The Parent Institute*.

The three R's are taught in school, but many parents and teachers would like to add a fourth - responsibility. They know that responsible students grow up to be responsible adults. As our school year draws to a close for the year, parents should consider the summer months ahead when students may be given more responsibility with less direct supervision. To help prepare students for these less supervised times, I would like to share information to help nurture responsible behavior.

## Seven Habits of Highly Responsible Students\*

### One - They set goals.

Goals keep kids focused on the future. Help your child set goals. Talk to your child about how much improvement she or he would like to see on this week's schoolwork. Goals help students focus on what's important and what's not. Students with goals find it easier to say "no" to irresponsible behaviors because they are saying "yes" to their vision of the future.

### Two - They plan their time.

Responsible people meet their obligations whether it's turning in a paper by the due day or arriving on time for a social event. Responsibility takes planning. Teach your children how to use a calendar to organize their time. Write down commitments and use the calendar to plan time for homework each day.

### Three - They study every day.

Learning the subject matter at school is the building block, one step at a time. The responsible students study every day. On days their teacher assigns no homework, the students "assign themselves."

## Invest in Education

The Central Lyon School Foundation Inc., a private non-profit organization, was established in January of 2001. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide, through tax deductible gifts, funds for academic and co-curricular programs. The mission of the foundation is to enhance quality education through educational opportunities, school facilities, technology, and service. We're making a good start and are very excited about the role the Foundation will be playing in Central Lyon's future.

At Central Lyon we are proud of the history of providing quality education for our students, and we will continue to strive to provide the educational programs that will help students to achieve their maximum. The tradition of investing in our future and our community is passed to others through organizations such as the Central Lyon School Foundation, Inc.

Some of the most common ways to contribute are gifts

### Four - They take notes in class.

Students who do well in class have one thing in common: they take notes in class. They have learned that teachers will always spell out what they think is important. Students then use these notes to review before a test and improve their grades.

### Five - They have the tools they need.

A carpenter wouldn't show up at work without a hammer. A doctor always has a stethoscope. But some students seem to think they can go to class without the pencil, paper, and other tools they need. Help your children understand the need to take what is needed to do their jobs.

### Six - They keep their commitments.

Responsible people honor their commitments to others and to themselves. They succeed in school by doing their assignments well and on time. They do their share of work in a group. They show up at athletic practice even if it is cold. Parents can teach commitment by example. Talk as a family about the commitments that have been made. Help students feel the satisfaction that comes from meeting their commitments at home and school.

### Seven - They get ready ahead of time.

Some students start the morning out in a rush, not knowing where their homework is or not having time for breakfast. Responsible students have learned that being on time or even being early is not something that happens without planning. They must make the choice. Parents, you can teach your children to take time before bed to get ready for the next day.

### ATTENTION PARENTS:

Ever hear the "I didn't hear the announcements" excuse?

In addition to Central Lyon staff reading daily announcements, they are now available on any Internet-connected computer at

[www.central-lyon.k12.ia.us](http://www.central-lyon.k12.ia.us)

(cash, securities, real or personal property), life insurance agreements, donations of education supplies & equipment, memorials, living trusts, life income contracts, testamentary trust and special gifts (class reunions & groups).

If you would like to be a part of this exciting future with a contribution or gift, perhaps in memory of someone, please contact a foundation board member or the Central Lyon Community School at 712-472-2664. Your gift is your investment in a planned tomorrow.

### Foundation Board Members

M.R. Austin - President	Jane Barker
Dave Foltz - Vice President	Kendall DeGroot
Karen Heitshusen - Secretary	Blair Metzger
Kenneth Mellema - Treasurer	Sue Vinson
	Cindy Wellein

# IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS UP TO ME!

By Lois Block, Second Grade Teacher

ELEMENTARY EDITION

On Wednesday, February 26, students in kindergarten through sixth grade were invited to a special assembly conducted by Primary Focus.

Centered in California, Primary Focus is a group of young people who put on an energetic program of singing and dancing to teach boys and girls about good character. They shared with us the six pillars of good character that everyone should try to follow. The six pillars are responsibility, trustworthiness, respect, caring, fairness, and citizenship.

A message they shared was, "Good character is up to each one of us through our personal choices."



High energy character building group performs for students.



Staff member Ina Faye Hilbrands demonstrates sign language.

## Signs and Signals

By Lois Block, Second Grade Teacher

Puff...Flash....Bang! Signs and signals are a big part of our day. Each year in second grade we take a look at signs and signals and how they help us communicate!

Ina Faye Hilbrands, a Central Lyon employee, came to share a very special form of signals used for communication. She speaks with her hands using sign language. She shared with the second graders how to make different signs with her hands and fingers. Ina Faye had a special reason for learning these signs. Her daughter is deaf; therefore, she needed to learn to communicate with her daughter. The students were very lucky to have Mrs. Hilbrands come and show them first hand the wonderful world of sign language and the important use of it in the life of her family.

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 ( In Morse code this says, " Have a good day"!)

By Mel DeJong,  
 School Nurse

## Athletic Physicals

### Attention parents of children involved in sports:

Annual physicals are a requirement for all students participating in school athletics (including bowling). Do NOT forget to have your child get his or her athletic physical this summer.

The local clinic offers a special price for athletic physicals, provided you get them at the time offered. Watch the newspaper or listen to the radio for the special time set aside, as you will be charged the full price if you miss this opportunity.

NEWS FROM OUR  
 NURSE

## Meeting Our Pen Pals

By Pat Wiener, Fifth Grade Teacher

For the past ten years, Central Lyon fifth grade students have been participating in a pen pal project with students from Sioux Center. At the beginning of the year, students from each school are matched and assigned a pen pal for the year. They correspond with letters throughout the year, delivered via the AEA 4 van, making the program cost efficient since no postage is necessary.

The highlight of this program occurs in May when the students are given the opportunity to meet their pen pals. The students gather at a park (alternating each year between Rock Rapids and Sioux Center) for a half a day. They enjoy a sack lunch together and then have time to partake in various games and activities. The students seem to enjoy the time they can spend together. This is a program that we feel has been very successful and beneficial to students from both schools, and our hope is to continue it for many years to come.



# Big Results From Box Tops For Education

By Jackie McCarty, Central Lyon PTC



Throughout the year, our students, families, and community members have been participating in the General Mills Box Tops for Education program. This year the Central Lyon Community School District received \$280 to purchase classroom supplies from this program. That total is \$125 more than last year's! Thank you to everyone who participated in the Box Tops fundraiser and to Mrs. Metzger's fifth grade class for their help preparing the Box Tops for shipment.

Don't stop now! Please continue to clip Box Tops and send them to Central Lyon Community School. You will find Box Top coupons on hundreds of products by Pillsbury, Green Giant, Totino's, Progresso, Old El

Paso, Gold Medal, Mills' Big G cereals, Fruit Snacks, Betty Crocker, Yoplait yogurt, and many others. For a complete list of participating products visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). The school receives ten cents for each Box Top redeemed.

When you shop online, you can also generate funds for the school by shopping at the Box Tops for Education Marketplace at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). Designate "Central Lyon Elem Sch" as the school of choice and shop at over 100 participating stores such as Barnes & Noble.com, Eddie Bauer.com, and PET'sMart.com. Up to 10% of the qualifying purchase price will go to the Central Lyon Community School.

## Lewis & Clark

By Jan Null, Elementary Music Teacher

A new version of a musical, *Iowa History Featuring Lewis and Clark*, was created and presented on March 12 by fifth grade students at Central Lyon. By producing their own version of this musical, the students became active learners, discovering the exciting truths about these essential figures in Iowa and American history. Our research helped find the facts presented in script and song.

Characters such as Thomas Jefferson, Lewis, Clark, Sacajawea, York, Charbonneau, Livingston, Monroe, and Napoleon Bonapart came alive through the *Lewis and Clark Expedition*. The Iowa story that began with a village of Mound Native Americans included characters such as Julien DuBuque, Father Marquette, Governor Lucas, Nile Kinnick, Fred Maytag, and Bix Beiderbecke.

It was a fun and educational experience that stimulated the students' interest in history, research, music, drama, and teamwork.



Fifth grade students in the musical, *Lewis & Clark*.

## "Whopper Feed" a Success

By Pat Wiener, CLEA President

The Whopper Feed sponsored by Central Lyon Education Association on January 10 was a success. CLEA was able to donate \$500 to the Central Lyon Foundation and will increase the amount of its annual scholarship. We would like to thank the community for their support of this event.

We are also planning on making this an annual event and would appreciate your continued support in future years. Again, thanks for everything that you, the community, do for our school district.

### Note-Worthy Dates

- ✓ **Early Dismissal**—Teacher Inservice 5/5
- ✓ Middle School Fine Arts Festival 5/7
- ✓ Baccalaureate 5/11
- ✓ School Board Meeting 5/12
- ✓ Title I Spring Picnic 5/13
- ✓ **Last Day for Seniors** 5/15
- ✓ Retirement Open House 5/15
- ✓ Commencement 5/18
- ✓ High School Fine Arts Festival 5/20
- ✓ **Last Day of School** —1:00 Dismissal 5/23
- ✓ School Board Meeting 6/9
- ✓ Heritage Days 6/21

### Heritage Days Basketball Tournament

Plan now to attend or participate in the annual Heritage Days three-on-three basketball tournament on Saturday, June 21.

The rules remain the same as in past years. A maximum of five players per team is allowed on the roster, with a maximum height limit of 6’5” in the high school boys’ and men’s divisions. Teams should wear similar colored shirts, and games will be twelve minutes in length. Awards will be given to first place teams in each division. Divisions have been expanded to include boys and girls in fourth through sixth grade.

Divisions	Team Entry Fee
Boys Grades 4-6	\$15
Girls Grades 4-6	\$15
Boys Grades 7-8	\$25
Girls Grades 7-8	\$25
Boys High School	\$25
Girls High School	\$25
Men	\$25
Women	\$25

Entry forms must be returned by June 15 and are available at the CAC office (472-3456).

