

# NEVADA NEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEVADA  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL

## REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS

NCSD is 13th District  
in state to offer  
Registered  
Apprenticeships

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# NMS AT 30 YEARS

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## FFA UPDATE

Learn about the latest FFA  
happenings

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**FALL/WINTER 2019**



# MIDDLE SCHOOL APPROACHES 30TH BIRTHDAY WITH FACILITY ASSESSMENT

The Nevada Community School District has turned to the Iowa Construction Advocate Team (ICAT) for a facility assessment at Nevada Middle School. The ICAT program is a collaboration of the Iowa School Board Association and Estes Construction which uses a construction management approach to provide greater efficiencies to Iowa school districts in regard to potential facility needs.

As Nevada Middle School (1990) approaches its 30th year, issues regarding the heating/cooling system and roof are among the District's top facility concerns. Superintendent Dr. Steve Gray indicated that, "we've had some major concerns over these issues for a few years now and we are getting beyond the point of continual repair. We know that we're on borrowed time when it comes to the heating/cooling and roof and we have been putting ourselves in a financial position to address the Middle School facility needs".



Facility renovations at Central Elementary (2007) and Nevada High School (2013) also addressed similar concerns with the installation of geothermal heating/cooling systems, energy efficient lighting, roof repairs, etc. At a minimum, the District is interested in looking at similar energy efficient upgrades at the Middle School and has been retiring debt from the previous renovations ahead of schedule to gain the financial capacity to address the Middle School issues.

Estes Construction will be developing a complete assessment of facility, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing at the Middle School throughout the fall. The School Board anticipates a full report by category, degree of urgency, and range of costs by the first of the year.

## AVERAGE ACT SCORES

Grad	Tested	English		Math		Reading		Science		Composite	
		District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State
2015	58	23.2	21.6	21.9	21.5	24.2	22.7	23.3	22.3	23.4	22.2
2016	69	22.3	21.4	21.2	21.4	23.5	22.7	22.6	22.3	22.6	22.1
2017	73	20.2	21.2	20.0	21.3	21.7	22.6	21.1	22.1	20.9	21.9
2018	69	20.9	21.0	20.4	21.2	21.8	22.5	21.8	22.0	21.4	21.8
2019	75	22.1	20.8	21.6	21.0	23.9	22.3	22.7	21.8	22.7	21.6



# SALES TAX REVENUE PURPOSE STATEMENT ELECTION

In May 2019, the State Legislature and Governor approved a law extending the Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE) law through the calendar year 2050. SAVE will allow the Nevada Community School District to borrow against the statewide penny sales tax revenue to help fund school infrastructure projects. The passage of the SAVE extension will positively impact the District for generations. With the extension of the law, some changes have been made as to how SAVE funding can be used and the process School Boards must undertake to use these funds.

In September 2008, citizens of the District approved a Sales Tax Revenue Purpose Statement for SAVE funds to run through January 2031. The citizens of the District must vote soon on a new Sales Tax Revenue Purpose Statement to use the new SAVE funds referred to above which will start in 2031 and run to 2050 including any debt issued for these funds. In 2020, these elections can be held on Tuesday, March 3 or Tuesday, September 1. The Sales Tax Revenue Purpose Statement will not increase property taxes. The Sales Tax Revenue Purpose Statement is as specified: for sales tax revenues only. These revenues upon approval of the Sales Tax Revenue Purpose Statement will be used for the following:

- Property Tax Relief
- To build and furnish a new school building or buildings; to build and furnish additions to school buildings in the District; to remodel, repair, expand, and improve the school buildings in the District; to purchase and improve grounds; for demolition work; to furnish and equip District facilities.
- To purchase, lease or lease-purchase of buildings or equipment (including transportation, technology, and recreation equipment) as authorized by law, to implement energy conservation measures, sharing or rental of facilities, procuring or acquisition of libraries, or opening roads to schoolhouses or buildings.
- To make emergency repairs to respond to natural disasters, such as fire, wind damage, flood; unanticipated mechanical, plumbing, structural, roof, electric system failures; environmental remediation; or to respond to changes in demographics that require construction of additions or improvements to school buildings or new school buildings.
- For the payment of principal and interest or retirement of general obligation bonds issued for school infrastructure purposes, energy improvement loans, loan agreements authorized by Iowa law, sales, service and use tax revenue bonds issued by the District under Iowa law.

Over the life of the SAVE law, the District expects it will need these revenues for any of the above. Of current concern is repairs and remodeling of the Middle School facility, which is now 30 years old.

## MARCHING BAND COMPETES

On Saturday October 12 the Nevada Cub Pride Marching Band traveled to Dodger Stadium in Fort Dodge for the Iowa High School Music Association State Marching Band Festival. Nevada Cub Pride Marching Band received a rating of Excellent while performing in very cold and windy conditions. The panel of judges gave the Nevada Cub Pride Marching Band its highest scores since 2013. Congratulations to the band and parents who made the Bruno Mars show a great success!



# NEVADA CSD BECOMES 13TH IOWA SCHOOL DISTRICT TO OFFER REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS

Nevada Community School District recently joined 12 other districts across Iowa in developing a Registered Apprenticeship Program in conjunction with the US Department of Labor. Registered Apprenticeship programs have gained attention recently as they are one of many programs being supported by Governor Kim Reynolds's Future Ready Iowa Initiative. The need for skilled workers

across Iowa continues to grow and one way to hopefully meet that need is by creating Registered Apprenticeship Programs. We are fortunate in Nevada to be able to offer this opportunity to our students, which we wouldn't be able to do without great local business partners such as ALMACO in Nevada and PMI in Ames.

## Iowa School Districts with Registered Apprenticeships

North Scott  
Davenport  
DM Public  
Clinton  
Greene County  
Winterset  
Clear Lake  
Pella  
Boone  
West Delaware  
Muscatine  
West Des Moines  
Nevada

Working with ALMACO and PMI we have created an apprenticeship program in Welding. Students from across Story County who take classes at Nevada's welding facility will complete required course work offered by DMACC and then apply those skills as an apprentice at ALMACO or PMI. Students who apply and are selected to be an apprentice will ideally begin working full time (40 hours per week for 8 weeks) the summer of their Junior-year under the supervision of a mentor. Apprentices will have to learn and demonstrate mastery of on the job skills that ALMACO and PMI have identified in order to successfully completed the apprenticeship program. During the student's Senior-year they will attend school part-time and continue to work part-time as they continue to acquire the skills needed to be a full-time employee. Each apprentice will also be evaluated on "Behavioral" competencies and will earn regular pay

increases as they continue to develop and demonstrate these skills.

The District is also partnering with Boone to provide a similar opportunity to students at Fareway for meat-cutting and will be exploring apprenticeship possibilities for Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA), agriculture-related careers, and mechanical assembly. Pre-apprenticeship opportunities are also being explored. For more information, contact Justin M. Gross, Associate Superintendent.

## DON'T FORGET YOUR FLU SHOT!

Please consider getting your annual flu shot. Flu symptoms can come up quickly: high fever, headache, extreme fatigue, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose and muscle aches. The flu shot is safe and effective for ages 6 months and older.

Keep your students home from school:

1. Vomiting or diarrhea (must be 24 hours without the use of medication)
2. Severe cough and or uncontrolled cough.
3. Unexplained skin rash or eruptions.
4. Swelling, redness, thick drainage and discomfort of the eyes.
5. Any communicable diseases. If your child is started on an antibiotic please keep home until taking the medication for 24 hours.
6. Oral temperature of 100 degrees and above. (must be fever free without the use of medication before they can return to school).





# HS STUDENT COUNCIL

The high school student council hit the ground running this school year helping incoming students find their way around the high school at orientation, donating their time at Harmony Closet, and planning and helping with homecoming activities including hallway decorations, the dodgeball tournament, fireworks at half-time, and the dance at the high school. We realize we could not have done any of it without the help of several staff members, parents, volunteers and donors. We would like to thank the many who went out of their way to help us with these activities including the following:

Mr. Asmus and Mr. Smith for planning and supervising many of the activities; Mr. Brown for leading Simon Says; Mr. Stufflebeem, Miss Kane, Mr. Smith, Mr. Beauchene, and Mrs. Grimm for refereeing the dodgeball tournament; Miss Weber for running the clock at the dodgeball tournament; Mr. Wakeman for printing our dodgeball bracket; Mrs. Gindt, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Grimm, Mrs. Huse, Mrs. Heintz, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Donelley, Mrs. Tanner, Mr. Mittman, Mrs. Skage, Mr. Schaeffer, Mrs. Tscherter, Mrs. Wessels, Mrs. Huegerich, Mrs. Trygstad, Mrs. Wheelock, Mrs. DeYoung, and Mrs. Kaloupek for supervising the parade; the military for bringing activities for students to do Friday; all the staff who supervised seminar activities Tuesday and Thursday as well as homecoming activities Friday and the dance Saturday; the lunch staff for moving their equipment to the concessions stand for lunch Friday; the custodians for setting up all of our events and cleaning up afterward; Mr. Baethke and the Nevada Fire Department for assisting with the fireworks show at half-time; and those who donated to the fireworks fund, which included Hetzler and Rhodes, Nevada Community PTA, Nevada Boosters, Allen Kockler, and Bob Mittman.

If we missed anyone, we are truly sorry. As you can see, it took many hands to make homecoming happen for the students and community. Thank you so much for all of your help.

## NEVADA NERDS ANONYMOUS

Nevada Nerds Anonymous is Nevada High School's First Tech Challenge Team, a student-run robotics team.

The 2018/19 Season was their fourth season as a team, and they have been able to accomplish some amazing things including 2 seasons of advancing to state competition placing 7th out of 24 teams.

On July 11th, they presented a summer program to over 20 children at the Nevada Public Library including a demonstration and hands-on fun where the attendees created inventions of their own out of LEGO parts and pieces.

On August 18th, the team was given the opportunity to host a booth at the Iowa State Fair where they set up the competition field and robot, along with other state representatives of the First Tech Challenge organization, FIRST. The students also got to speak with the Governor and Lieutenant Governor about the team.

### Upcoming Competitions:

**November 2nd - NMS; November 16th - NMS; November 23rd - Johnston HS; December 7th - TBD; January 4th - League Championships @ NHS**





NevadaFFA



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# NEVADA FFA UPDATE

## HORNBUCKLE ATTENDS WORLD FOOD PRIZE IN DES MOINES

Eliana Hornbuckle, Nevada High School senior, participated in the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute last week in Des Moines. Kevin Cooper, Nevada High School agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor, accompanied Hornbuckle and participated in the entire conference. The institute began on the evening of Wednesday, October 16th, with a reception at the Hilton Hotel in Des Moines and culminated at the Corteva Carver Center in Johnston on Saturday, October 19th. Highlights of the conference included presentations from renowned scientists, global leaders, including the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the presentation of the 2019 World Food Prize. Particularly interesting topics included retail food waste reduction, effects of climate change on crop yields and the impact of agriculture on the economies of developing nations. "I was so impressed with the variety of topics, depth, and scope of this conference, extremely thought provoking!" added Cooper. Excursions to the Polk County Landfill and an urban garden were also note-worthy events.



Hornbuckle first attended the Iowa Youth Institute at Iowa State University in late April. Based on her submitted paper and presentation which focused on food waste in India, she was selected to attend the Global Youth Institute. Both events are sponsored by the World Food Prize to ensure a promising future for the world by inspiring the next generation of agricultural researchers and leaders. This year marked the 22nd Global Youth Institute, which is now a renowned educational program.

In total, 215 students from thirty-four states and ten countries attended this year's Global Youth Institute. Students selected a developing country and factor affecting food insecurity to be the topic of their research papers. In addition to their research, students proposed a solution to help eliminate world hunger. By encouraging and supporting the ideas of youth, the world is one step closer to ending global hunger.





# CENTRAL GARDENING

Central students love gardening. The Central garden is located behind the Lutheran Church in Nevada. The multi-age classes and the kindergarten classes each have a garden bed to care for. The garden year has come to a close for this season. Central students noticed this year that the garden is a little run down. The garden is not producing very well because of rabbits and weeds. We want to fix this problem so we produce more food for the community. Food is shared with the community through the Food at First program. We received a grant from the Nevada School Foundation to build a new fence. Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Knott's classes are working with Frank Engstrom, an eighth grader working on his Eagle Scout badge, to construct the fence. Other classrooms will be working on new signs, a new name, and decorations for the garden. Students and teachers would like to thank the Nevada School Foundation for their help in making our projects a success!

--The Central Student Garden Committee

## 7TH GRADE TRIP TO Y CAMP

An overnight field trip might sound like a dream gone wrong for many, but for the 7th grade staff at NMS, it is the two days they look forward to the most of the entire year. At such a pivotal age where relationships are the key to success, the trip to Boone's Y-Camp, or the YMCA of Greater Des Moines, is a staple of a 7th grader's year at Nevada.

October 3rd and 4th marked the days where "school" took a new form for the 7th grade students. They loaded busses with their sleeping bags packed in a trailer and headed west on Highway 30 for two days of jam-packed outdoor education. Not only is this a breath of fresh air for students and staff to go somewhere else and learn, but it is also a chance for students to experience phenomena and the beauty of nature that they may have never spent time with before.



While being outdoors and learning is a definite highlight, the reason this trip is such a success is because of the relationship building that takes place. From eating meals family style together to cabin time, it's an opportunity for memory-making. Each adult chaperone gets a cabin that they have the unique and special opportunity to get to know in a "camp" setting. Cabins will play games, chit chat into the night, and create bonds. This not only makes for a memorable trip, but the relationships that are formed transcend into the classroom.

While at camp, students took five different classes, which included:

**Stream Ecology** - Students learned how to take samples from streams and use materials to identify if a stream was polluted or not by identifying wildlife.



**Atlatl** - Students learned how people "back in the old days" hunted wooly mammoths

**Fire** - Students learned how to build three different types of fires and how to start them.

**Survival** - Students were able to build their own survival hut in the woods.

**Soil** - Students took soil samples from the ground and were able to learn how to identify what particles were in the soil and what types of soils were around!

Closing with special activities like archery and fishing to hiking and outdoor cooking, students ended a packed two days with smiles on their faces.





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## ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

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Brian Schaeffer	Business Manager	382-2783	Dustin Smith	HS AP/ Activities Dir	382-3521
Joe Wakeman	Director of Technology	382-2783	Lisa Hartman	MS Principal	382-2751
David Kroese	Dir. of Bldg. & Grounds	382-2783	Tony Sneiderman	MS AP/ Activities Dir	382-2751
Chris Burling	NCRC Director	382-1600	Chris deNeui	Elem. Principal	382-2383
Jason Sampson	Dir. of Transportation	382-4067	Travis Temple	Elem. Assistant Prin	382-2383
Candy Anderson	Dir. of Food Services	382-2783	Justin Gross	Assistant Supt	382-2783