

From the Superintendent's Desk

SUBMITTED BY FRANK JESSE, CHAMBERS PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

As a continuation of our Collective Effort highlights this year, November is focused on the district's support personnel. Without these elite individuals our district would not be as strong as it is.

I would like to start off by recognizing the collective effort in our food service program. Ms. Stone and Ms. Bahm continue to do incredible things in the cafeteria. The average number of students and faculty eating on a daily basis is over 100. Ms. Stone and Ms. Bahm are always quick to greet everyone in the cafeteria with a smile and friendly conversation. Two hidden gems that work closely with the food program are Nick Waldo and Jamie Tomjack. They work behind the scenes ensuring the school always has beef available for the lunch program. Without their efforts, the lunch menu would look drastically different.

We are also very thankful for our bus drivers. Without them, getting our students safely to school and to all the various activities would be an obstacle that we could not overcome. The district has three regular route drivers; Mr. DeKay, Mr. Metschke, and Mr. Hubenka. On good days, they start driving around 7:00 a.m., but their day starts significantly earlier than that to ensure the bus is in good operating condition. Days of inclement weather put additional stress on driving the routes. We are fortunate to have Mr. Gary Halsey as a substitute driver, but one could easily mistake him for a regular driver due to all the miles he accumulates. Late last spring the district also found the proverbial needle in the haystack with the hiring of Mrs. Patty Franssen. She has been an exceptional addition as a para-educator, but she also has her CDL endorsement and has stepped in as a substitute bus driver! These five amazing individuals are literally the grease that keeps the wheels turning.

Mrs. Knox has only been on the job as administrative assistant for about 10 weeks, but you would never know that by looking at her productivity and enthusiasm. She has been a quick study and has already established herself with the students and faculty. Her organizational skills and ability to multi-task are impeccable. From running attendance and progress reports, monitoring the lunch program, managing the activity accounts, and answering the phone, her performance has been fantastic.

As I advance in age, it seems like every day something new is bruised, swollen or generally achy. Similarly, the elementary building is nearing 100 years old and the "new" addition is nearly 50 years old, and between the two there always seems to be something that needs extra attention. As the buildings continue to age, it takes more time to keep them in good working order. Mr. Vince Burrell

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has been critical in this aspect. From the urinal that won't stop leaking, setting up the cafeteria, mowing, general cleaning of the facilities and his all-time favorite activity...snow removal! The district continues to advertise for a part-time custodian. We are extremely thankful for Lindsey Metschke and Deb McManigal for providing additional help last year and Mrs. McManigal currently continues to assist two days a week. Their collective effort to keep our building safe and in good repair and sets the tone for the learning environment each day.

The final collective effort shout-out in this edition belongs to Mrs. Waldo. Officially her title is Business Manager, but that does not do justice to the importance or impact she has in the building. One of the best quotes about Mrs. Waldo is from the district's auditor from last year, "Katie is worth her weight in gold; she does an amazing job." I could easily list all the individual tasks she performs, but this article would be significantly longer. Instead, I will just say that Mrs. Waldo is invaluable to this school, and we are lucky to have her.

Collectively, all these individuals have such an enormous impact that the school would be in complete disarray without them. If you have the chance, please let them know how much you appreciate their collective effort on behalf of our district.

I want to remind everyone that there is no school for students on Monday, November 2nd as the faculty will be working with several other districts on professional development. We are canceling classes for students on Tuesday, November 17 due to hosting conference One-Act play. Finally, as a reminder there is no school on November 25, 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving break.

A Note from Mrs. Stech

SUBMITTED BY MRS. STECH

Hello everyone, and happy fall! The band has finished up a successful marching season earning 1st place at the WSC band day parade in class D2, 4th place by one point at the state parade festival, and a superior rating at Minden Band Fest. The hard work isn't done yet. The band is in the midst of preparing eight pieces of music for their spotlight series performance at this year's Nebraska Music Education Association conference on Thursday, November 19th. The students are presenting a varied program that showcases the versatility of small school bands, and we could not be prouder of their accomplishment. The band will have a busy November with Battle of the Bands on the 3rd, Veteran's day on the 11th, and the NMEA performance on the 19th.

The junior high music students have been exploring instruments from around the world and placing them on the map for our instrument of the day! They're also practicing their writing skills with music-related prompts at the beginning of every class. They've expressed their opinion on the music their parents listen to, chosen a song they would play to help an alien understand Earth, and wondered who would play what if their family ever started a band. Our elementary students are focused on the elements of music and have begun rehearsing for the Christmas concert by the time you're reading this. One of their favorite fall activities has been playing and singing Pass the Pumpkin. The Christmas concert will be on Tuesday, December 15th at 7pm for all K-12 music students. We look forward to seeing the community at all of our upcoming performances.

CHILDFIND NOTICE

This notice to inform the patrons of Chambers Public Schools that Public law 94-142 and Nebraska Rules 51 and 52 mandate that a free, appropriate public education is available to each child with a disability, 0-21 years of age, who resides in a local school district.

Child Find for Special Education Services

The Chambers Public School asks you to assist us in our childfind efforts. This is an ongoing statewide search for all unserved children with disabilities, ages birth through 21. If you know of a child who is experiencing difficulties with motor development, speech and language, vision, hearing or learning, please refer the parent to the number below. The Chambers Public School District will provide an educational evaluation at no cost to the parent. If the child qualifies under Nebraska law, a free and appropriate educational program will be developed to meet his/her educational needs. To contact us, please call Mr. Frank Jesse (Supt.) at 402.482.5233.

From the Desk of Mr. Firley

SUBMITTED BY MR. FIRLEY, 7-12 PRINCIPAL & ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

ACADEMIC FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER

Maintaining Academic Momentum: As we move further into the second quarter, teachers and students are focused on maintaining strong academic habits and building on the progress made throughout the first quarter. Students are encouraged to stay organized, complete assignments on time, and continue putting forth their best effort.

Monitoring Student Progress: Teachers continue to monitor student performance and identify areas where additional support may be needed. Communication between students, teachers, and families remains an important part of helping students succeed.

Collective Effort: Our school-wide theme of Collective Effort continues to remind us that success is achieved when everyone contributes. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning while supporting their classmates and school community.

Preparing for the End of the Semester: With the first semester coming to a close in December, November is an important time for students to review their academic standing and make improvements before semester assessments.

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 2 – No School (Teacher Inservice)

Nov. 11 – Veterans Day

Nov. 17 – NVC West Play Production (Hosted at Chambers)

Nov. 25-27 – No School (Thanksgiving Break)

Please continue to check the Chambers Public School calendar, website, and school communications for confirmed school dismissal dates, activity schedules, and any changes throughout the month.

FALL ACTIVITIES WRAP UP & WINTER ACTIVITIES BEGIN

November is a month of transition for our Chambers-Wheeler Central athletic programs as fall sports conclude and winter activities begin.

Fall Sports Recognition: Congratulations to our Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball athletes and coaches on their dedication throughout the fall season. We appreciate the hard work, commitment, and sportsmanship demonstrated by everyone involved.

Winter Sports Preparation: Our Boys and Girls Basketball teams will begin preparing for their upcoming seasons. We look forward to another exciting winter of CWC athletics and encourage our community to continue supporting the Renegades.

One-Act Play: Our students involved in One-Act are preparing for upcoming performances and competitions. We appreciate the time and effort these students and sponsors put into representing our school.

FFA, FCCLA & Music: Our student organizations and music programs continue to provide opportunities for leadership, creativity, competition, and community involvement.

Thank you to our coaches, sponsors, families, and community members for supporting our students and helping make these opportunities possible.

PARENT TIPS

Check JMC Regularly: With the semester moving quickly, continue monitoring your student's grades, missing assignments, and attendance.

Encourage Academic Responsibility: Remind students to communicate with teachers, ask questions, and take ownership of their academic progress.

Maintain Consistent Routines: As the weather gets colder and schedules become busier, consistent routines for homework, sleep, and attendance are especially important.

Recognize Student Growth: Take time to celebrate your student's accomplishments, whether they are academic achievements, improvements in behavior, or successes in extracurricular activities.

Practice Gratitude: November is a great opportunity to encourage students to show appreciation for their teachers, classmates, coaches, families, and others who support them.

FINAL THOUGHTS

November is a great time to reflect on the many things we have to be thankful for at Chambers Public School. We are fortunate to have dedicated teachers and staff, hardworking students, supportive families, and a community that continues to invest in our school.

As we transition from fall activities into the winter season and move closer to the end of the first semester, our focus remains on academic growth, student involvement, and creating a positive school environment.

Our theme of Collective Effort reminds us that every individual plays an important role in our success. Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to making Chambers Public School a great place to learn and grow.

Let's have a great November, and Happy Thanksgiving!

Counselor's Corner

SUBMITTED BY MRS. POSPICHAL, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

I am excited to share lots of upcoming events with you this month.

On October 21, many students in grades 9-12 attended Avera SCRUBS camp in O'Neill. This camp gave students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with numerous healthcare careers.

The registration date for the December 12, 2026, ACT Test is November 6, 2026. Students qualifying for Free and Reduced Lunch can receive a payment waiver. Please have students visit with me to receive this waiver. Students may register for the test at <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>.

All students in grades 8-11 will attend the Northeast Community College Career Exploration Day at the O'Neill campus on Friday, November 13.

The 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opened in September. There will be a FAFSA Completion Day hosted by Northeast Community College on Tuesday, November 3. Appointments are required. Please call Katie Andrew at 402-336-3590 to make an appointment.

If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at 402-482-5233 or email me at gpospichal@chamberspublic.org

The Beauty of Math

SUBMITTED BY MRS. BUTTERFIELD

Math is much more than numbers and equations. It is a way of understanding patterns, solving problems, and making sense of the world around us. From calculating a grocery bill to designing bridges, math plays an important role in everyday life.

One fascinating aspect of math is that it appears throughout nature. The spirals of seashells, the arrangement of flower petals, and even the branching of trees often follow mathematical patterns. These patterns help scientists better understand the natural world.

Math also helps develop critical thinking skills. When students work through a problem, they learn persistence, logic, and creativity. Often there is more than one way to arrive at the correct answer, encouraging flexible thinking and confidence.

Whether you're solving a puzzle, managing a budget, or exploring the stars, math provides the tools to succeed. The next time you encounter a math problem, remember you're not just working with numbers, you're building skills that last a lifetime.

CHAMBERS BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Education of Chambers Public Schools was convened in open and public session on October 19, 2026, in Room 1 at Chambers Public Schools, 201 S. A Street, Chambers, Nebraska. The roll was called, and the following Board members were present: Jamie Tomjack, Terry Kamphaus, Monte Metschke, Amy Scott, and Brady Dexter. Also present was Frank Jesse, Superintendent.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication on the Chambers Public School's website on October 12, 2026, and thereafter in the Holt County Independent and Sandhills Times on October 14, 2026. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice, and a current copy of the agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie Tomjack at 7:00p.m. Motion by Brady Dexter, seconded by Monte Metschke to excuse the absence of Terry Kamphaus and Jon Sladek. Motion carried, 4-0. Aye: Dexter, Metschke, Scott, Tomjack. Nay: 0. Kamphaus and Sladek absent.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

At the beginning of this meeting, the Chair announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall of Room 1.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Terry Kamphaus arrived at 7:01pm.

Motion by Monte Metschke, seconded by Terry Kamphaus, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 5-0. Aye: Dexter, Kamphaus, Metschke, Scott, Tomjack. Nay: 0. Jon Sladek absent.

Visitors were invited to share public comments.

- Christopher King

Consent Agenda

Motion by Terry Kamphaus, seconded by Brady Dexter, to approve all items on the consent agenda as provided. After discussion and roll call vote the motion carried, 5-0. Aye: Dexter, Kamphaus, Metschke, Scott, Tomjack. Nay: 0. Jon Sladek absent.

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS: \$65,571.12

HOT LUNCH CLAIMS: \$4,344.53

PAYROLL: \$200,088.03

Student Council

No Student Council report was given.

Teacher Report

Mrs. Haburchak gave the Elementary teacher report. No JH/HS teacher report was given.

Counselor Report

Mrs. Pospichal gave the counselor report.

Principal/Activity Report

Mr. Firley gave a written principal/activity report.

Superintendent Report and Recommendations

Mr. Jesse gave the superintendent report.

- Strategic Plan
- Professional Development
- Superintendent Evaluation
- Nebraska Public Media News

Board of Education Development

New Business

- A. Motion by Monte Metschke, seconded by Amy Scott, to approve Board Policy 3004.1 – Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds. Motion carried, 5-0. Aye: Dexter, Kamphaus, Metschke, Scott, Tomjack. Nay: 0. Jon Sladek absent.
- B. Discussed Rule 10 Safety Visit Review.

Topics for Next Month's Agenda: Audit Presentation, Computer Science Report, Superintendent Evaluation, Policy 5158 (Foreign Exchange Students)

Adjournment

Motion was made by Amy Scott, seconded by Terry Kamphaus to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm on October 19, 2026. Motion carried, 5-0. Aye: Dexter, Kamphaus, Metschke, Scott, Tomjack. Nay: 0. Jon Sladek absent. The meeting was duly adjourned.

American Civics Meeting: November 16, 2026 @ 6:45pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting: November 16, 2026 @ 7:00pm.

_____, Secretary
Amy Scott

This is a draft copy of the Board of Education minutes that does not become official until approved by the Board.

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends Open Roads Run Club @ 5:30 p.m.	2 NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service	3 Election Day Battle of the Bands @ Tilden	4 State VB Tournament @ Lincoln Pre-District Livestock Judging @ Antelope Co. Fairgrounds NHS Blood Drive from 12:00-6:00 p.m.	5 State VB Tournament @ Lincoln	6 State VB Tournament @ Lincoln	7 State VB Tournament @ Lincoln
8 Open Roads Run Club - Mom and Me Walk/Run @ 5:30 p.m. JH Boys Basketball Open Gym (Optional) @ Chambers 3:30 p.m.	9 Midland University College Rep @ 10 a.m.	10 District Livestock Judging and Poultry Judging @ Ord	11 Veterans Day Veterans Day Program NHS Veterans Day Breakfast	12 Basketball Sports Pictures @ Bartlett	13 Midnight Madness NECC Early College/ Career Exploration Day @ O'Neill	14 Midnight Madness
15 Open Roads Run Club - Dad and Me Walk/Run @ 5:30 p.m. JH Boys Basketball Open Gym (Optional) @ Bartlett 3:30 p.m.	16 Start of Winter Sports Board of Education Meeting @ 7 p.m.	17 NO SCHOOL NVC One Act Play @ Chambers	18 JH GBB @ Palmer 3 p.m.	19 NMEA Conference/All State Band @ Lincoln Middle School Livestock Judging @ Atkinson	20	21
22 Open Roads Run Club @ 5:30 p.m.	23 FCCLA Commissioner's Recognition @ Lincoln	24 HS GBB/BBB Jamboree vs. Santee @ Chambers 6 p.m. JH GBB vs. Creighton @ Chambers 2 p.m.	25 NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break FCCLA Thanksgiving Bake Sale	26 Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break	27 NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break	28
29	30					