



Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year!

I am always amazed at how fast time goes by in the summer. It seems like we wrap up one school year and then transition right into a new school year. This year is no exception. The 2023-2024 school year will begin soon. Online Registration has already opened up. I am starting my third year as Superintendent/Elementary Principal here at Colo-NESCO. A great deal of my time has been devoted to the construction project the past two years. We are still working through small punch list items in both Colo and Zearing, and you will see additional upgrades that have taken place this summer which are outside of the scope of the construction project. Just to name a few, we have put down new carpet in the Colo Library. We have resurfaced and painted the lines in the Colo Parking Lot. Memorial benches in memory of Christian Oswalt were added this summer in Colo. We are also replacing several windows in Colo right now. In Zearing, we are building a new bus garage. We added window graphics to the front of the Zearing Building. We also carpeted the front entrance in Zearing. There were some recent upgrades to both the baseball and softball fields. The bathrooms at both sites were also remodeled. These types of projects are on-going, and it takes constant planning to make these upgrades. You will see more progress with different projects this fall.

This past school year, I worked closely with the Colo-NESCO School Board, the Iowa Association of School Boards, and various other stakeholders in the District to develop a Strategic Plan. The plan will be shared out when we welcome staff back into the building in August. You will see these posters around the building. It has also been posted on our "Board" page on the website. This plan focuses on Student Learning and Achievement, District Culture, and Resource Management. This plan will drive a lot of the work we do during the 2023-2024 School Year and beyond.

To end, the beginning of each school year brings a new level of excitement. I know I am getting more excited for school to start as each day passes by this summer. The first day of school will be on August 23rd. I know our staff will be ready to welcome students back into the buildings. Until then, take some time to relax and enjoy all that summer has to offer. I am going to keep working hard to keep moving things forward to make Colo-NESCO the best school it can be. If you have questions or concerns, I can be reached by email at msnavely@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us or by phone in Zearing at (641) 487-7411 or in Colo at (641) 377-2284.

Sincerely,

Marc Snavelly
Superintendent/Elementary Principal

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

Triston Rew - Special Education

Madison Schnathorst - 5-12 Art

Wyatt Van Gorp - 5-12 Band



Important Dates

Registration is Now Open!

Aug. 1 (Tues.): YSS Childcare Ribbon Cutting / Colo / 4:30-6:30 pm

Aug. 21 (Mon.): Back to School Night /Both Bldgs./ 4:30-7:30 pm

Aug. 23 (Wed.): First Day of School

(and 5th & 7th Grade Student Orientation)

Sept. 5 (Tues.): Preschool Starts

Sept. 18: Homecoming Week Begins

Sept. 26 (Tues.): Fall Pictures

Colo-NESCO Elementary

407 N Center
Zearing, IA 50278
641-487-7411
Marc Snaveley, Principal

**Colo-NESCO MS/HS
District Office**

919 West Street
 Colo, IA 50056
 641-377-2282
 Marc Snavey, Superintendent
 Brandon Kelley, Principal

The Colo-NESCO Community School District is committed to guiding and nurturing the academic, emotional, physical, and social development of all students, while promoting lifelong learning and citizenship in today's rapidly changing world. #RoyalWay

Dear Colo-NESCO Families,

I hope you have had a relaxing and fun summer break and are ready to get back into the swing of another school year. Our staff has been working hard this summer attending professional development opportunities and getting their classrooms ready for the beginning of the school year. I wanted to share with you a very exciting opportunity for our students, staff, parents and community that will take place on Wednesday, August 23rd. These groups will have the opportunity to work with one of the best Mental Health experts in the nation as Colo-NESCO will be hosting **Mike Donahue and his VALUE UP Program**. Last year Colo-NESCO hosted this program which addresses the common buzz words “bullying” and “mental health” in school districts. This year Mike will be returning to Colo-NESCO on **Wednesday, August 23rd**. Mike will be working with small groups of students and staff members during the day and conclude his program with a parent meeting from 6:00pm-7:00pm on August 23rd. I encourage all Colo-NESCO parents to attend the parent meeting as Mike discusses some of the challenges that students in today’s world face and the pressure that can build up for each student. Mike is a phenomenal communicator and will give parents strategies to help facilitate talking points with their children. If you are interested in learning more information regarding the VALUE UP program please visit the following website (www.value-up.org). We look forward to seeing all of you on Wednesday, August 23rd!

Sincerely,
Mr. Kelley

YEARS OF SERVICE: CN EMPLOYEES 2022-23

FIVE YEARS:

Jessie Gjerde
Rodney Hesterberg
Travis Owens
Noah Ronnfeldt

TEN YEARS:

Brandon Frohwein
Kimberly Leach

TWENTY YEARS:

Mike Boeve

FIFTEEN YEARS:

Sharon Dean
Josh Nessa

THIRTY YEARS:

Lisa Hill

Thank You... and Congratulations!

Congratulations 2023 State Track Qualifiers



400 M Hurdles
Breckin Clatt



High Jump
Nathan McFarland



400 M Dash
Sophia Clawson

Coaches: Tony Stalzer, Josh Nessa, Aaron Aljets

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

New this year: FAFSA for the 2024-2025 school year won't open until December! Stay tuned for more information --- Kara Kinser

ACT 2023-2024 NATIONAL TEST DATES

TEST DATE

REGISTRATION DATE

September 9, 2023



August 4, 2023

October 28, 2023



September 22, 2023

December 9, 2023



November 3, 2023

February 10, 2024



January 5, 2024

April 13, 2024



March 8, 2024

June 8, 2024



May 3, 2024

July 13, 2024



June 7, 2024

Annual Notices

The following annual notices are all updated and posted on the District Website at colonesco.org under the "District" Tab.

The notices include information on the following:

Asbestos
Directory Information
Educational Equity Policy Statement
District Discipline Policy Statement
Harassment & Bullying
Equal Employment Opportunities (Affirmative Action)
Iowa Sex Offender Registry
Military Recruiter Access
Video Surveillance
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
Homeless Information
Colo-NESCO Community School District Assignments
Open Enrollment
Special Education Delivery Plan
Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Act
School Bus Safety-Kadyn's Law
Teacher Qualifications
Tobacco/Nicotine Free Environment
Use of Video/Audio Cameras on School Buses
Student Records
Code 102.E1 Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination
Code 102.E2 Continuous Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination
Corporal Punishment, Restraint, and Physical Confinement and Detention
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services



Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) partners with schools to provide services for individuals who experience a disability. Your child may be eligible for IVRS services during high school, even if they are not eligible for special education services. For more information on services available through IVRS, contact the IVRS Ames Area Office at (515) 233-5753. If you would like IVRS to have access to your child's educational records to assist with assessing their eligibility for IVRS services, please contact the Colo-NESCO District Office about the necessary consent forms.

Colo-NESCO FFA Receives Donations from Local Farmer

The Colo-NESCO FFA Chapter has received tools, an auger, hayrack, lumber, and a lot of other useful items from Phil & Carolyn Ellingson.

The hayrack has been rebuilt and used in the Colo Crossroad festival parade and will be used in the Zearing Days Parade this year as well.

From left to right: Jackson Wonders, Colton Niemeyer, Hunter Moeller, and Ross Upchurch

--submitted by Todd Frohwein



Pictured above: From left to right: Jackson Wonders, Andrew McMillen, Phil Ellingson, and Ross Upchurch

Phil was a local farmer and cattle producer who graduated from McCallsburg and went to Iowa State University to get his education. His farm is located between Roland and McCallsburg.



*The Colo-NESCO FFA would like to thank
Phil & Carolyn Ellingson for their generosity and time.*

FROHWEIN ATTENDS IOWA AG ED SUMMER CONFERENCE



Todd Frohwein of the Colo-NESCO Agricultural Education department recently joined more than 200 secondary and post-secondary instructors from across Iowa at the Iowa Agricultural Education Summer Conference held at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa, June 26-28, 2023. The purpose of the conference was professional development and to foster sharing of ideas from agriculture programs across the state. The conference was organized and facilitated by the Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators (IAAE).

This year's theme was "Maximize Your Potential". Speakers, programming and activities focused on fostering professionalism and communication among agricultural educators. Mini-workshops were held on topics including Self Care, Technical Skills Development, Industry Updates and Connections, and Professional Certifications. Learning activities included new teacher mentoring and training, career development events and time to interact with agricultural education professionals from all corners of the state.

IAAE professional organization activities were also conducted during the conference including policy making, the election of new officers, and the recognition of outstanding Iowa agricultural instructors and programs.



FFA Officers Learn About Leadership, Responsibility at Ellsworth CC

--submitted by
Todd Frohwein



Colo-NESCO FFA chapter officers attended Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) on June 5th at Ellsworth Community College. Jackson Wonders, Colton Niemeyer, Hunter Moeller, Jadyn Niemeyer, Lainey Harre, Rylee Upchurch, Katie Rouse, Blake Obrecht and Campbell Thomas were all in attendance. The students participated in workshops led by district and state officers that focused in the areas of advocating for the agriculture industry, connecting with stakeholders, recruiting for the local chapter and working as a cohesive team.

Colo-NESCO FCCLA Brings Home Gold from National Conference

Colo-NESCO FCCLA proudly represented their school and community at the highly anticipated FCCLA National Leadership Conference (NLC), held at the Colorado Convention Center from July 2-6. This annual event brought together more than 7,900 passionate Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) student members, advisers, and guests.

During the conference, the following Colo-NESCO members were in attendance: Cerra Muntz, Jadyn Niemeyer, Erynn Dulaney, Annabelle Heller, Katie Rouse, Gemma Bower, Sydney Ingle, and Jessie Duran. The conference provided Colo-NESCO FCCLA members with a wealth of incredible opportunities, including attending inspiring speaker sessions, engaging in youth workshops, competing on a national level, and networking with fellow youth leaders. Centered around the theme "incREDible," this conference highlighted how FCCLA offers incredible prospects to its members and advisers through Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) education. By exploring career opportunities and instilling real-world skills, advocacy, and service, FCCLA empowers its members to make an incREDible impact that will guide them throughout their lives.



Jadyn Niemeyer and Erynn Dulaney at the FCCLA national conference in Denver.



The results of their participation are as follows:

Cerra Muntz (State Vice-President of Public Relations) received a Silver in the "Say Yes to FCS" category and she also served as a National Voting Delegate.

Jadyn Niemeyer and Erynn Dulaney received a Gold in the "Sports Nutrition" category.

Annabelle Heller received a Silver in the "Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation" category.

Katie Rouse and Gemma Bower received a Silver in the "Chapter in Review Display" category.

--submitted by Kelsie Engelken

Thank You to Our Retirees!

Sandy earns a well-deserved rest after 37 years at Colo and Colo-NESCO Schools, mostly as our elementary secretary!

Sandy Hall



"Sandy is one of the most generous and thoughtful people I know. Anytime we had a need in our building, Sandy generously contributed to the cause. She naturally puts the needs of others before herself."

...Teresa Hill, Title I Math Teacher

"Sandy is a very friendly, hard-working person and was always there to help when anyone needed it. We will all miss seeing her in the office and I hope she enjoys retirement!"

... Tucker Bailey, CN Class of 2030



Sandra Williams

Mrs. Williams has taught and cared for our elementary students in both Colo and Zearing buildings for 28 years!

"Mrs. Williams was a kind, caring teacher while still making sure our 2nd grade class was focused and on task, which had to be challenging. I always knew she believed in me and that helped me in the years to come." ... Sean Cutler, CN Class of 2018

"I only got the chance to work with Sandra for 2 years and learned so much from her. She always brightened everyone's day and every student who had her was very lucky!" ... Emily Ronnfeldt, 2nd Grade Teacher

Our Best Wishes to You Both!

Lifelong Learning

When the final bell for the school year rings each May, many people think the learning is over for the year. That is true in some ways. The tests are over, lessons are completed, and lockers are empty, but the learning always continues. Students are taking swimming or music lessons, reading and learning in library programs, working hard on 4-H projects, getting more practice and experience with summer sports, earning money and life-skills with a summer job, or traveling with their families to new places. Teachers take time to relax and enjoy their own personal interests, but they also have time to learn new things about the many subjects they teach.

Five of our elementary teachers took advantage of the Iowa Reading Association Conference for teachers and librarians that is held in Ames each summer. This year the theme was Diversity in our Books, Classrooms, and Hearts. It was a two day conference June 20 and 21 that included nationally recognized speakers and authors who are considered experts in the field of reading. Breakout sessions included topics to help teachers learn new reading strategies and activities, how to study data and improve student performance, ideas to help promote a love of reading, new books that are great for teaching and reading for fun, and inspirational speakers to encourage and motivate teachers to keep putting in the hard work. Our own Mrs. Bain even led a session teaching others about phonological awareness skills and activities.

As we do every year, the teachers who attended the conference this year came home with many new strategies, some great new books, and a renewed energy for the subject of reading and teaching in general. We look forward to learning and seeing other teacher friends each summer and we are thankful for a district that values our continued learning and supports us in our further education. We hope that we can be good examples to all of our students that learning is a life-long adventure. Looking forward to seeing all of you ready to learn in August for the school year 2023-24! --submitted by Lisa Riese



Lisa Riese, Hannah Bain, Paula Cady, Cindy Webb, Teresa Hill

Colo-NESCO Boosters

The Boosters would like to thank everyone that volunteered for the club over the last school year. It is because of volunteers that the Boosters are able to give back so much to the Colo-NESCO students and staff. Last year the Boosters gave back over \$21,000 in fund request to the Colo-NESCO school district. For the elementary we bought weighted blankets, donated to Literacy and Math night, paid for field trips, bean bag chairs and gave for reading incentives. For the middle school, junior high and high school the Boosters paid for band supplies and judges; flags, hotel for FCCLA and money for the science department. For sports we bought uniforms for the high school and junior high teams, football pads, paid for a shooting clinic, streaming of district games, team meals, pole pads, pitching mound and paid for hotels for team camps and scholarships. The Boosters also gave money for Prom, After Prom, Hall of Pride meal, software for a graphics creator, and drinks, candy, popcorn, shirts and other novelty items to be used as needed.

One of the Boosters main money makers is concessions. We supply concessions for all home sporting events, plays, musicals and band and music contests. Although the Boosters are responsible for the concessions, we would like all parents and junior high and high school students to volunteer when possible. All the money raised goes back to the students and staff of Colo-NESCO. Watch for emails and Facebook posts throughout the year asking for volunteers.

A new event that the Boosters started this year was our Gala. There was a meal, auction and great music provided by Sneaky Pete. The Boosters raised over \$5000 at the Gala that will be used for the students of Colo-NESCO. The Boosters plan on holding the Gala every spring so please watch for information on this great event.

As we look forward to a new school year, please remember to support the Colo-NESCO Booster Club any way that you can. All the funds raised go back to support the Colo-NESCO students.

-- submitted by Andrew Short



Katie Rouse and Cerra Muntz are all smiles as they work the concession stand during a junior high softball game.



The crowd enjoying the music of Sneaky Pete at the Booster Gala.

LIL' ROYALS PRESCHOOL

COLO-NESCO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRESCHOOL OPTIONS

*3 Year old Preschool Half Day/Full Day Option
- 3 Year old is subject to availability
(child must be 3 years old before September 15, 2023)

*4 Year old Preschool Half/Full Day Options
(child must be 4 years old before September 15, 2023)

*Priority given to in district students



ENROLL TODAY



CURRICULUM:

REALLY GREAT READING, S.M.A.R.T., IOWA LEARNING STANDARDS, AND CREATIVE CURRICULUM.

OUR CLASSROOMS ARE SET UP WITH THE FOLLOWING LEARNING CENTERS:
DRAMATIC PLAY, SENSORY, BLOCK, LISTENING AND READING, ABC, MATH, SCIENCE,
ART AND WRITING CENTERS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
PRINCIPAL, MARC SNAVELY
MSNAVELY@COLO-NESCO.K12.IA.US
641-487-7411

PLEASE GO TO
[COLONESCO.ORG](https://colonesco.org) TO ENROLL

YSS Kid's Club Set to Open at Colo-NESCO ---from Marc Snavelly

The Colo-NESCO Community School District has partnered with YSS and the Ames Chamber of Commerce to start a Before/After School Kid's Club in Colo starting on Wednesday, August 23rd, which is the first day of school. The Kid's Club will operate from 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. on a daily basis. Pending enrollment numbers, we also plan to have the Kid's Club open on days where we don't have school. Families have already started to enroll. Please refer to our website to enroll. I have placed a red banner on the front page of the website so this is easily accessible. All enrollment information is posted there.

Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 1st. We plan to have a ribbon cutting from 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. that night. We will also be running an in-person registration that evening. YSS will be on-site and will be doing some fun activities for the kids as parents fill out enrollment forms. Snacks will be served. You are all welcome to attend. The Kid's Club will be operating out of the two classrooms directly to your left if you come down the ramp from the Colo Front Entrance by the main office. Once we open on August 23rd, parents will pick up/drop off kids at the entrance north of the building that goes directly to these classrooms. We added a camera and buzz-in system to also make this entrance secure exactly like our front entrance.

I wanted to give you a little history on how the Kid's Club started. Throughout the 2022-2023 School Year, a Childcare Task Force was assembled to help explore opening this Before/After School Program for students in grades K-6 and ultimately forming a plan to make this happen. Colo was chosen as the site since daycare options are scarce in Colo. It was also noted as we studied this that Colo is considered a Daycare Desert in Iowa. We believe the northern part of the Colo-NESCO Community School District does have some private daycare options and the Bethany Lutheran Church in McCallsburg leases space from the school and operates their private daycare there as well. The Kid's Club is not intended to be in competition with anyone doing childcare. The childcare need is there, and we want to make sure students have a safe place to go before and after school and on days where there may not be school due to a professional development day, winter break, spring break, etc. In partnership with YSS and the Ames Chamber of Commerce, several grants were written and enough funds were secured to bring this to fruition. This site will be licensed through the Department of Human Resources (DHS), and in collaboration with the school, will be run by YSS.

Before / After School Care!



Baseball Wrap-Up

Coach Brandon Frohwein 2022-23 Season

The Colo-Nesco baseball team finished the season with a 11-14 record including an 8-7 conference record which was good enough for a tie for 2nd place in the Iowa Star South.

The season started off with three convincing wins over Clarion-Goldfield-Dows, Melcher-Dallas, and BCLUW. Spencer Hansen had 15 strikeouts vs CGD and Drew Banks followed that with 10 strikeouts vs Melcher-Dallas. After three tough losses, the Royals rebounded with back to back wins over North Tama and GMG.

North Tama was a slugfest as the Royals outlasted the Redhawks 17-11. Banks provided a strong pitching performance in a win of GMG. The Royals went through a stretch with some tough injuries but were able to pull out wins over Riceville and Belmond-Klemme, thanks to solid pitching performances by Hansen and Trenton Beard. Once the Royals got healthy, they finished strong, winning their last four conference games to move from near the bottom of the conference all the way to second place. The best win of the season was against Janesville when eighth grade pitcher Hunter Purvis and also Beard and Banks provided a stellar effort on the mound. Drew Banks struck out back to back batters with the bases loaded in the top of the 7th for the win. Spencer Hansen hit a big 2-run home run late in the game and Trenton Beard provided a walk-off double.

GMG was the next conference game and it was a nail-biter. Drew Banks pitched 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ gritty innings for the win and Trenton Beard came in for the save. Lucas Frohwein hit a 2-run home run in the top of the 7th to break a 3-3 tie. The Royals last win of the season was a workman-like 11-1 win over Dunkerton on senior night.

The Royals received four all-conference honors. Spencer Hansen (infield), Drew Banks (utility), and Lucas Frohwein (outfield) were all selected first team all conference while veteran catcher Kaleb Gray was honorable mention. Spencer Hansen was selected 2nd team IBCA All District Pitcher as well. The team awards included Spencer Hansen and Drew Banks sharing Pitcher of the Year, Spencer Hansen offensive MVP, Breckin Clatt Defensive MVP, Trenton Beard Most Improved, and Colten Niemeyer JV MVP. The coaches award went to Trenton Beard.

The Royals set many individual records and one team record. Spencer Hansen became the new career wins (20), doubles (33), hits (123), RBIs (84), and assists (163) leader. Kaleb Gray became the new career fielding percentage (0.974) tie, thrown out stealing (32), putouts (662), and total chances (755) leader. Clay Gilmore set the new single season HBP record with 14 as well as the team setting the record for 38 hit by pitches in a season.

The Royals will miss the senior class of Asher Grover, Jamen Cochran, Clay Gilmore, Kaleb Gray, and Spencer Hansen. They became one of the winningest senior classes in school history despite losing almost a half of a season due to Covid their freshman years. The senior class provided many memories including beating North Tama the first game of their 8th grade year for the first time in school history and then many times after that; pitching a no-hitter in districts their sophomore year, and beating Janesville for the first time in their high school careers near the end of their senior season.

COLO-NESCO SOFTBALL 2023

The season kicked off at the end of May with twenty-one 8-12th graders out for high school softball and concluded the first week of July in the second round regional. Varsity girls ended the season 11-15 and JV ended with a 4-14-1 record. Varsity ended 2nd place in the Iowa Star South Conference with a record of 8-7, and had the most wins since the 2018 season. We welcomed each group of CN rec softball teams to join us at a game to be announced with our varsity, which is always a highlight for the varsity girls. Another exciting night was our MDA night vs Iowa Valley. We played in alternate green jerseys for awareness. Some exciting games included a come-from-behind win vs GMG and our win over BCLUW, each helping us to secure the second place finish. As the season progressed we improved on defense and our bats started to really come around. The senior class will be missed as leaders of the team. We look forward to moving into the off season and starting to prepare for next year!

END OF SEASON AWARDS / HONORS:

All Conference:

1st Team: Molly Angell-outfield,
Callie Kohlwes-infield, Abigail Hostetler-utility

2nd Team: Rylee Upchurch-infield

Honorable Mention: Annabelle Nessa

Academic All State: Katie Spalding

Team Academic Distinguished Award: Team GPA 3.67

--submitted by Coach Candace Sutton





Administration & Management

Marc Snavelly	Superintendent/Elementary Principal	msnavely@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Brandon Kelley	MS/HS Principal	bkelley@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Sherri Ruzek	Business Manager	sruzek@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Bill Lytle	Building & Grounds	blytle@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Sheryl Gilmore	Director of Food Services	sgilmore@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Ken Leighty	Director of Transportation	kleighty@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Beth Heller	Director of School Improvement	bheller@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

School Board

Joel Niemeyer	President	jniemeyer@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Jon Cutler	Vice President	jcutler@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Justin Walker	Board Member	sjustinwalker@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
John Fuller	Board Member	jfuller@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Brad Kohlwes	Board Member	bkohlwes@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Justin Jedlicka	Board Member	jjedlicka@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
Katy McKinney	Board Member	kmckinney@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

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