



Letter from the Superintendent

Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year!

I hope everyone has been enjoying all that summer has to offer. Summer months in the District Office are always busy getting ready for the upcoming school year. The 2024-2025 school year will begin soon. Online Registration has already opened up.

I am starting my fourth year as Superintendent here at Colo-NESCO. This year, Colo-NESCO has entered into a 50/50 Superintendent Sharing Agreement with Collins-Maxwell. Therefore, my time will be split equally between the two school districts. There are financial incentives through operational sharing when you share certain staff positions. The superintendent position is one of them. Aside from the financial advantages of sharing a superintendent with another district, it also allows us to have a full-time principal at the Elementary School in Zearing and at the Middle/High School in Colo.

We continue to put a strong focus on our Strategic Plan that was developed by the Colo-NESCO School Board and our Staff. That plan focuses on three main topics which include Student Learning and Achievement, District Culture, and Resource Management. There are various sub-topics under each of these that include key activities, action steps, and outcomes. This plan is referenced frequently, and we are striving to meet the outcomes tied to the Strategic Plan. There is a heavy emphasis on Student Achievement and Learning. Data is carefully analyzed, and it is a top priority that we are doing our best to meet the various needs of our students.

When you come back in the buildings, you will see multiple facility upgrades. In Zearing, we have added carpet to all hallways. We have added musical instruments on the playground. More information and a memorial dedication will be coming out on that soon. In Colo, we have added insulation to the soffit area on the east side of the building to increase efficiency with the HVAC system. Several windows and carpet in a few classrooms were also replaced. The gym was painted and new mats were added. New furniture was also replaced in a couple of classrooms in both Colo and Zearing. Lastly, we are also continuing through the planning process with the new track/stadium project in Colo. We plan to formally start this project once the fall football season is over.

To close, the beginning of each school year brings a new level of excitement. The first day of school will be on Friday, 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. 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 Colo at (641) 377-2284.

Marc Snavely, Superintendent



Important Dates

Back to School Night (K-12): Wed., Aug. 21 / 4-7 pm Colo & Zearing Bldgs.

5th Grade Orientation: Wed., Aug. 21 / 5:00 pm Colo Bldg.

7th Grade Orientation: Wed., Aug. 21 / 6:00 pm Colo Bldg.

First Day of School: Fri., Aug. 23 / 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

First Day of Preschool: Tues., Sept. 3 / 8:30 am

District-Wide Picture Day: Tues., Sept. 24

Homecoming Week starts on Sept. 30

Mondays are our "late start" day (Teacher PD): 10:00 am



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I'm having a fantastic summer. There is this place I go to, and there is this lady named Rebeka, she makes breakfast and lunch for us, and my friends' names are Riley, Danielle, Lauren, Reagen, and sometimes Lilly (is there). And there are two dogs named Doc and Beau.

My family went to Beads Lake and the best part was having red, white, and blue French toast (for the 4th of July).

At a baseball game, I caught the ball and made an out!

Also, I turned into a Wolf in Cub Scouts, and I can't wait for school!

News from the Business Corner...

by Kim Heidemann



Near the end of the 2023-2024 school year, we held our job/college fair. It went well, but our organizing group did decide to move the event to the fall because 1. We have had an issue with weather in the spring of the last two years and 2. We want to be more helpful to seniors who haven't made up their minds yet on what they want to do or where they want to go for school. Springtime is just a bit too late. Again, if you have a connection to a company that you think would be interested in being a part of our job/college fair-please let me know!

Many of you already know this, but I thought I would share a bit about our Financial Lit class. It is a great class and is one that is required for students to graduate. In the class, we explore a range of topics....from budgets, writing checks and counting back change to planning for the future and understanding the cost (and process) of weddings, funerals, and other life events. Every year the class gets better as I add things to it at the suggestion of students. One suggestion was to talk more about the costs associated with raising a child. Another suggestion was to do a bit more with mock interviewing and some processes such as taking out a loan. We cover these things already, but I really appreciate the students being able to be precise in sharing what they want to know more about. I thought I would also share with you some of the concepts that the students shared that was totally new to them and they considered to be important for them to learn:

1. Difference between a bank and credit union
2. Purpose of taxes and how to do them
3. Cost of funerals (and the cost of weddings!)
4. Different types of investments tools and ways to save money
5. Creating a resume
6. Purpose of, and different types, of insurance

There are more, but these were the concepts that students repeated. I would ask that if any of you (or if you know of someone) that is a professional in the personal finance sector, or other related sectors such as banking/law/lending/insurance/etc. that you reach out to me. I would love to increase the numbers of guest speakers we have on these topics. Also, if you are willing to host a field trip, let me know that as well. We all know that life can throw some pretty interesting financial situations at us. My goal is to ensure that the students have at least an understanding of these events and how to prepare for them and/or be confident that they can recover from them.

Our business club, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), is going to be entering into its 2nd year at CN. As a reminder, the State mandated that each school have a business club. There were a few to choose from, but FBLA felt like the best fit for our students. As a start-up, we are in need of funds. (Even though it is mandated by the State, it is an unfunded mandate.) We appreciate donations of any size. The donations will be spent on paying for conference and contest registrations for students. Last year we had 6 students participate in contests at the district level, with 3 of those students qualifying for State. Not too bad for the first year! Of course this year I would like to see this number grow. Your financial assistance is greatly appreciated. FBLA will be participating in an exciting work-based enterprise this coming school year in partnership with FFA, so please keep your eye out for a way that you can help both clubs. Thank you!

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope you have been able to enjoy the summer months by spending time with family and friends. I hope you are excited as I am to start the 2024-2025 school year. As we progress through the year, we want to emphasize two key areas that significantly impact student success both in and out of the classroom: consistent attendance and the development of employability skills.

The Importance of Good Attendance

Regular school attendance is crucial for students' academic success and personal development. Here are some reasons why good attendance matters:

1. **Academic Achievement:** Students who attend school regularly are more likely to perform well in assessments and achieve higher grades. Consistent attendance ensures that students do not miss out on important lessons and activities.
2. **Skill Development:** Each day at school provides opportunities for students to develop essential skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. These skills are vital for their future education and careers.
3. **Building Responsibility:** Attending school regularly helps students develop a sense of responsibility and discipline, which are important traits for success in any endeavor.
4. **Social Interaction:** Regular attendance allows students to build and maintain relationships with peers and teachers, fostering a supportive learning environment.

Encouraging Good Attendance

We ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day, unless they are genuinely unwell. Here are some tips to help improve attendance:

1. **Set a Routine:** Establish a consistent daily routine for your child, including a regular bedtime and morning schedule.
2. **Communicate the Importance:** Discuss with your child why attending school every day is important for their future.
3. **Monitor Attendance:** Keep track of your child's attendance and address any issues promptly.
4. **Stay Informed:** Be aware of school policies and the resources available to support good attendance.

Developing Employability Skills

In addition to academic knowledge, students need to develop employability skills that will prepare them for the workforce. These skills include:

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1. **Communication:** The ability to express ideas clearly and listen effectively.
2. **Teamwork:** Working collaboratively with others to achieve common goals.
3. **Time Management:** Prioritizing tasks and managing time efficiently.
4. **Problem-Solving:** Analyzing issues and finding effective solutions.
5. **Adaptability:** Being flexible and open to new ideas and changes.

Supporting Skill Development

We encourage students to participate in various activities and programs that help develop these skills:

1. **Extracurricular Activities:** Joining clubs, sports teams, or volunteer groups can provide practical experiences that enhance employability skills.
2. **Class Projects:** Engaging fully in group projects and presentations helps build teamwork and communication abilities.
3. **Work Experience:** Seek out part-time jobs or internships to gain real-world experience and learn workplace expectations.

By prioritizing attendance and actively developing employability skills, students can build a strong foundation for their future success. We appreciate your support in these efforts and are here to help with any questions or concerns you have.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.



MR. KELLEY
5-12 PRINCIPAL

Colo-NESCO Elementary

407 N Center
Zearing, IA 50278
641-487-7411
Mike Boeve, Principal

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

919 West Street
Colo, IA 50056
641-377-2282
Marc Snavelly, 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

CN Staff: Years of Service Awards

First Year "Survivors"

Traci Nessa
Treaa VanderHart
Wyatt Van Gorp
Triston Rew
Brett Fricke
Kenzie Niemeyer
Madison Schnathorst

Not Pictured:

Rita Foley
Ericka Grisham
Tess Rasmusson
Stephanie Ryerson
Alicia Smith
Melinda Sullivan



Ten Year Awards

David Greenfield
Beth Heller
Breann Perisho
Hannah Bain
Candace Sutton

Staff Changes for 2024-2025

Hannah Anderson:
Kindergarten Teacher

Hannah Bain:
PK-4 Instructional Coach

Twenty Years

Erin Hulshizer
(pictured at right)

Twenty -Five Years

(not pictured)
Neil Daleske
Cindy Webb



Congratulations and Thank You to All!

More Staff Updates...

CN RETIREES

**Elementary Teacher , Todd Crow,
retired from teaching after 23 years
in the CN district.
Thank you, Mr. Crow!**



**Thank you, Dallas!
Dallas Gould, our bus
driver for 18 years,
drove his last route in July.**



WE WISH YOU BOTH WELL!

...and Welcome...

To our new staff for the 2024-2025 School Year:

JAMES ALBRIGHT: BUS DRIVER

JENNA GILBERT: BUS DRIVER

JACKIE HAWLEY: MS/HS SCIENCE

REILLY HAYWORTH: MS SPECIAL EDUCATION

ABBIGAIL JONES: FIRST GRADE TEACHER

AARON MUMM: 3RD GRADE TEACHER

JANEAL PENNING: ESL LANGUAGE

Colo-NESCO Preschool



We are so very excited to share that our Colo-NESCO Preschool has once again received the BooST Preschool Scholarship Grant. This year will be receiving over \$30,000 to help families cover the cost of preschool! This is a wonderful opportunity for families! We are looking forward to a great year!

This year is sure to be a fun and exciting time for our students! In preschool, we work on many different skills in order to prepare the students for Kindergarten. We are sure to see enormous growth in the knowledge and abilities in each child after this school year comes to an end!

Our time will be spent in our classroom working not only on learning the basics (numbers, colors, shapes) but also on social / emotional development, personal care routines, and topics of various themes throughout the year. But most of all... having so MUCH FUN!

The structure of the classroom will change as the year goes on, progressing from a free-flowing schedule to more structured routines. Our preschool grows with each child, accommodating and adjusting to their individual needs.

As August is upon us, here are a few dates to be aware of:

Back to School Night: Aug. 21

(feel free to drop off your supplies any time from 4:30-7:00!)

Preschool Start Date: Sept. 3

Preschool Supply List (if you are able)

- 1 spiral notebook (single subject)
- 1 box of markers
- 1 folder w/ prongs (Labeled)
- Zipper pencil pouch with three holes that can be put into the 3 prong folder
- Extra set of clothes (In a labeled zip lock bag)
- 1 or 2 boxes of crackers
- 2-4 containers of Play Dough
- Please make sure your child's backpacks are able to fit folders. We will share supplies.



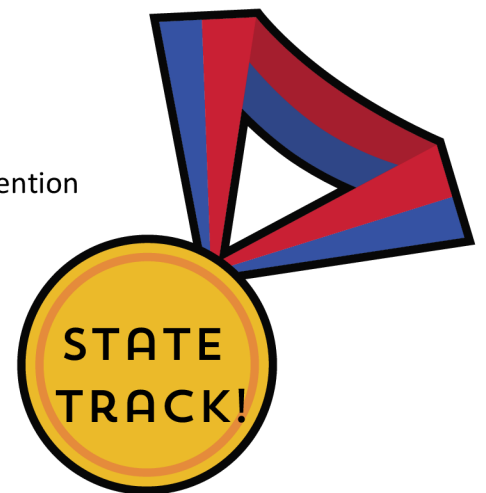
Please feel free to reach out if you would like your child to experience our preschool here at Colo-NESCO: Pam Niemeyer pniemeyer@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Annual Notices

The following annual notices are 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



Congratulations to Elizabeth Erickson for qualifying for State Track in the 800M and the 3000M events this spring. Her time at the state meet in the 800M was a personal best and a school record!

Summer School Session 2024

submitted by Hannah Bain, Instructional Coach

Colo-NESCO Elementary provided summer school for 3 weeks in July 2024 from 8:30-11:30. The successful program served 31 students ranging from grades 1-6. Students were provided with targeted instruction in reading and math to prepare them for the upcoming school year. Teachers designed lessons to address phonics, fluency, comprehension, math facts, number sense skills, and math strategies. The students also enjoyed nutritious morning snacks and lunch funded through a grant and prepared by our food services staff. We are thankful to everyone who made this a successful summer school experience for our students and wish them a relaxing and fun rest of the summer. We look forward to seeing everyone soon for the beginning of an exciting school year!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Join the Colo-NESCO Parent Pride Committee!

A part of the Booster Club, The Parent Pride Committee is a group of parents that have been planning fun activities at the Elementary level. In the past, we have done Muffins in May and a school carnival! We would love to do these again this year, but we are in need of volunteers! If you are interested in joining,

please contact

Jacklyn Muntz @ 515-460-4860 or
Breann Perisho @ bperisho@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us





Lily Stalzer, Annabelle Heller, Cerra Muntz, Katie Rouse and Sydney Ingle



COLO-NESCO FCCLA CHAPTER SHINES AT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN SEATTLE



Five dedicated members of the Colo-NESCO FCCLA Chapter recently made a remarkable impact at the National Leadership Conference held in Seattle, Washington, from June 29th to July 3rd. The conference, which attracted over 8,000 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) members from across the nation, was a hub of leadership development, networking, and competition.

The Colo-NESCO FCCLA delegation included members Sydney Ingle, Cerra Muntz, Katie Rouse, Lily Stalzer, and Annabelle Heller. Among the highlights of the event was Cerra Muntz's ambitious campaign for a position on the National Executive Council. Although she was not elected, Cerra was one of only twenty-eight members nationwide to run for this prestigious role, showcasing her exceptional leadership skills and dedication to the FCCLA mission. The Colo-NESCO FCCLA Chapter is incredibly proud of Cerra's efforts and commitment to representing the organization at the national level. In addition to Cerra's notable achievement, members Katie Rouse and Lily Stalzer showcased their skills in the Event Management STAR Event, earning a Silver medal for their performance. Annabelle Heller also demonstrated excellence in the Job Interview STAR Event, where she earned a Gold medal for her outstanding interview skills.

Beyond the competitive events, the Colo-NESCO FCCLA members took advantage of the opportunity to explore Seattle's iconic landmarks and engage in valuable networking opportunities with peers from across the country. "We are thrilled with the accomplishments of our members at this year's National Leadership Conference," said Kelsie Engelken, FCCLA Chapter Advisor. "Their dedication to their events and their ability to represent Colo-NESCO so well on a national stage is a testament to their hard work and passion for FCCLA's mission. We look forward to seeing how their experiences will inspire future endeavors."

FCCLA Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities. Through various programs and initiatives, FCCLA aims to prepare students for the challenges of tomorrow and inspire them to make a difference in their communities.

COLO-NESCO FFA UPDATE

Submitted by:
Todd Frohwein, Advisor



CN FFA members attended the Iowa FFA Leadership Conference on April 15 & 16 in Ames.

Pictured at left: Hope Heidemann, Jackson Wonders, Colton Niemeyer, Emma Lennie, Ross Upchurch, Jadyn Niemeyer and Brady Handsaker

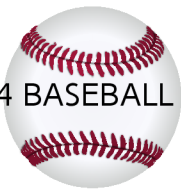
On June 3, the CN FFA officer team went to Ellsworth College in Iowa Falls for Chapter Officer Leadership Training. Officers learned about advocating for the agriculture industry, connecting with stakeholders, recruiting for the local chapter, and working as a cohesive team. FFA leaders also received training relative to their specific officer duties within the local chapter. We ended our day with lunch at Pizza Ranch! Our officers are looking forward to another great FFA year!



Pictured at left: Katie Rouse, Trenton Weldon, Jackson Wonders, Todd Frohwein, Colton Niemeyer, Hunter Moeller and Ross Upchurch

Six Colo-NESCO FFA members attended FFA Day at the John Deere ISG Test Farm. They learned about combine, planter, sprayer and cotton picker technologies. They also learned about John Deere and what happens at this farm. Welding simulator was also a good time!





COLO-NESCO 2024 BASEBALL SEASON SUMMARY

The Colo-Nesco baseball team finished the season with a 8-15 record, including a 3-1 district game win over AGWSR to advance to the second round of the playoffs.

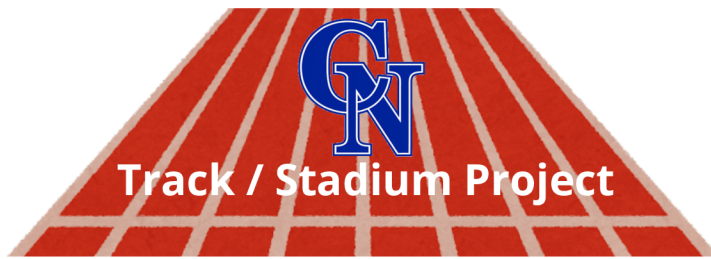
The season started off with a thrilling win over Clarion-Goldfield-Dows. Drew Banks and Trenton Beard combined for 14 Ks as Drew got the win and Trenton the save. The highlight of the game was a game winning catch by freshman Ethan Harnage for the last out of the game. The Royals' youth and inexperience showed during a 4-game losing streak. However, the defense and pitching shined in a 1-0 loss to Baxter during this stretch. Drew pitched a complete game 3-hitter, but the Royals could not scratch a run across. The young Royals then went on a 4-game winning streak. It started with a win over GMG with Trenton Beard pitching deep into the game for the win and Cody Walker coming in to finish it off. The hitting star in that game was Landon Gjerde with 4 RBIs. The BCLUW game was the Royals' most dominant win of the year as Drew Banks went the distance allowing 1 earned run while Trenton Beard provided the offense with his first career home run. The wildest game of the year happened next at Collins-Maxwell. The Royals trailed 9-2 early on but battled all the way back to take an 11-10 lead late in the game. The highlight of the game was freshman pitcher Hunter Purvis striking out the Collins-Maxwell number 3 hitter with the bases loaded to ultimately earn his first career win when Gannon Short scored the winning run in the 7th on a bases loaded walk by Brady Handsaker. The Riceville game was another dominant complete game on the mound by Drew with 10 K. Trenton Beard provided the offense going 3-3 with 3 RBIs. The Royals' next win was against Clarksville at home. Drew Banks again went the distance on the mound, striking out 9 and provided 2 doubles on offense. Colton Niemeyer ended the game with a walk-off walk that scored Gannon Short. Landon Gjerde hit his first career home run in a loss to GMG. The Royals' next win was another masterful pitching performance by Drew Banks against Melcher-Dallas as he struck out 10 in 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings and Hunter Purvis came in to finish it out. Gannon Short had 2 hits and 3 runs, Hunter Purvis had 2 runs and 2 RBIs, and Cody Walker finished with 2 hits for the Royals. The Royals' last win of the season was their biggest as they beat AGWSR in the first round of district baseball. Drew was masterful on the mound giving up zero earned runs in his 5th complete game and 6th win of the season. The defense was exceptional with only 1 error in the game. The Royals offensive rally started with a Cody Walker single, Colton Niemeyer HBP, Gannon Short single, Trenton Beard drove in a run with a HBP, and Landon Gjerde drove in the final run with a RBI single.

The Royals received three players on all-conference. Drew Banks was a first team all conference selection, Landon Gjerde was second team, and Trenton Beard was honorable mention. Drew Banks was selected 2nd team IBCA All District Pitcher as well. The team awards included Drew Banks Pitcher of the Year, Trenton Beard Offensive MVP, Drew Banks Defensive MVP, Gannon Short Most Improved, and Hunter Purvis/Connor Perisho shared JV MVP. The coaches award went to Gannon Short.

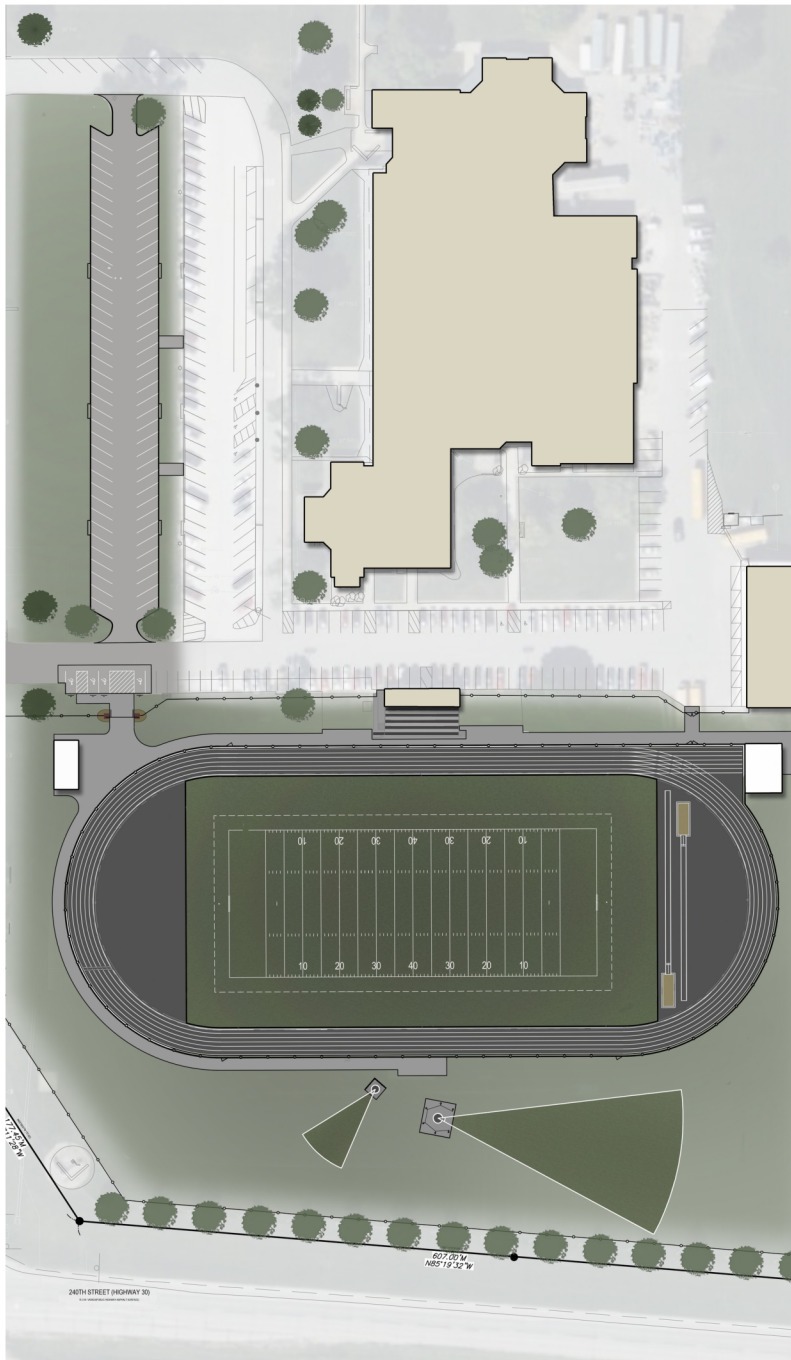
The Royals broke multiple records on the season. Colton Niemeyer became the single season leader in HBP with 15 and tied the career record of 16. The Royals tied the team record of 38 HBP set just last year. The last record that was set was the career ERA by Drew Banks at 2.49.

The Royals will miss the senior class of Drew Banks, Lucas Frohwein, and Trenton Beard. These seniors combined for 17 all conference (district in football) selections including ten 1st team selections across football, basketball, and baseball. They are the second all-time winningest senior class in Colo-NESCO baseball history, despite missing over 50 games due to injury in their high school careers. They will be deeply missed and difficult to replace but there is an exciting group of young players that gained much needed experience this season, ready to take their turn to lead the baseball program.

Coach Brandon Frohwein



2024



At the May 20th School Board Meeting, the Colo-NESCO School Board approved a new track/stadium project. A public hearing was held on June 10th. The cost of the project is 2.6 million dollars and will be funded through SAVE dollars that already flow into the District. This project will have no impact on property taxes. Included in this project is a new all-weather 6-lane track, new 76-car parking lot, re-configured bleachers, new concession stand and restrooms, new storage building, new entrance, and new high jump, long jump, shot put, and discus areas. There will also be a new 4-ft. fence added around the perimeter of the track and a 6 ft. security fence around the entire athletic facility.

We are working closely with FRK Architects + Engineers and Bishop Engineering as we move through the planning stages of this project. We plan to start the bidding process as early as September. We plan to break ground on the project as soon as the fall football season is over. The new parking lot could be completed as early as December of 2024 if the weather is favorable. Most of the project would be completed by August of 2025. The concession stand and bathrooms may not be completed until September of 2025, but that would not impact the fall football season and being able to use the facilities.

A rendering is included here so you can get a glimpse of what the project will look like upon completion. This is an exciting time for Colo-NESCO.

Marc Snavelly
Superintendent
Colo-NESCO Community Schools

SUMMER SPORTS

Post-Season Honors



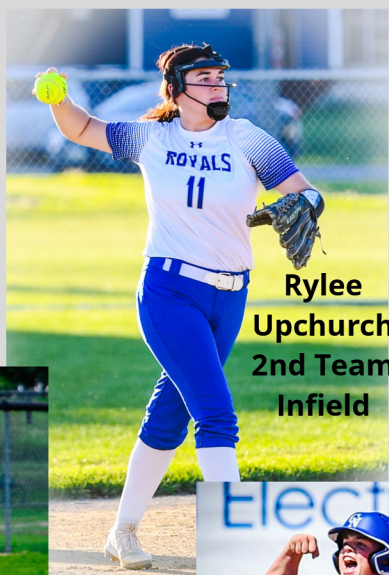
**Annabelle
Nessa
1st Team
Utility**



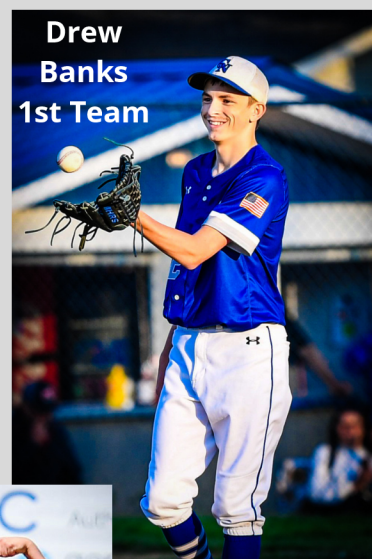
**Molly
Angell
1st Team
Outfield**



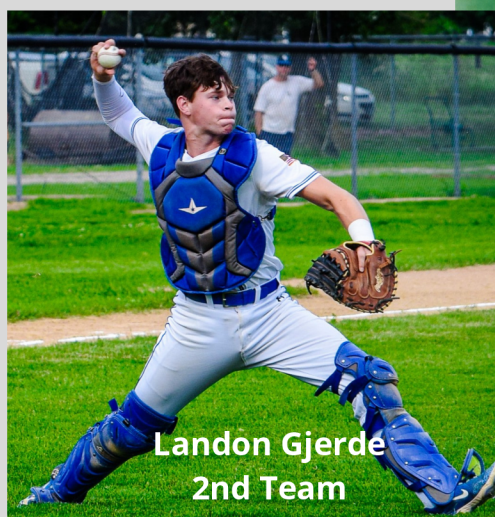
**Cassidy
Muschick
Hon.
Mention**



**Rylee
Upchurch
2nd Team
Infield**



**Drew
Banks
1st Team**



**Landon Gjerde
2nd Team**



**Trenton
Beard
Hon.
Mention**



*All-Conference
Iowa Star South*



Administration & Management

Marc Snavelly - Superintendent
Brandon Kelley - MS / HS Principal
Mike Boeve - Elementary Principal
Bill Lytle - Building & Grounds
Traci Nessa - Business Manager
Sheryl Gilmore - Director of Food Services
Ken Leighty - Director of Transportation
Beth Heller - Director of School Improvement

msnavelly@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
bkelly@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
mboeve@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
blytle@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
tnessa@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
sgilmore@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
kleighty@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
bheller@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

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Justin Jedlicka - Vice President
John Fuller - Board Member
Brad Kohlwes - Board Member
Katy McKinney - Board Member
Anna Sheets - Board Member
Justin Walker - Board Member

jniemeyer@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
jjedlicka@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
jfuller@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
bkohlwes@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
kmckinney@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
asheets@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us
jwalker@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Colo-NESCO Community School
919 West Street
Colo, IA 50056
ECRWSS

Non- Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 15
Colo, IA 50056

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