

CN NEWS

Greetings from your local school district!



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

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

Colo-NESCO Schools Upcoming Events

- April 18 No School (Holiday)
- April 26 Prom / Dakins CC / 6:30
- May 5 K-4 Spring Concert / Zearing / 6:30
- May 13 5-12 Spring Concert / Colo / 6:30
- May 14 Baccalaureate / Awards Night/ Colo / 7:00
- May 18 Graduation / Colo / 2:00
- May 21 Preschool Graduation / 5:30
- May 26 No School (Holiday)
- May 29 Tentative Last Day of School

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TRACK / STADIUM UPDATE

As the weather starts to warm up, I wanted to give you a quick update on the Track/Stadium Project. You have likely already noticed that the old track has been torn out. Construction has already begun on the new concession stand at the west end of the stadium and the new storage shed at the east end of the stadium. When the weather becomes more favorable, you will see work begin on the new parking lot in front of the school. All the work involving this project will start to move quickly once they can start working on a consistent basis with warmer weather. The goal is for this project to be completed by late August. We do not expect any disruptions for the fall sports season, but you will definitely notice the construction going on this spring and summer. In the end, we are going to have a beautiful facility for all to enjoy for many years to come.

The last thing I wanted to mention is that we have started to do some fundraising to help offset some of the costs for buying equipment for the track. We are in the process of selling bricks. Cost per brick is \$250. Once the entrance is completed, we will have the engraver come out and begin this work. The Brick Fundraiser Form is included here. Please turn these forms in at either the Colo or the Zearing Office. We have already sold a lot of bricks, but there are many available yet. Thank you to those of you that have already purchased one as well!

Thank you,
Marc Snavely, Superintendent

Colo-NESCO Theater Presents "Mamma Mia"

Under the direction of Bryan Ward, students brought "Mamma Mia" to the Colo-NESCO stage on March 7th and 8th.

The show was well-received and the students' hard work rewarded, with Friday's show being performed to a full house.

Ten CN seniors were amongst the cast and crew. Congratulations to all!



COLO-NESCO STADIUM BRICK FUNDRAISER

Purchase an engraved brick to support Colo-NESCO's new athletic stadium and track project. \$250 will buy an engraved brick that is displayed at the entrance of the stadium. 400 bricks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no limit on the number of bricks purchased per person or family.

Return this form and payment to Travis Owens or the Colo-NESCO High School office.

NAME :

CASH

EMAIL:

CHECK

PHONE:

In the space above, write up to 24 characters, including spaces, on 2 lines to be engraved on a brick



TRACKING - FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
DO NOT FILL THIS SECTION OUT

BRICK NUMBER: _____

LIL' ROYALS PRESCHOOL

COLO-NESCO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRESCHOOL OPTIONS

*3 Year old Preschool Half/Full Day Option
* 3 Year old is subject to availability
(child must be 3 years old before September 15,
2025)

*4 Year old Preschool Half/Full Day Options
(child must be 4 years old before September 15,
2025 to receive Statewide Funding)

*Priority given to in district students
*Possible Scholarships available !

CURRICULUM:

REALLY GREAT READING, S.M.A.R.T., 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.



SCAN ME

TO ENROLL
SCAN THE QR CODE OR
VISIT
COLONESCO.ORG



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
PRINCIPAL, MIKE BOEVE
MBOEVE@COLO-NESCO.K12.IA.US
641-487-7411

FINE ARTS NIGHT

During conferences in February, the high school held their first annual Fine Arts Night. There were student performances from Band, Choir and Speech in the band room. Art students presented their work in the cafeteria on display panels purchased by the CN Boosters. A meal was provided by the Junior Class and desserts made by the Foods classes. This event was a great opportunity to showcase the department's work!



Thank you to the following for providing meals for teachers and staff during conferences in February:

**THANK
YOU!**


**Boosters / Jacklyn Muntz
FFA Students / Todd Frohwein
CN Junior Class After Prom
Colo United Methodist Church
Kim and Hope Heidemann**

**Our staff always looks forward to
this pick-me-up during an
exhausting week!**

We are so grateful for you all!

Kindergarten ... with Mrs. Hulshizer

What can I say about Kindergarten? Grab a chair, a cold drink and have a seat.

First and foremost, Kindergarten happened with new furniture, desks, chairs and supplies this year. A huge thank you and shout-out to the Colo-NESCO Booster Club for outfitting both kindergarten classes with new STEM materials, manipulatives, dramatic play kits, and supplies in general! Our rooms are engaging, beautiful, organized and user-friendly. Thank you!

In addition to new furniture, teachers were given tv/computers for our classrooms. Personally, I have a love/hate relationship with these devices, just ask any of the staff members who are always helping me. Technology and I don't see eye-to-eye. When I push a button and the expected result happens, I like the wall computer. But when I push a button and the unexpected happens, or the internet is down, trying to "fix" said problem, with lots of little bodies wiggling and losing focus on the carpet behind me, it can be pretty frustrating. Times they are a changing. ~sigh~

So, we have new furniture, new stuff, and lots of expectations. When I get asked what grade I teach, I usually get the response, "Aww, that must be fun," followed by a comment that suggests Kindergarteners play most of the day and then have a nap. Nothing could be further from the truth. Daily expectations for a child in Kindergarten are: 90 minutes of reading: comprehension, phonics, phonemic awareness; 45 minutes of math: number identification, addition & subtraction, subitizing, 2D & 3D shapes, building teen numbers with tens and ones, counting to 100 by ones and tens, and measuring... just to name a few! They have 30 minutes of writing, and that's in addition to handwriting where they learn to write uppercase and lowercase letters correctly... using lines. By the end of Kindergarten, students are expected to write sentences using a capital letter, spaces and a punctuation mark. These kids know about nouns, verbs and digraphs. They are exposed to 6-8 new sight words per week by the end of the year and are expected to know 13 words in one minute on end-of-year testing. And when time allows, we might have a science or social studies lesson. In my class, some of our highlight themes have been fire safety, Pilgrims & Native Americans, ocean (with seafood tasting at the end), dental health, presidents, Bee-Bots (coding), and mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Still to come: outer space, weather, insects, and dinosaurs (just for fun).

The next time you see a child who has been alive for 5-6 years, you can look at him/her with new respect. These kids come to school each day and are expected to sit and learn when all they want to do is play. As a teacher who has to ask that of them, it's hard. Teachers are expected to teach curriculum with fidelity, cover all of the standards and benchmarks while balancing the social and emotional needs of each child. Children who come to school with hardships at home, children whose circumstances keep us awake at night, they are all expected to meet benchmark. We are so fortunate to have a team to help all students make their own progress; Title 1 math and reading, special education, speech, ESL, guidance, etc.

“Kindergarten” continued from page 6...

If you had the privilege to walk down the halls of our school during the day, you would be amazed at the community you would see. Staff, and I mean ALL of our staff, coming together when a tricky situation happens. Working together, having each other's backs. When someone is in need of help, those who are available stop what they are doing and come to assist. We have so much to be proud of at Colo-NESCO. Our students are in the best of hands, coming to school from all walks of life, living under all different conditions. Teachers meet them where they are and take them as far as they can.

So, high-five a Kindergartener, or any student, for a job well done, and be gracious to a teacher, administrator, associate, or other staff member who gives everything they have for our children. Working with kids is exhausting. Trying to groom them to be good citizens, set them up for a successful future... it is an honor. Thank you for all of your help, whether you are a parent, grandparent, neighbor, caregiver, or community member. It truly takes a village.



Kindergarten Friends!

News from the Business Corner...



by Kim Heidemann

It has been a productive year! We have hosted several wonderful guest speakers. We have had professionals speak to the students about health insurance and estate planning.

Story County Extension once again partnered with us and brought in their program called Real Money, Real World. It was a great way for students to work through monthly living costs based on a fictional job and income. Thanks to all the CN Community members that joined us for the last day of the project to help students make those tough financial decisions.

Over the past several months we have been working with community partners (Mary Greeley Medical Center, Story County Sheriff's Office and Story County Attorney's Office) to provide internship experiences for students. It's been a great way for them to learn about careers they want to go into, and finding out that perhaps that career isn't for them after all!

“Business Corner” ...continued from page 7

Highlights from HS TAG

This past fall, HS TAG student Kaydence Reyes asked if we could organize a blood drive. Not only did LifeServe agree to work with us on hosting a blood drive, but we decided to create a fun "Bleed Your Spirit" event that pitted CN blood donors against Collins-Maxwell blood donors in an effort to see who "bled" more. It was a light-hearted competition that wielded big results. CN brought the trophy home this time around! (Yes-there really is a trophy. You can view it in the HS office.).

In an effort to be an experienced based program, the HS TAG group was happy to work with CN community member (and mom) LeAnn Anderson to plan a trip to Iowa State's Vet Med School. The students took a tour of the school, got a tour of several labs, had a hands on experience to try their hand at suturing and had a never-forget-kind-of-experience in the pathology lab. Thanks again, LeAnn, for your help in organizing!

CTE Enterprise News

CTE Enterprise is a concept where students from Ag, Food & Consumer Science, and Business come together to create items to sell. The purpose is to give students real world experience in each area. For example, in the fall, FCS students made and packaged pumpkin pies. Business students created marketing materials and tracked how much was spent and what revenue was made. Besides making pumpkin pies, the CTE Enterprise program worked on charcuterie boards and is now gearing up to create, make and sell metal outdoor signs.

We cannot offer these experiences without your generosity in purchasing these items. All money raised goes directly back into the CTE program to buy materials for the next project. If you would like to donate to this fund, please send your donation to the school marked “CTE Enterprise donation”.

National Honor Society (NHS)

We are proud to announce that the following students have been accepted into the Colo-NESCO Chapter of NHS: Audrey Campbell, Landon Gjerde, Elizabeth Erickson, Kaydence Reyes and Hope Heidemann.

In order to get into NHS, students had to fill out an extensive application and write a personal essay on why they should be admitted into NHS based on the following principals: leadership, academics, character and service. Each student had to have at least a 3.5 grade point to be considered.

If you see any of the above students in our community, please make sure to congratulate them on their success in reaching this achievement.



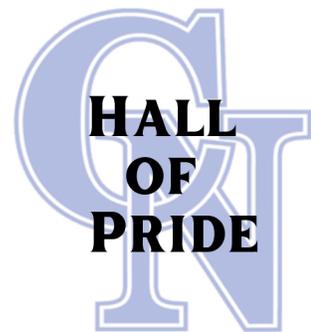
Gannon Hendrick



On March 13, the Colo-NESCO National Honor Society inducted five new students. CN graduate, Gannon Hendrick (2003), served as guest speaker. Hendrick is currently chief-of-staff to Senate President Amy Sinclair and operates his family's cow-calf herd near McCallsburg. He is also a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve. Thank you, Gannon, for taking the time to share your experiences with our students! Congratulations to the NHS inductees: Landon Gjerde, Hope Heidemann, Kaydence Reyes, Audrey Campbell and Elizabeth Erickson (not pictured)!



Stan Vigness (represented by Justin Walker), Lori Mein, Sara Phillips Stoffel, Brandon Eley



The Colo-NESCO Hall of Pride inducted four new members as the 2025 class on January 11 after games in Colo. Good food, great fellowship and reminiscing followed in the cafetorium. Congratulations to Stan, Lori, Sara and Brandon!

SPEECH

Colo-NESCO Large Group Speech had two improv teams perform at districts this year. Hope Heidemann, Erynn Dulaney, Annabelle Heller and Cerra Muntz (pictured at right) received a Division 1 rating at Districts and a Division 2 rating at State.



Izzy McDonald, Kentley Riese, Nora Seyller and Callie Jedlicka (pictured at left) received a Division 1 rating at Districts and a Division 2 rating at State.

Callie, Kentley and Izzy also participated in Individual Speech. Callie received a 1 in Public Address at Districts to advance to State in Ames on March 15. Kentley received a 2 for her Radio News and Poetry performances at District and Izzy received a 2 for her Prose.

For Individual Speech, Cerra Muntz performed “Not the Way that You Look” in Poetry at Districts and received a 1 rating. She advanced with this performance to State in Ames on March 15. Cerra also performed the Barbie Speech from *Barbie*, the movie in Acting at Districts and received a 1 rating, which she also took to State. Annabelle Heller performed a selection from *The Bell Jar* (by Sylvia Plath) in Prose at Districts and received a 1 rating, also a State qualifier.

Well done, CN Speech contestants!

Festival of Bands

The Festival of Bands was held March 10 at the high school. The 5th Grade and 6th Grade Bands performed, as well as the Junior High Band, High School Band, and Jazz Band, under the direction of Wyatt Van Gorp. Soloist on the flugelhorn during the Jazz portion was Brevik Hostetler.



“These students have been putting a TON of effort into their rehearsals and it all finally paid off with this amazing concert! It wouldn’t be possible without the support of our community and these excited young musicians.



...I love to see the student growth from their first concert and we plan on delivering another great performance in May!”

-- *Mr. Van Gorp*





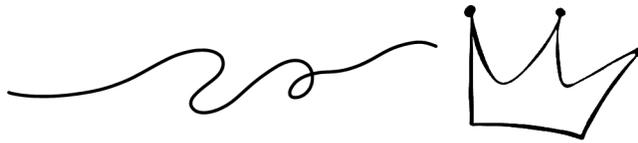
S.T.E.A.M. Night

The Colo-NESCO Elementary hosted S.T.E.A.M. Night March 6th.

S.T.E.A.M. stands for science, technology, engineering, art and math. This was a family night out, where students could choose from the following stations:

- Water Tables / Water Wall
- Lights & Shadows
- Bee-Bots
- Ramps
- Art

Pizza was served, compliments of the Colo-NESCO Boosters!



WRESTLER RECOGNITION



Robbie Larsen, Hunter Hardin, Colin Grundlingh, Anthony Jones, Kooper Spalding, Wyatt Sigler, Colt Jedlicka, Trenton Landers



Our wrestlers were introduced at basketball games this winter. Coaches Tawnia Leslie and Hesston Johnson were in attendance to recognize these athletes for their perseverance this season!

Left: Callie Jedlicka, Cerra Muntz, Emma Lennie, Coach Leslie

FCCLA members attended the State Leadership Conference in Cedar Rapids on March 23 - 25. While at the conference, members will had the opportunity to network with other members from the state, compete in STAR Events, and attend breakout sessions. The following students competed: Annabelle Heller in *Interpersonal Communications*, Cerra Muntz in *Sports Nutrition*, Lily Stalzer in *Early Childhood Education*, and Hannah Matteson and Haylee Jackson in *Promote and Publicize FCCLA*. Members that receive the top gold medal in their events have the opportunity to attend the National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida in July. (Results unknown as of CN News deadline)



BOYS BASKETBALL 2024-25 ...COACH KELLEY

The 2024 HS Boys Basketball season has come to a close, and what a season it was for our team! Finishing with an impressive 16-8 record, the boys showcased their determination, resilience, and teamwork throughout the year.

One of the standout highlights of the season included key victories over tough opponents like Belmond Klemme and Iowa Valley, games that truly demonstrated our team's grit and ability to rise to the occasion. The squad also made a strong run in the postseason, securing a big win in the district opener against GMG.

Individually, several players earned well-deserved recognition for their outstanding performances on the court. Gannon Short was named 1st Team All-Conference, a testament to his hard work, leadership, and skill. Mark Bower earned 2nd Team All-Conference honors, bringing consistency and energy to every game. Breckin Clatt also received Honorable Mention, a well-earned acknowledgment of his contributions to the team's success.

None of this would have been possible without the incredible support from our community, parents, and, of course, the players who gave their all every time they stepped on the court. From the packed gymnasiums to the encouraging words after tough games, your unwavering support meant the world to our team.

As we close the book on this season, we look back with pride and forward with excitement for what's to come. Thank you again to everyone who made this season unforgettable — we couldn't have done it without you. It's a GREAT DAY TO BE A ROYAL!!

Girls Basketball 24-25

This season our girls placed 5th in the Iowa Star South with an overall record of 4-17. From the first practice until the last game of the season we saw an abundance of improvement! We had some great fun throughout the season. We had some close games at the start of the year, and picked up our first win in overtime over Paton Churdan! We then won games over GMG, Collins-Maxwell, and Cedar Valley Christian. We ended our season in the first round of regionals. We are graduating 5 seniors: Abigail Kettwig, Jady Niyemeyer, Hannah Matteson, Annabelle Heller, and Lily Stalzer. These five girls were some great workers and will be missed next season. We have some great returning players next year and we are looking forward to a great season!



Annabelle Heller
Academic All-State

Academic All State: Annabelle Heller

Team Academic Distinguished Award: Team GPA 3.68

Go Royals!

Coach Buckridge

CN BOOSTER CLUB UPDATE FROM JACKLYN MUNTZ

The Colo-NESCO Booster Club supports students in our district with funds for education supplies, athletics, clubs and other organizations. In the last year, we gave back over \$27,000 to our students in the form of classroom items, prom funds, uniforms and athletic supplies, musical and play props, scholarships and so much more. If you would like to get involved with a fun group of volunteers who strive to give our kids the best we can offer, please contact Breann Perisho at bperisho@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us or our Booster president, Jeremy Earles at jearles74@gmail.com

One of our biggest recent events has been our Gala. March 1st we hosted our 3rd annual CN Booster Gala. We had a meal, an auction and live music. We brought in nearly \$7000 to give back to our kids and would love to see this event continue to grow. Other recent events include hosting the Hall of Pride ceremony and providing pizzas and drinks for STEAM night.

Each year the Boosters give up to four \$500 scholarships to students planning to further their education through school or trade. The scholarship application is available to them through the school and is due at the end of April. Scholarships are announced at awards night.

On May 9 we are hosting "Muffins in May" at the elementary. Parents should look for communication from school soon about their student bringing a VIP to take part in the morning meeting and then spending some time in the classroom with them to enjoy a small breakfast treat and conversation. This is a great way for parents or grandparents to get a chance to see their child's learning environment and spend special time together. Some kids will not have a VIP and if you're part of our community and would like to volunteer to fill in for some of these students, please contact Jacklyn Muntz at jack50154@yahoo.com

Concessions are a big way we earn money to give back to our students. We appreciate our concession volunteers so much! Our first home baseball and softball games will be coming up at the end of May, and we are always looking for volunteers. No special skills are needed. You get free admission to the game and a free food and drink item for working. You can sign up through the "sign up" website. The link is posted on our Facebook page or you can contact Stacie Hostetler at stacie_hoss@yahoo.com and she will help you!

Lastly, we would like to thank all of the individuals and local businesses who donate to us. We have had great support over the last year, not only in monetary donations, but also items for auction and supplies for our events. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please reach out to Andrew Short at drew4isu@gmail.com

Post-Season Honors

2024-25 Basketball

**Gannon
Short
1st Team**



**Abbie Kettwig
2nd Team**



**Mark Bower
2nd Team**



**Breckin Clatt
Hon. Mention**



**Jadyn Niemeyer
Hon. Mention**



*All-Conference
Selections*

CONGRATULATIONS



Administration & Management

Marc Snavely - Superintendent

msnavely@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Brandon Kelley - MS / HS Principal

bkelley@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Mike Boeve - Elementary Principal

mboeve@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Bill Lytle - Building & Grounds

blytle@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Traci Nessa - Business Manager

trnessa@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

Brad Kohlwes - Vice President

bkohlwes@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

John Fuller - Board Member

jfuller@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Katy McKinney - Board Member

kmckinney@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Wyatt Perisho - Board Member

wperisho@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Anna Sheets - Board Member

asheets@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

Justin Walker - Board Member

jwalker@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us

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

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

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