

CN NEWS

Summer 2026

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
Chad Wahls, Superintendent
Brandon Kelley, Principal

Dates to Know

- Registration is OPEN!
- 6th & 7th Grade Orientation:
Aug. 20 / 5:00 in Colo
- Back to School Night:
Aug. 20 / 5-7 pm
- Picture Day (PK-11): Sept. 30
- First Day of School: Mon., Aug 24
- Labor Day - No School: Sept. 7
- First Day of Preschool: Sept. 8
- Homecoming Week: Sept. 13-19
- Mondays are our "Late Start"
days: 10:00 am



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TODAY is a Brand New Start!

Greetings

FROM OUR NEW SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Colo-NESCO Communities, Parents, Families, Students, and Staff,

It is an honor and privilege to introduce myself as the new superintendent of the Colo-NESCO Community School District. I am incredibly excited to join a district with such a rich tradition of community support, dedicated staff, and pride in its schools. As we prepare for another school year, I wanted to take this opportunity to share my vision for the future of Colo-NESCO and my commitment to working alongside all of you.

Throughout the summer, I have invited every employee working during the break to meet with me for a conversation centered around five key questions. These discussions have provided valuable insight into what makes Colo-NESCO special and where we have opportunities to grow. This same opportunity will be extended to all staff members as they return to our buildings in August.

My goal is to use this feedback to identify the many strengths that make our district successful so we can continue to build upon them. At the same time, I want to identify areas where we can improve and work collaboratively to create meaningful, lasting progress.

As I look toward this school year and the years ahead, I believe our work should focus on three key priorities.

First, we must continue making Colo-NESCO a destination district for families. Our communities offer the best of small-town living while remaining conveniently located near Ames, Nevada, Marshalltown, and Des Moines. The support our communities have shown for our schools is remarkable. Together, you have invested in beautiful facilities that provide outstanding learning environments for our students and staff. While continuing to maintain and improve those facilities is important, we must also ensure that the educational experience inside those buildings is second to none.

Second, we will place a strong emphasis on student achievement. We will establish high expectations for every student, every classroom, and every building as we work toward becoming a high-performing district as measured by the Iowa School Performance Report Card. I firmly believe we have an exceptional nucleus of talented educators and staff members who are committed to helping every student succeed. By partnering with our families, businesses, and community members, we can continue to elevate academic excellence throughout the district.

Third, we will continue strengthening the quality of our programs. Whether in the classroom, Fine Arts, athletics, or extracurricular activities, we want every student to have access to outstanding opportunities that prepare them for future success. We will strive to offer programs that are both high quality and competitive while providing experiences that encourage students to discover their passions and talents. I look forward to meeting our students and staff as the new school year begins and becoming an active member of the Colo-NESCO communities. Building strong relationships is one of my highest priorities, and I welcome the opportunity to visit with anyone who would like to share their thoughts, ideas, or hopes for our district.

If you are a community member, parent, or family member and would like to meet with me, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can email me at cwahls@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us or call the Colo district office to schedule a time with the secretary. I would be happy to sit down and visit with you.

Thank you for the warm welcome you have already extended to me. I am excited to begin this journey together as we continue building on the proud tradition of excellence at Colo-NESCO.

Go Royals!

Sincerely,
Chad Wahls
Superintendent
Colo-NESCO Community School District





MacKenzie Perisho & Gavin Larsen

FBLA State

Future Business Leaders of America club (FBLA) State was held in Cedar Rapids. Gavin Larsen and McKenzie Perisho did a great job representing our school. Both students competed in “Agribusiness Objective Testing”. Gavin placed 5th and Kenzie placed 6th. Gavin also competed in “Intro to Parliamentary Procedures”, where he placed 15th. These are two freshmen competing at a high level, and we should all be proud of their efforts and ambition. These competitions are a great learning experience! **THANK YOU to all of our sponsors that helped with the entrance fees required for our students to compete!**

NHS



Landon, Kaydence and Haylee

Colo-NESCO’s National Honor Society celebrated the graduation of three members. Haylee Jackson (President), Landon Gjerde (Vice-President) and Kaydence Reyes (Secretary) all were given their NHS pin and ID card during Awards Night May 13. We wish them much success! Thank you, again, to the parents that supported all of the NHS fundraisers throughout the year!

Prom 2026 was a big success! Thanks to the parents and staff that helped with both Prom and After Prom. Another big thank you to the City of Zeauring for allowing the dance to take place in Dakins Community Center. It was a great night of community fun.



A Letter from the MS / HS Principal...

Dear Colo-NESCO MS/HS Students and Families,

Welcome to a new school year! I hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer filled with time to recharge and create lasting memories. As we begin another exciting year together, I want to express how grateful I am to be part of a school community that is committed to helping every student grow academically, socially, and personally.

This year brings many exciting opportunities, and one of the highlights is the launch of our new Career Exploration Program. We believe that preparing students for life after graduation begins long before senior year. Through this program, our middle and high school students will have meaningful opportunities to explore their interests, discover potential career pathways, and connect classroom learning to real-world experiences.

Throughout the year, students will participate in career interest assessments, guest speaker presentations, career-focused learning activities, college and industry visits, job shadowing opportunities, and hands-on experiences designed to help them better understand the wide variety of careers available to them. Whether a student's future includes college, technical training, military service, or entering the workforce, this program is designed to help them make informed decisions and develop valuable skills for success.

Career exploration is about more than choosing a job—it's about discovering passions, building confidence, and understanding how today's learning creates tomorrow's opportunities. We are excited to partner with local businesses, community organizations, and higher education institutions to provide authentic learning experiences that inspire our students.

In addition to this new initiative, our faculty and staff remain committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and engaging learning environment where every student feels valued and challenged. We encourage students to become involved in academics, athletics, fine arts, clubs, and service opportunities that enrich their school experience.

Families play an essential role in student success, and we appreciate your continued partnership. Your encouragement, communication, and support make a tremendous difference. We look forward to working together throughout the year to help every student reach their fullest potential.

As we begin this school year, I encourage every student to embrace new opportunities, set ambitious goals, and challenge themselves to grow. Together, we will make this a year filled with learning, achievement, and memorable experiences.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. We are excited to welcome everyone back and look forward to an outstanding school year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Kelley

MS / HS Principal
Colo-NESCO Schools



Colo-NESCO Grad Wins National Recognition for Writing

2026 Colo-Nesco Valedictorian Kaydence Reyes recently received Honorable Mention in the 32nd annual Penguin Random House Creative Writing Awards. The award, established in 1993, is described by PRH as “an annual scholarship program designed to identify, elevate, and nurture the next generation of young and diverse American authors.” There are six categories under which submissions can fall: Fiction, Memoir, Poetry, Spoken Word, Freedom of Expression, and NYC entrant.

Kaydence submitted a memoir entitled “Immortal Infant,” which she wrote in her Composition I class at CN. The class was a dual-credit course with DMACC and is taught on campus by Mrs. Kendra Breitsprecher. Kaydence said, “The essay was a love letter to the creativity I’ve cherished, abandoned, leaned on, pushed away, and finally rediscovered. In the piece I reflect on my difficult relationship with it in the form of an infant metaphor, and come to a place of acceptance and optimism within our shared future. Ultimately, I ask whether creativity can ever truly be lost, or if it is in fact the one thing on earth that is immortal.”

The next application window for this scholarship is expected to be in early October of this year. To be eligible, a person must be under 21 years of age, currently a high school senior in the US, plan to enroll in a two to four-year college/vocational program, and the submission must be an original, unpublished literary piece in English that is no longer than 10 pages.

Kaydence lives in Colo and is the daughter of Nino Reyes and Kendra Eibs. She will attend the University of Iowa in the fall.



**KAYDENCE
REYES**

Congratulations!

Here is a link to read the story in its entirety:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/14RVvFKD28_a7crbtqwgkVT4vbAOUpLCE2cJeuqibKTM/edit?usp=drivesdk

Best Wishes, Sally Thomas!



Jade Hammers
Brandi Evans
Kendra Breitsprecher
Olivia Carlson

1st Year
Survivors



20 Years & Retiree



5 Years

Kim Heidemann
Hannah Anderson
Emily Ronnfeldt

15 Years



Bryan Ward, Pam Niemeyer

**CN Years
of Service
2026**

*Thank You
to Our Amazing Staff!*

**Years
of Service
2026**



Sharon Dean, Tony Stalzer



Thank You, Marc!



CN Superintendent, Marc Snavely, is thanked for his five years of service to the district by Brandon Kelley and Mike Boeve at the close of the 25-26 school year. 8



LIL' ROYALS PRESCHOOL

COLO-NESCO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

About our Program

- 3 year old full and half day options
- 4 year old full and half day options
- Monday day care add on option
- Classrooms have a mix of ages
- Classrooms have a mix of full day and half day students



Academic Focus

In preschool we spend a lot of time focusing on social emotional skills. These include sharing, taking turns, managing feelings and emotions and listening to others.

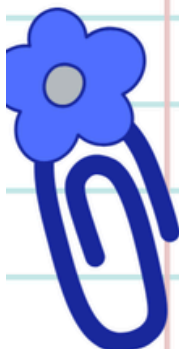
We also have a daily routine for math, literacy and writing.

During the day we incorporate a daily read aloud. In the afternoons we add in small group time where we plan activities to meet the students wherever they are. We base these off of the skills they have and not their age.



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





A huge and sincere thank you to the Colo-NESCO School Board, Administration, and Booster Club for the recent facility upgrades with the all-weather track, concession stand, and all of the equipment needed for such a big project that impacts all sports and so many students. Track and Field has been something that our district has been proud of for years, and having a track of our own has always been a dream and goal for the students of our district. The recent success of our track teams (participation numbers, school records, championships, state appearances. etc...) has been a direct correlation to the new track and the hard work of our student athletes. It has also been great to watch our track being used for speed training, which benefits every sport that Colo-NESCO offers. Our recent Track and Field season had a ton of success, highlighted by Biz Erickson and Jack Angell both being place winners at the State Meet. The boys 4x100m Relay was also the first sprint relay to run at the State Track Meet since our Championship relay in 1996, which would not have happened without our new track.

Parents: - please encourage your children to consider Track and Field when they reach Junior High and High School, as it will help develop you as an athlete in all other sports but is also diverse enough to allow a spot for every type of athlete (19 different events). I look forward to what the future holds for Colo-NESCO athletics, it's a great day to be a Royal!

Coach David Greenfield



2026 COLO-NESCO TRACK ACHIEVEMENTS

Junior High

Veda Cochran: Iowa Star Conference Champion in the Long Jump.

New JH School Record in the Long Jump with a jump of 15'1". Previous record holder was Alissa Riese in 1994.

Trenten Landers: Iowa Star Conference Champion in the 100m Dash and 200m Dash.

High School Boys

New High School Record - 800m Sprint Medley Relay: Reece Fulton, Preston Voelker, Kooper Spalding, Jack Angell. 1:38.61.

Previous Record Holders - 2025 Mark Bower, Preston Voelker, Breckin Clatt, Jack Angell.

Iowa Star Conference Meet:

4th out of 16 schools as a team for Boys

4x100m Relay Champions - Reece Fulton, Preston Voelker, Kooper Spalding, Jack Angell.

Shuttle Hurdle Relay Champions - Reece Fulton, Anthony Jones, Caleb Nessa, Kooper Spalding

400m Hurdles Champion- Jack Angell

100m Hurdles Champion- Jack Angell

State Qualifying Meet:

4x100m Relay - 2nd Place - Reece Fulton, Preston Voelker, Kooper Spalding, Jack Angell.

800m Sprint Medley Relay - 2nd Place - Reece Fulton, Preston Voelker, Kooper Spalding, Jack Angell.

110m Hurdles - 1st Place - Jack Angell

Shuttle Hurdle Relay - 3rd Place - Reece Fulton, Anthony Jones, Caleb Nessa, Kooper Spalding

400m Hurdles - 1st Place - Jack Angell

State Track:

4x100m Relay - Reece Fulton, Preston Voelker, Kooper Spalding, Jack Angell - 23rd Place

110m Hurdles - Jack Angell - 18th Place

400m Hurdles - Jack Angell - 7th Place

High School Girls

New High School Records - Elizabeth Erickson: 800m 2:19.37/ 1500m 4:50.51 / 3000m 10:23.18

Previous Record Holders - Elizabeth Erickson and Kim Stead

Iowa Star Conference:

Sophia Clawson - 5th Place - 100m Dash and 200m Dash

Biz Erickson - 1st Place - 800m Run, 1500m Run, 3000m Run

State Qualifying Meet:

Biz Erickson - 2nd - 3000m Run

Biz Erickson - 3rd Place 800m Run, 1500m Run

Sophia Clawson - 4th Place - 100m Dash, 200m Dash

State Track:

800m - Elizabeth Erickson - 6th Place

3000m - Elizabeth Erickson - 6th Place

1500m - Elizabeth Erickson - 4th Place



CENTRAL IOWA UNITED SOCCER COACH SUTTON

Colo-NESCO had four girl soccer participants for Central Iowa United: Kaydence Reyes, Landrey Harris, Julie Banks, and Nora Seyller (team manager). The team ended the season 2-12-1, winning the first round regional vs. South Tama 3-1. All three Colo-NESCO girls were consistently starters for CIU, having major contributions for the team. Landrey stepped up to split time at goal keeper, recording 115 saves with a 75% save percentage. Julie played a forward position and was a major contributor to our offense. She scored one goal on 11 shots. Finally, senior captain Kaydence was the leader of the defensive line, keeping the team organized and helping to prevent many goals throughout the season.



Kaydence Reyes

IHSSCA Academic All State 2nd Team
IGCA Academic All State
Honorable Mention: Heart of Iowa
All-Conference

Jack Seyller

Second Team
Heart of Iowa All-Conference



FROM COACH JOHN FULLER: BOYS SOCCER RECAP



Front Row Andrew Seyller, Tanner Heaps, Noah Matteson, Maddox Hernandez, Luke Eady, Kiernan Heaps
Second Row Aidyn Short, Seth Bell, John Fuller, Tyler Turner
Third Maddox Weigelt, Jaxson Cox, Jack Seyller, Gage Byal, Wilson Buckley, Aidan Farley
Back: David Pena Ramirez, Weston Mobley, Zack Vanwyk-Jutting, Landon Vaughn, Reagan Peters, Ezra Muntz
Not Pictured: Jaron Cox

Colo-NESCO shares soccer with West Marshall, Collins-Maxwell, and Colfax-Mingo. This year Jack Seyller, Aidyn Short, Ezra Muntz, Noah Matteson, and Andrew Seyller participated from Colo-NESCO. Our record was 2-13-1 and not really indicative of how hard the boys worked. Overall, this year we started a lot of young players who will hopefully return stronger and more seasoned next year. The team did get conference recognition. From Colo-NESCO, Jack Seyller received Second Team all-conference. Gage Byal, Colfax-Mingo, and Jaxson Cox, Collins-Maxwell, received all-conference Honorable Mention. Returning Second Team all-conference back Seth Bell, Collins-Maxwell, was recovering from injury this season and did not play and received a Distinguished Athlete Award. We really hope to have him back and strong next season. Several boys received Academic All-Conference, which they should have, as they are students first!

STATE

Track



Coach Greenfield, Dawson Brown, Reece Fulton, Anthony Jones, Preston Voelker, Elizabeth Erickson, Connor Perisho, Kooper Spalding, Landlyn Short, Jack Angell, Coach Pelzer

2026 State Track Qualifiers, Alternates and Coaches



Elizabeth

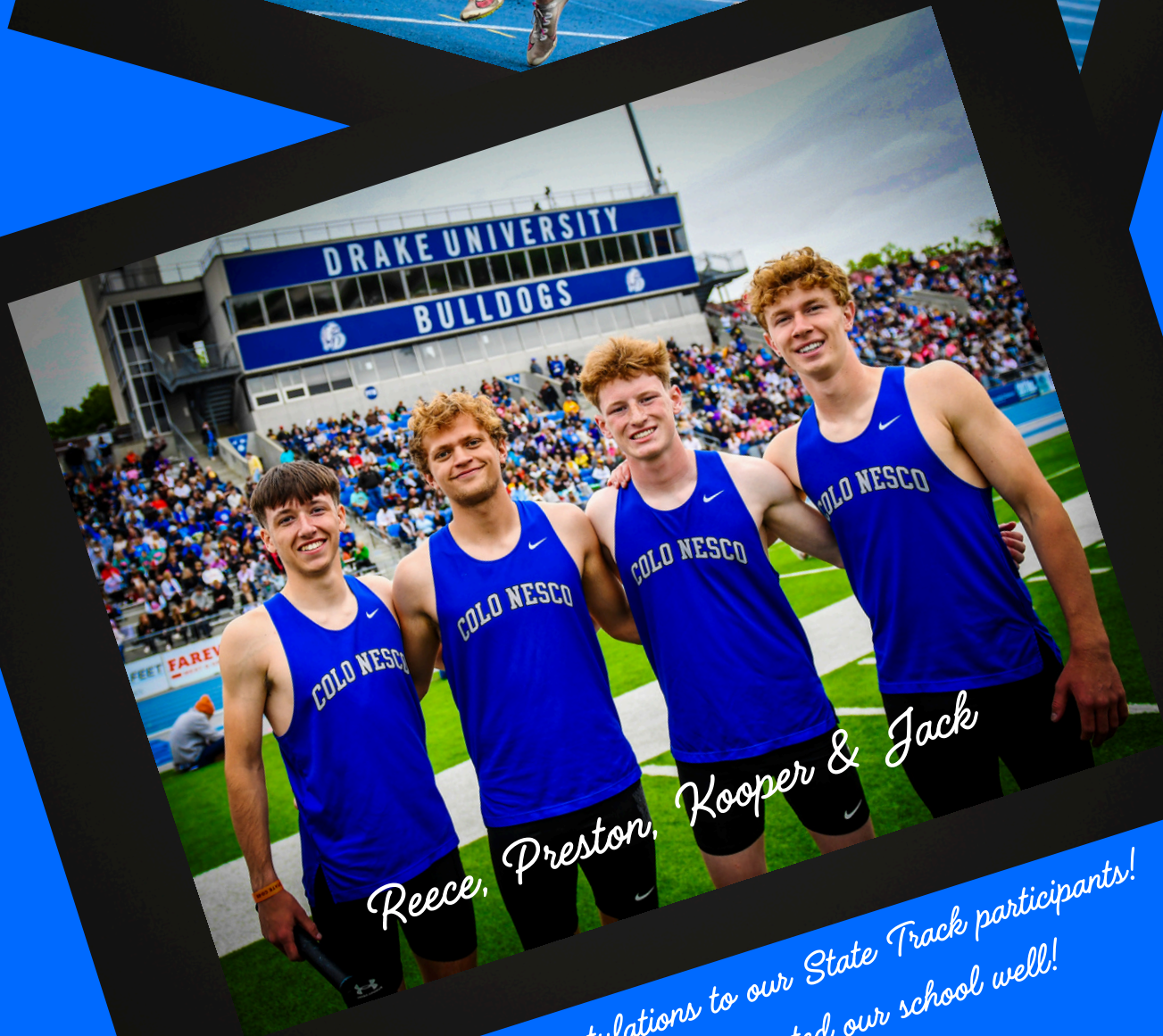
Elizabeth Erickson:
800M / 1500M / 3000M

Jack Angell:
110 Hurdles
400 Hurdles

Reece Fulton, Preston
Voelker, Kooper
Spalding & Jack Angell:
4x100M Relay



Jack



Reece, Preston, Kooper & Jack

*Congratulations to our State Track participants!
You represented our school well!*

Baseball Season 2026

COACH TRAVIS OWENS

The Colo-Nesco baseball team finished the season with a 9-12 regular season record and a 7-9 conference record. Improving from the previous season with two more regular season wins and three more conference wins.

In a conference filled with a talented senior class, Colo-NESCO senior Landon Gjerde led the way offensively for the Royals the entire season. Ranking 1st-3rd in every offensive statistical category in the conference, Gjerde ended his senior season batting .397. He added four doubles, one triple, and a homerun. Brady Handsaker led the teams in doubles and put himself in the top 10 all-time at Colo-NESCO in doubles.

The Royals' strength this season was on the bump. Hunter Purvis led the way and finished the season with 63 strikeouts, which puts him Top 15 in class 1A to end the regular season. He also cracked the top ten in career strikeouts and has another year to add to his total. Connor Perisho, Jonas Porter, and Brevik Hostetler also added great innings throughout the course of the season. Connor Perisho ended the year in the top 5 for saves all-time at Colo-NESCO and also has another year to add to his total.

Out of the 9 wins this season, two games really stand out. On Senior Night the Royals hosted GMG. Facing one of the better arms in the conference, the Royals were down 4-1 heading into the 6th inning. The Royals stayed composed and capitalized on their opportunity in the bottom of the 6th. Hunter Carlson hit an RBI single to tie the game with two outs. Jack Angell then hit a 2 RBI single to give the Royals a two run lead heading to the 7th. Connor Perisho would inherit the mound with the tying run on 1st base and later get the final out with a great defensive play by shortstop Landyn Short to seal the game. Purvis started the game and gave a great outing going 6 $\frac{1}{3}$, giving up 1 ER and striking out 8.

In the final game at home, the Royals played English Valleys. The Royals would trail the entire game and trailed 4-7 going into the final inning. Colo-NESCO would battle late! The Royals scored three of the four seventh-inning runs with two outs. Senior Brady Handsaker would tie the game up and senior Landon Gjerde would walk it off for the win! A great way to send out our seniors on their last game at Duane Newton Field.

The Royals placed four players on All-Conference. Landon Gjerde was a first team All-Conference selection, Hunter Purvis and Brady Handsaker were second team, and Cody Walker was honorable mention. Landon Gjerde was selected 2nd team IBCA All-District Catcher as well. The team awards included Hunter Purvis - Pitcher of the Year, Landon Gjerde - Offensive MVP, Brady Handsaker - Defensive MVP, Brevik Hostetler - Most Improved, and Jake Gjerde was the JV MVP. The Coaches Award went to Jack Angell and the Hustle Award was given to Cody Walker.

The Royals will miss the senior class of Landon Gjerde, Brady Handsaker, Cody Walker, and Jack Angell. These seniors have left us with many memories, exciting games, new records, and a lot of top-ten all-time records at Colo-NESCO. They will be deeply missed and difficult to replace... but there is an exciting group of players who return. Experience and work ethic will return for Colo-NESCO next year as they try to build on the success they had this season.

Baseball Post-Season Honors
IOWA STAR CONFERENCE SOUTH

HUNTER
PURVIS

SECOND TEAM
ALL-CONFERENCE
INFIELD



LANDON GJERDE

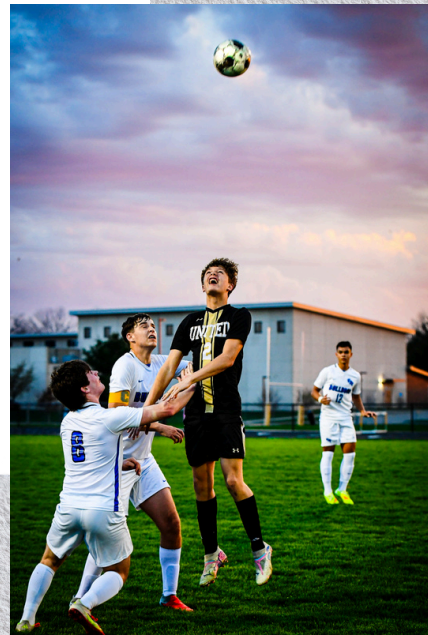
1A 2ND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT CATCHER
1ST TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE INFIELD

BRADY
HANDSAKER

SECOND TEAM
ALL-CONFERENCE
OUTFIELD

CODY WALKER
CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION

Spring Sports 2025-26



SOFTBALL POST-SEASON HONOR 2025-26

Landrey Harris

IOWA STAR SOUTH
HONORABLE MENTION



Colo-NESCO had a youthful team this summer with 7 of their 10 being 8th graders or freshmen. The team grew and improved all season long showing great teamwork, grit, and resiliency. Playing their best the last ten days of the season, the girls picked up their only win the last regular season game when they traveled to South Central Calhoun. Their final record showing 1-22. Though the young royals had to step up into big positions, the team was thankful for their only senior, Haylee Jackson for being a wonderful leader and finishing her high school career with us on the field. The year of growth and youth makes us all excited for seasons to come. --Submitted by Coach Candace Sutton

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



Soils TEAM

On Thursday, May 7th, the Colo-NESCO FFA had four members compete in the 75th Annual National Land & Range Judging Contest in El Reno, Oklahoma. The team represented our chapter well, finishing 57th out of more than 100 teams from across the country. During the trip, members had a couple of days to practice and also had the opportunity to tour the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum. Although the weather was a little cold the first few days, everyone had a great time in Oklahoma City. The Colo-NESCO FFA is extremely proud of these four members for representing our chapter at this national event and showcasing their hard work and dedication!

Submitted
by Todd
Frohwein



FFA Soils Team: Audrey Campbell, Emma Lennie, Blake Obrecht, and Gavin Larsen.

Additional
photos from the
national soil
competition



**LEARNING
DAYS**

Andrew McMillen, Jake
Gjerde, Kaydynce Payer,
Audrey Campbell and
Siena Blayer represent
the CN FFA in the
Zearing Days parade
July 26.





CONTACT

Scott Johnson
Executive Director
Iowa FFA Association
scott.johnson@iowaffa.com
515-965-7376
www.iowaffa.com



Colo-NESCO FFA Officers Attend District Conference

Each year, the North Central district and Iowa FFA officers plan and facilitate Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) Conferences for FFA members in the North Central district. Ellsworth Community College welcomed FFA chapters from all over the NC district on June 5th, 2026.

While at Ellsworth CC on June 5th, district and state officers lead four interactive workshops for FFA Chapter leaders, many of which are officers, for the annual COLT Conference. The workshops facilitated were local FFA Chapter program focused in the areas of 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.

Iowa FFA President, Nora Pickhinke, stated, "COLT conference provides a chance for FFA members to learn more about their responsibility as a local leader and is a conference for members to meet and connect with state, district and other chapter officers."

COLT conference programming is designed as a two-year rotation of local leaders training. The focus areas of next year's program include agriculture literacy, time management, professionalism, and self-confidence. The goal is to engage FFA members in learning about the tools that would allow them to be successful in anything they are part of through high school and beyond.

COLT conference is made possible with support from Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance of Iowa through the Iowa FFA Foundation.

Colo-NESCO FFA Officers attend FFA NC COLT at Ellsworth Community College on June 5th. As a service project each officer brought a food item to be donated to the Iowa Falls Food Pantry.

From right to left:

Secretary - Andrew Mc Millen
Vice President - Hunter Purvis
President - Hope Heidemann
Reporter - Alyssa Moeller
Sentinel - Jake Gjerde
2nd Reporter - Audrey Campbell



Colo's 150th CELEBRATION

NIGHTTIME PARADE

Colo-NESCO FFA had a parade entry for Colo's 150th Birthday. Members enjoyed taking part in the Celebration of Colo with this lighted parade.

Hunter Purvis pulled the following members on the float: Gavin Larsen, Andrew McMillen, Jake Gjerde, Siena Blayer, Alyssa Moeller, Daisy Vink, Owen Vink, Jonas Porter, Brevik Hostetler and Hope Heidemann.

CropQuest CHALLENGE

Left to right: Kaydynce Payer, Gavin Larsen, Brevik Hostetler, Owen Vink, and Jake Gjerde



On Friday, May 15th, the Colo-NESCO FFA had five members attend and compete in the CropQuest Challenge at the Iowa State University Research Park.

Throughout the day, members had the opportunity to learn about cutting-edge agricultural technology from several industry leaders.

At Sabanto, students explored the future of farming by programming and operating autonomous farm equipment.

With Digital Ag, members learned how to remotely control a skid steer and accurately adjust its pitch and angle.

At John Deere, students discovered more about planting technology, including high-speed planter rates and field efficiency.

Sukup challenged members to program a robot to complete specific tasks and movements.

Finally, Bayer taught students about crop science and the ways technology is being used to control pests and diseases in agriculture.

It was a great experience for our members, and we would like to thank all of these businesses for taking the time to teach and inspire the next generation of agricultural leaders.



Elementary Fundraiser a Huge Success



Our first-ever Tattoo-a-Teacher fundraiser was an incredible success! Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our students, families, and staff, we raised over \$900 to help celebrate the end of an amazing school year.

The funds allowed us to create a memorable school-wide celebration for all students. We were able to rent two bounce houses, purchase popsicles for everyone, and provide a fun-filled afternoon packed with activities.

Students rotated through eight exciting stations, including relays, dance parties, crafts, puzzles, cup-stacking challenges, and more. The laughter, teamwork, and smiles throughout the day made it clear that the event was a huge hit!

We are so thankful for everyone who supported the fundraiser and helped make this special day possible. Seeing our students celebrate, have fun with their classmates, and create lasting memories was the perfect way to wrap up a wonderful school year.

- submitted by Hannah Anderson





Xavier H. earns
“Top Mileage”
honors after
charting his
walking/ running
this spring

Mr. Ward
introduces
the third graders
during the
spring concert



Casen S. helps out at
the elementary
RAGBRAI tent in July

Elementary
CAPTURES

Colo-NESCO Foundation



The Colo-NESCO Community Educational Foundation is a non-profit organization which awards scholarships to Colo-NESCO graduates to help them further their educational careers. This year, due to increasing and generous donations from alumni, the foundation was able to present two \$2,000 scholarships. Mr. Dan Halferty presented the awards at this year's ceremony. Receiving scholarships were Kaydence Reyes and Emma Lennie. To find out more about tax deductible or qualified distributions to the foundation, please contact the school or John Fuller, CN Ed Foundation President (fuller69726@yahoo.com).

Congratulations, Graduates!



Colo-NESCO Class of 2026

2026-2027 Board Approved Calendar

Colo-NESCO CSD Calendar 2026-2027

180 Days/1080+ Hours Calendar
TOTAL DAYS/HRS 175/1101

ELEM and MS/HS: 8:30-3:30

- School Starts at 10:00 AM on Mondays

CALENDAR LEGEND

First Day	
PD/No School	
Quarter	
Conferences	
No School	
Vacation/Holidays	

HOLIDAYS:

Labor Day	(9/7)
Thanksgiving Day	(11/26)
Christmas Day	(12/25)
New Year's Day	(1/1)
President's Day	(2/15)
Memorial Day	(5/31)

PD Days
August 17-21
October 19
January 4
April 19
May 25
EVERY MONDAY- 10:00 AM
LATE START

Snow Make-Up Days:
2/15
3/26

August 2026				
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				
September 2026				
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		
October 2026				
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
November 2026				
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				
December 2026				
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	
January 2027				
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
February 2027				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
March 2027				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
April 2027				
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
May 2027				
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31	1			

Aug. 3-14 (1) FLEX Teacher Work Day

Aug. 12-13 New Teacher Training
Aug. 17-21 Teacher Pre-Service Days
Aug. 24 Begin 1st Semester (K-12)

Sept. 7 Labor Day (No School)
Sept. 8 First Day of Preschool

Oct. 16 End 1st Quarter
Oct. 19 Teacher PD
Oct. 20 Begin 2nd Quarter

Nov. 17 and 19 Grades PreK-12 PT
Conferences (1:30 Dismissal)
Nov. 25 NO School- Teacher Comp Day
Nov. 26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec. 22 End Quarter 2/1st Semester
Dec. 23- Jan 4 Winter Break (No School)

Jan. 4 Teacher PD
Jan. 5 Begin 2nd Semester

Feb. 15 NO School- Holiday

Mar. 9 and 11 Grades PreK-12 PT
Conferences (1:30 Dismissal)
Mar. 12 End 3rd Quarter
Mar. 15-19 No School - Spring Break
Mar. 22 Begin 4th Qtr.
Mar. 26 NO School- Teacher Comp Day

April 19 Teacher PD

May 16 Graduation 2:00 PM
May 25 End Qtr. 4/SEM II (12:30 Dismissal)
May 26 Teacher PD
May 31 Memorial Day

HELLO, my name is GRACE

Submitted by
Grace Dehrkoop., 7th Grade

Student Writing

Hello, my name is Grace, and if there's one word to describe my summer, it would be busy. It feels like every week has been filled with practices, games, horse shows, or traveling. Even though my schedule has been packed, I wouldn't have it any other way. Between playing softball and showing horses, this summer has been full of excitement, challenges, and memories that I will never forget.

Softball has been the busiest part of my summer, especially because I played on two different teams—my rec League team and my junior high team. Some days I even played games for both teams on the same day! It was exciting, exhausting, and definitely kept me on my toes. On my rec League team, I played pitcher, second base, and centerfield, while on my junior high team I played outfield and first base. Playing first base was a new experience for me, and it challenged me to learn new skills and become a more confident player. Every practice and every game helped me improve, and I had a great time competing alongside my teammates.

When I wasn't on the softball field, I was most likely at a horse show. Horse showing is another huge part of my summer, and I have two amazing horses that I compete with. Macy is my partner for local shows, while Auggie and I compete at the national level. Recently, my mom and I also began showing in AQHA (American Quarter Horse Association) shows, which has been an exciting new challenge.

*Grace is
congratulated
at third base by
her coach, Rylee
Purvis*



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

Every horse show teaches me something different. Some days everything goes exactly as planned, while other days remind me that things can change in an instant. The most valuable lessons I have learned are how to stay calm under pressure and become more independent. Those are lessons that will help me not only in the show pen but also throughout my life.

One of the most memorable moments of my summer happened at the Back to Berrien Futurity. The show started off with an unexpected setback when Auggie slipped in the mud and injured his back leg on the second day. Thankfully, there were veterinarians on the showgrounds who treated his injury, and before long he was ready to show again. Thanks to their help, Auggie and I went on to win our class. Looking back, I truly believe it was the best ride we have ever had, and it made overcoming that obstacle even more rewarding.

Even though I've already had an incredibly busy summer, there is still plenty to look forward to. We will be traveling to the Corporate Challenge in St. Louis, the Story County Fair in Nevada with Macy, the Youth World Show in Oklahoma City with Auggie, and finally the NSBA (National Snaffle Bit Association) World Show in Tulsa. Each competition brings new opportunities to learn, improve, and create lasting memories. Overall, this summer has already been one of the busiest I have ever had, but it has also been one of the most rewarding. Between playing softball and showing horses, I continue to learn new skills, gain confidence, and make unforgettable memories. With the Corporate Challenge, the Story County Fair, the Youth World Show, and the NSBA World Show still ahead, I know there will be even more opportunities to grow, compete, and learn. I'm excited to see what the rest of the summer brings and to make the most of every experience along the way.



Grace with her mom, Anna, and her horse, Auggie

"Looking back, I truly believe it was the best ride we have ever had, and it made overcoming that obstacle even more rewarding."





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