

BRUNING-DAVENPORT USD

March 2026

Kelly Lampe, Superintendent
Melinda Kerwood, Principal
106 N. Juniper Ave.
Davenport, NE 68336
402-364-2225

Ruth Kowalski, Principal
340 Carroll St.
Bruning, NE 68322
402-353-4685

***BOLTS: "Building Outstanding Leaders for
Tomorrow's Society"***

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Kel Lampe

Bruning-Davenport School News FEBRUARY 2026

Celebrations – March Birthdays

Kalli~Toni~Andi~Lindsey~Erika

February Unified Board Meeting

- A) Approved Bruning Bank and Cornerstone Bank as designated financial institutions for Bruning-Davenport USD
- B) Approved the Hebron Journal-Register as the designated local paper for publications
- C) Approved Jerry Baysinger as a General Fund, Davenport Special Building Fund, and Davenport Depreciation Fund authorized bank account signer
- D) Approved removing Jamie Koch from General Fund, Davenport Building Fund, and Davenport Depreciation Fund Cornerstone Bank accounts.
- E) Approved Melinda Kerwood as a Davenport Activity Fund authorized bank account signer.
- F) Approved removing Jonathon Wagner from the Davenport Activity Fund bank account.
- G) Approved Molly Nielsen as a Social Studies teacher for the 2026-2027 school year.
- H) Approved Negotiated Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year
- I) Approved the 2026-27 Master Calendar
- J) Approved Staff Appreciation Meal – April 17, 2026, at Charlie's Pub in Milligan
- K) Approved Senior Sneak trip
- L) Approved Spanish Distance Learning and SPED Contracts with ESU #5 for the 2026-27 school year.
- M) Approved sale of old Coach Bus

Transportation Report

We have sold the Coach bus to Midwest Transportation in Kearney. The real and potential repair and maintenance on the old bus would have put us in a difficult situation. The new Bus we leased is working great!

**Buildings and Grounds Report
News**

Adam Bruning presented at the February Board Meeting, a plan to expand the Daycare. Details are still being finalized but there is strong momentum for this project going forward.

New Facility Update

Waiting on a Feasibility Study, being conducted by Shickley, before scheduling a meeting between Bruning-Davenport and Shickley Buildings and Grounds Committee's.

I was able to spend last week with Barb in Texas. She is still undergoing treatment until middle March. Then test and re-evaluation.
Thank you all so much for your kindness and prayers!!!

Help Wanted:

Maintenance/Custodian

| <u>Financials: Ending 1-31-25</u> | <u>25-26</u> | <u>24-25</u> | <u>23-24</u> |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Budget | 6,136,594 | 5,962,246 | 5,387,784 |
| YTD expenditures | 2,327,000 | 2,220,000 | 1,900,000 |
| Last month | 495,000 | 486,000 | 397,000 |
| % Budget remaining (7 months) | 62.0% | 62.8% | 64.7% |
| Davenport Building Fund | 485,000 | | |
| Bruning Building Fund | 338,000 | | |
| Depreciation Fund | 1,091,000 | | |
| Davenport Activity Fund | 217,000 | | |
| Bruning Activity Fund | 242,000 | | |
| Nutrition Fund | 246,000 | | |

(Fiscal year Sept 1 – Aug 31)

Committee's:

| <u>Committee's:</u> | <u>Next Meeting</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Americanism | Yearly |
| BDEA | As needed |
| BDS Coop | Quarterly |
| Calendar | As needed |
| Comm Outreach | At Inservice |
| Daycare | Monthly |
| Discipline | Annually |
| Build/Grounds | Annually |
| Frontline | Weekly |
| Grant | As Needed |
| ILCD | At Inservice |
| MTSS | As needed |
| NCIS | Varies |
| Certified | As Needed |
| Classified | As Needed |
| Safety | At Inservice |
| Steering | Bi Monthly |
| Tech Website | At Inservice |
| Transportation | As needed |
| Wellness | At Inservice |

Goal:
To be the best small school in
the State



From the Principal's Desk

March has arrived, and we're grateful for the stretch of nice weather that's helped everyone keep a little extra spring in their step. We've wrapped up winter testing and are excited about the student growth and progress we're seeing across grade levels. Your hard work is paying off!

Our Quiz Bowl teams have been busy competing and representing our district well, and it's been great to see their dedication and teamwork in action. February also brought some well-deserved fun, with Valentine's Day parties filling our classrooms with smiles, laughter, and plenty of treats.

Our junior high boys basketball season wrapped up on February 20th. We are proud of the effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship our athletes demonstrated throughout the season. Thank you to our coaches, players, families for their time and support.

We're also looking ahead to an exciting opportunity for our 4th graders as they prepare for their trip to the Nebraska State Capitol on March 9th. This experience is always a highlight!

Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff. We are proud of all that is happening in our district and look forward to a strong and successful month ahead!

Melinda Kerwood
Principal, Davenport Building

This school year, we have cut time out of our schedule once a week to do Character Strong lessons, where the students are given the opportunity to work on their social and emotional traits. This month, the high school is focusing on community service and integrity in their lessons, which brings me to the question from Martin Luther King, Jr., "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" While we focus on strong academic skills here at Bruning-Davenport, we also want our students to learn to be kind, generous people, who are productive members of society. Throughout this month, I would like everyone to be more intentional about how they are using their time. Are you volunteering for community projects? How can you help others?

We have outstanding students, staff, and families here at Bruning-Davenport. We help each other when it's needed. As we continue through the month of March, we will have projects, like a canned food drive and the pop can tab challenge, to encourage our students and their families to give to others. Even in small towns, people may need assistance, and it is our responsibility to do what we can to help them. It may not seem like much, but together we can make a difference. Like Howard Zinn said, "Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world." Let's be the start of the millions!

Ruth Kowalski
Principal, Bruning Building

Counselors Corner

K-5th grade have been learning to tune in to internal physical cues such as a fast heartbeat or stomachache which will prepare them to recognize distressing emotions that might require emotion management. Although it is important for students to be able to tell when they are angry and need to calm down, it is also important for them to be able to identify strong emotions that are more internalized, like sadness or worry, and employ emotion-management skills.

In 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Guidance, students have been learning from a new middle school program through Second Steps. Students are learning how to develop a growth mindset and apply research-based goal-setting strategies to their social and academic lives. Unit 1's content helps create classrooms that are connected and encouraging by helping students learn from challenges and obstacles, understand how different factors affect their progress, and apply strategies to help them achieve their tasks or goals.

We have started looking at next year's high school schedule!! How exciting! Juniors have taken a practice ACT and took the practice test home to study more. The Seniors continue filling out scholarships and working hard in class.

Thanks again for all that you do in supporting your child and teachers!

Marci Reinsch

mreinsch@bdstorm.org

K-12 School Counselor



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| Grade | Name | | Date |
|-------|-----------|----------|------|
| K | Ashlyn | Mata | 2 |
| PreK | Charlee | Bruning | 2 |
| PreK | Frankie | Bruning | 2 |
| 9 | Aliviah | Barney | 3 |
| 6 | Ellie | Manes | 4 |
| PreK | Maisyn | Thomsen | 6 |
| 10 | Ben | Manes | 7 |
| 11 | Kennedy | Barney | 11 |
| 12 | Zechariah | Szydlo | 11 |
| Staff | Kalli | Mumm | 12 |
| 2 | Maxon | Ault | 12 |
| 8 | Macin | Kowalski | 16 |



| Grade | Name | | Date |
|-------|------------|-----------|------|
| 3 | Bryce | Oettinger | 16 |
| 3 | Jayden | Thornburg | 17 |
| Staff | Toni | Szydlo | 19 |
| 12 | Elizabeth | Hinrichs | 20 |
| Staff | Andi | Domeier | 21 |
| Staff | Lindsey | Messman | 23 |
| 10 | Riggins | Ozenbaugh | 23 |
| PreK | Wilhelmina | Krupicka | 25 |
| Staff | Erika | Brinegar | 29 |
| 9 | Adisynn | Krehnke | 30 |
| 6 | Cole | Kowalski | 31 |

What's Happening @ Your Libraries

Tigers, red pandas, bald eagles...oh my! The second grade combined their art skills and their research skills to make Animal Brown Bags this month! Each student read a nonfiction eBook from our collection about their favorite animal, picked out their favorite three facts they thought were interesting, and wrote them down. They also credited their source for their information. In art class, students decorated the brown paper bags to look like their favorite animal and glued the facts on the back. They are on display in the lunchroom, the library and the school office! The kids did an awesome job!



Our Reading Rally team is busy preparing for the competition in Beatrice. The students are reading like crazy and practice every Wednesday! 😊 Best of luck to them on March

17! 🍀

Our final Scholastic Book Fair of the year will coincide with our spring concert in

Bruning. 📚

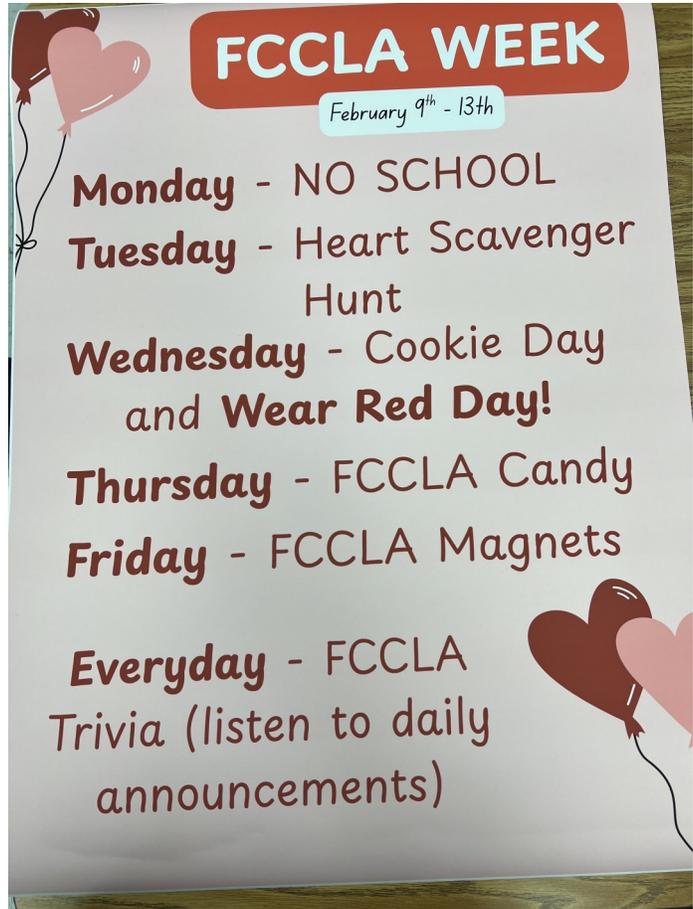
Digital Citizenship Tip

National News Literacy Week was February 2-6 this year. The News Literacy Project posted

the following: " 🙄 If you're feeling overwhelmed scrolling social media, you're not alone. Bad actors also take advantage of heavy news cycles with misinformation that plays on emotions." Seven basic news literacy tips to help all of us stay sharp online and not fall prey to this kind of "news" can be found at <https://www.threads.com/@newslitproject/post/DLksASjJSHK/media>

Valentine's Day week was extra special because FCCLA members, at both Bruning and Davenport schools, celebrated FCCLA week!

The mission is awareness of Family and Consumer Science programs, and the student organization that it supports.



M.I.L.K. (Measuring & Investing Love for Kids)

Claire Lahner's FCCLA project goal started simply as a way to assist a community organization. What she did, turned into a new way for people to think about giving. What was her project?

Goal:

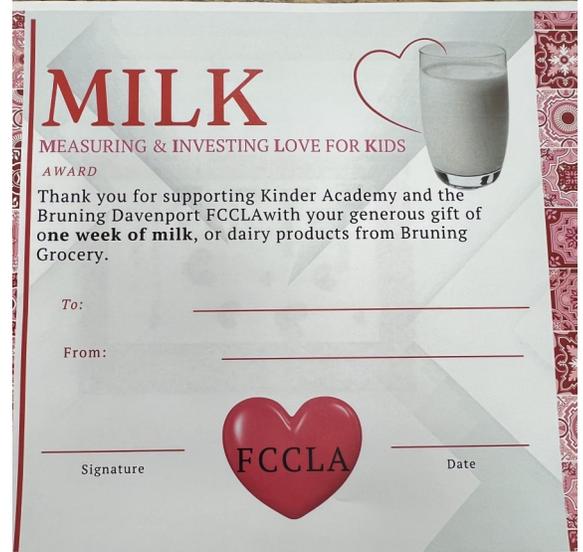
Organize a "52 Weeks of "MILK " fundraising project to fund one week of milk for a year, for the local nonprofit childcare center, Kinder Academy,

Why:

Children need consistent access to calcium and nutrients, and families/centers face high costs in providing this regularly. Local childcare centers, particularly 501(c)(3) nonprofits, often struggle with food budget limitations, specifically providing fresh daily milk for children. In addition, providing milk substitutes for any child who needs them.

Claire received a Thrivent Grant from Lichelle Houchin, whose children attend the Academy, which kicked off her project. In addition to other donations from FCCLA, Claire also sold "one week of milk" certificates to community members, to give for Valentine's Day. Bruning Grocery also worked with Claire to purchase milk in advance at a lower cost.

52 weeks of milk are no longer a concern for this non-profit childcare center in our community!



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – The Unified Board of Education met in Davenport on February 9, 2026. Pursuant to laws and notices posted at Bruning-Davenport Schools, Cornerstone Bank, Bruning Bank, Bruning Post Office, Davenport Post Office, and also published in The Hebron Journal Register on February 4, 2026; all proceedings were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

President Baysinger called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm. Unified members present were Sarah Krehnke, Ryan Miller, Aaron Oltmans, Trey Strong and Brad Williams. Local board members present were Baxter Beals, Tony Norder, Ryne Philippi, Lon Schoenholz, and Derek Shaner. Also present were Superintendent Kelly Lampe, Principal Melinda Kerwood, Principal Ruth Kowalski, Erika Brinegar, Adam Bruning, Chad & Larae Buresh, Elizabeth Hinrichs, Lichelle Houchin, Lauryn Koch, Eva Oltmans, Heather Ramsey, Brooke Soukup, Neil Voss, and Toby Voss.

Baysinger welcomed all guests and recognized the Open Meetings Act and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Forum – Representatives from Kinder Academy provided an update on the proposed building addition. Seniors presented their Senior Sneak trip.

The Consent Agenda included the agenda, minutes of the January 12, 2026, Unified Board meeting, Treasurer’s Report, and the February claims. Sarah Krehnke moved, seconded by Aaron Oltmans, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote (6-0)

Principal Kerwood’s report – JH boys’ basketball and the Quiz Bowl teams are in action – SPED department is working hard at developing our Targeted Improvement Plan – praised the 84% decrease in office referrals from first to third quarter – 4th grade will be going on a field trip to the State Capitol

Principal Kowalski’s report – Finishing up NWEA testing – SAC Field Trip was educational, and received praise from the staff on the behavior of our students

President’s report – Architects are completing the Shickley facilities study. A Building and Grounds Committee meeting will be scheduled soon. – reviewed the school’s chain of command when an issue arises

Superintendent Lampe’s report – discussion was held with Fillmore Central about sharing services – looking at getting a new mini bus and 42 passenger bus at the end of the year – looking at a plan to open the weight deck to the public outside of school hours – financials are looking good

Discussion Items – Consider Discuss and take all necessary action

A. Discussed a Unified Board Member’s possible violation of Board Policy and Code of Ethics.

New Business: (All motions require a roll call vote and all carried 6-0 unless noted.)

- A. Brad Williams moved, seconded by Ryan Miller to approve Bruning Bank and Cornerstone Bank as designated financial institutions for Bruning-Davenport USD.
- B. Williams moved, seconded by Krehnke to approve the Hebron Journal-Register as the designated local paper for publications.
- C. Krehnke moved, seconded by Trey Strong, to approve Jerry Baysinger as a General Fund, Davenport Special Building Fund, and Davenport Depreciation Fund authorized bank account signer.
- D. Strong moved, seconded by Oltmans to approve removing Jamie Koch from General Fund, Davenport Building Fund, and Davenport Depreciation Fund Cornerstone Bank accounts.
- E. Miller moved, seconded by Strong, to approve Melinda Kerwood as a Davenport Activity Fund authorized bank account signer.
- F. Oltmans moved, seconded by Krehnke to approve removing Jonathon Wagner from the Davenport Activity Fund bank account.
- G. Williams moved, seconded by Strong, to approve Molly Nielsen as the Middle School Social Studies teacher for the 2026-2027 school year.
- H. Miller moved, seconded by Oltmans, to approve the Negotiated Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year.
- I. Williams moved, seconded by Krehnke, to approve the 2026-27 Master Calendar, as presented.
- J. Oltmans moved, seconded by Williams, to approve the Staff Appreciation Meal – April 17, 2026, at Charlie’s Pub in Milligan.
- K. Miller moved, seconded by Strong, to approve the Senior Sneak trip to Kansas City March 19 – March 23, 2026.
- L. Krehnke moved, seconded by Williams, to approve Spanish Distance Learning and SPED Contracts with ESU #5 for the 2026-27 school year.
- M. Williams moved, seconded by Oltmans, to approve the trade-in of the Coach Bus.
- N. Approve resignations – no action taken

Baysinger moved, seconded by Miller to go into executive session “to prevent needless injury to an individual” at 9:07 pm.

Strong moved, seconded by Miller to come out of executive session at 9:28 pm.

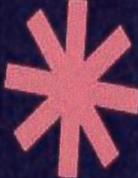
Williams moved, seconded by Oltmans to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 pm.

Erika Brinegar, Recording Secretary

| GENERAL FUND BILLS | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2/9/26 | | | |
| Ameritas Life Insurance | 409.00 | Garrison Grone | 300.00 |
| Ameritas Life Insurance (10 Month) | 104.38 | Go Physical Therapy | 663.80 |
| Cornerstone Bank/Direct Deposit | 6,612.01 | Hebron True Value | 39.99 |
| Internal Revenue Service | 52,672.47 | Hometown Leasing | 2,408.00 |
| Nebraska Department of Revenue | 6,890.87 | JW Pepper | 76.23 |
| Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System | 38,510.33 | KSB School Law, PC, LLO | 1,242.50 |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield | 79,102.84 | Lightbox Learning Inc. | 532.00 |
| Credit Management Services, Inc | 365.45 | Liminex Inc | 2,267.75 |
| Madison National Life Ins. Co. Inc. | 1,981.20 | Lincoln Journal Star | 429.99 |
| AFLAC | 187.72 | Lori Balke | 136.53 |
| AFLAC (10 Month) | 148.24 | Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc. | 75.44 |
| American Funds Service Company | 400.00 | Mid American Research | 190.54 |
| Horace Mann Life Ins. Co. | 497.17 | Mierau & Co. | 745.00 |
| Horace Mann Life Insurance Company | 450.00 | Nebraska Assn of School Boards | 3,423.00 |
| Payflex Account #304734 | 550.00 | Nutrien Ag Solutions | 392.29 |
| Abdo Publishing Company Inc | 809.25 | Omnify Benefits | 550.00 |
| American Express | 2,564.45 | Orkin | 86.99 |
| Apple, Inc. | 1,499.00 | Pitney Bowes Financial Services | 139.62 |
| B & J Automotive LLC | 234.36 | Protex Central, Inc. | 596.00 |
| Bel-Con Refuse | 590.00 | Providence Working Canines | 504.98 |
| Black Hills Energy | 2,235.00 | Sheet Music Plus | 156.69 |
| Bowman Electric, LLC | 1,089.75 | Soliant | 4,452.00 |
| Bruning Activity Fund | 150.00 | Straight Line Motor Works | 2,444.25 |
| Bruning Grocery Inc. | 297.24 | Teacher Synergy, LLC | 7.35 |
| Bruning Insurance Agency | 100.00 | The Hebron Journal Register | 49.75 |
| Bruning Transition Fund | 33.00 | University of Nebraska Lincoln | 620.00 |
| Burton Enterprises, LLC | 37.00 | Victory Too Graphics | 216.90 |
| Certified Truck & Trailer Repair, Inc. | 18,496.59 | Village of Bruning | 490.70 |
| Critel Enterprises LLC | 184.50 | Village of Davenport | 1,351.39 |
| DAS State Accounting-Central Finance | 317.87 | VVS Inc-Canteen | 54.99 |
| Davenport Building Supply | 123.70 | Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center | 1,041.97 |
| Davenport Transition Fund | 2,799.67 | Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center | 2768.46 |
| Eakes Office Plus | 2,508.90 | Wells Fargo Pymt Remittance Center | 108.52 |
| EcoLab Food Safety | 210.51 | Western Oil II LLC | 2201.45 |
| Educational Service Unit #5 | 15,984.84 | Wild Roots | 1139.84 |
| Educational Service Unit #6 | 20.00 | Windstream | 508.57 |
| Fiber Platform, LLC | 860.58 | Woodward's Disposal Service Inc | 65.00 |
| Flood Communications of Beatrice | 185.00 | | |
| Galaway's Garage | 561.15 | Payable Checks | 281,626.78 |
| Galyen Energy Supply | 8,374.26 | Payroll | 187,229.89 |
| | | Total | 468,856.67 |



BRUNING-DAVENPORT



POP TABS CHALLENGE!

**COLLECT YOUR TABS
FROM NOW UNTIL
APRIL 9TH!**



Help the Bruning-Davenport students collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House! Drop off your pop tabs at either School building and donate them to a specific student or class! Each class is a team and the winner will be determined by the weight (average) of their pop tabs! Please consider donating for this great organization!

THANKS IN ADVANCE!



Email Mrs. Rohr or Mrs. Philippi questions!

LUNCH MENU



March 2026

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 Mini Corn Dogs Mac N Cheese Broccoli | 3 Crispitos Spanish Rice Refried Beans | 4 Hamburger on a Bun Baked Beans Chips Cookie | 5 Italian Dunkers California Blend Veggies | 6 NO SCHOOL | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Sloppy Joes Smiley Fries Jello-O | 10 Meat Lovers Pizza Romaine Lettuce Salad Breadstick  | 11 Potato Soup Corn Mini Pretzel | 12 Pulled Pork Sandwich Mac N Cheese Broccoli | 13 NO SCHOOL | 14 |
| 15 | 16 Build Your Own Sandwich Bar Chips Baked Beans | 17 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Corn Dinner Roll | 18 Walking Taco Lettuce/Salsa Refried Beans Churro  | 19 Lasagna Green Beans Garlic Bread | 20 Chinese Chicken Rice Broccoli Cookie | 21 |
| 22 | 23 Chicken Alfredo Peas Breadsticks | 24 Flying Saucers Dinner Roll | 25 Mac N Cheese w/ Little Smokies Broccoli | 26 Soft Shell Tacos Lettuce/Salsa Spanish Rice | 27 Popcorn Chicken Steak Fries | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Chicken Wings Breaded Cheese Sticks Peas Breadstick | 31 French Toast Sticks Sausage Tri Tater Juice | | | | |
| | |  NEBRASKA BEEF | GRAB AND GO BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY Milk served with ALL Meals | *Menu Subject to Change* *Second Entrée – \$1.00 * EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER | Davenport: --F/V Bar Daily --Chef Salad Meal Options 5-8 Only & Adults | Bruning: --F/V Bar --Salad Bar Available Daily |



Help @ Home



WE Service

Shifts your focus from yourself to the needs of others.

Teaches you how to be grateful for what you do have.

Builds leadership & teamwork skills.

Helps adolescents build self-confidence.

CAN do

CAN Drive!

NHS is hosting a can drive to donate to Blue Valley here in Thayer County.

Please have your CANS to school before March 16th!

Thank you in advance for supporting the can drive!

Integrity

Aligns your actions to your morals.

Fosters high self-esteem & a clear conscience.

Essential for leadership skills.

Helps build a good reputation & honest work.

IT!

POP TAB Challenge!

STUCO is having a school wide pop tab challenge! Donations will go to Ronald McDonald House.

Please have your pop tabs to school before March 23rd! Again, Thanks in Advance!