

BRUNING-DAVENPORT U.S.D.

Kolin Haecker Superintendent
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Davenport, NE 68335
402-364-2225

APRIL 2020

Damen Kugel, Principal
340 Carroll Street
Bruning NE 68322
402-353-4685

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

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT: There have been a lot of changes to our daily lives in the last month. We are in uncharted territory with the current Covid 19 pandemic. The information we get changes frequently and at times it seems hard to keep current. Continue to follow the recommendations from the Health Department and take care of each other in our communities.

The biggest change due to the Covid 19 virus is how we educate our students. This is a new experience for both teachers and parents. Everything will not be perfect as we go through the new challenge of educating our students. Please reach out to your child's teacher with questions when you have them. There have been a lot of postponements/cancellations of activities for our students and staff. We will try and reschedule some of those activities when it is safe to do so for everybody.

Breakfast and lunch will be delivered during the Covid 19 school closing. We will offer the meals until May 15, our last scheduled day of school. If you are not receiving any meals but would like too. Please call Sara or Andi in the Davenport Building 402-364-2225.

The state of Nebraska has suspended all testing this spring. The 3-8 grade students will not be tested. The juniors will not test for the ACT as was scheduled this month. However the state is trying to work out a plan with ACT to allow students to take it for free. When we have the information we will pass it along.

New Hires: Beginning in 2020-2021, we will have four new certified staff members. Daniel Boshart, will teach Social Studies in Bruning. This will be Daniel's first teaching job. Melinda Holeman will be the Special Education teacher in Bruning. Melinda has been teaching at Silver Lake. Jill Schroeder will be teaching Science and PE in the Davenport building. Jill has been teaching at Thayer Central. Leah Werner will be the new 4th grade teacher at Davenport. Leah has been teaching at a private school in Juniata, NE.

Mr. Fred Kluck, Mrs. Pat Remmers, and Mr. Doug Otto are retiring at the end of the school year. We thank them for their many years of service to the Bruning-Davenport schools and communities.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL: I hope everyone is staying safe and starting to settle into this sudden and dramatic change in life due to the COVID-19 virus. I am so grateful to be part of the B-D USD community and seeing the outpouring of support you are providing one another.

Thank you to our families and students for your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. Also, I cannot thank the BD USD staff enough for their efforts and commitment to providing learning opportunities for our students. I constantly tell people I am blessed to be the principal at B-D USD. In fact, when asked, "How I am doing" or "How is everything going?" I always respond with, "I'm living the dream!" In this unbelievable situation we are facing, I cannot stress enough how blessed we are at Bruning-Davenport. I am continually amazed at how people voluntarily step up to help the school district and provide the best services to our students and families. Thank you!

On March 23rd, all the schools in ESU 5 announced that schools will be closed until May 1st with the potential to close indefinitely. We want you to know that while everyone at BD USD is hoping for a resumption of the normal in-person school year, we are also aware of the realities we are facing.

Right now, Nebraska is in the early stages of the COVID-19 outbreak. B-D USD will continue the 19-20 school year with our [B-D Distance Learning Plan](#) until further notice. This indefinite closure will be periodically reviewed based on the information from health officials monitoring the COVID-19 and advice from the Department of Education and the Governor's office.

Staff are fully committed to continuing with remote learning throughout the closure. Our teachers are busy planning and providing engaging activities for our students. All teachers have been providing educational opportunities to students 2-3 times per week. PK-4 staff will send information to families via SeeSaw. 5-12 staff will communicate with students via Gmail, Google Classroom, Canvas, and Remind.

This indefinite closure is also in effect for school activities. I have received many questions about prom and graduation. Unfortunately, I don't have an answer to them at this point. Mr. Haecker and I have communicated about several possibilities and options, however, at this time we are still under social gathering restrictions. We will be making final decisions regarding these end of the school year activities at a later date. It breaks my heart knowing that this class of incredible seniors may not receive the graduation ceremony we are accustomed to. But unfortunately, many of these decisions are out of our control.

We all know the situation is quickly changing and we appreciate your patience and flexibility as we continue to cooperate with the direction from the Governor and the Commissioner of Education.

At the beginning of the school year B-D hosted DeMoine Adams, a former Nebraska football player, and former professional football player. He said, "To overcome adversity, we have to face it by being hopeful and optimistic. Our tomorrow will slowly get better when we continue to do our part today, and day by day." His words are truer now than ever. This too shall pass and together "day by day" we will get better and better.

Stay Safe & Stay Healthy



FFA WEEK: During FFA week the students participated in many activities. They held a teacher's breakfast in Davenport, had dress up days, and had a drive your tractor to school day. A lot of the FFA members participated in the activities during the week.



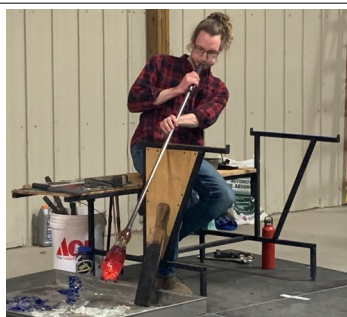
ACTION'S DAY: On March 11, 2020, Bruning-Davenport High School students attended and participated in the 31st Annual Action's Day at Central Community College in Hastings, Nebraska. Action's Day is an academic decathlon where 27 schools come together and compete in 40 different tests. This year alone, there were over 600 students registered. Bruning-Davenport had many students compete in a variety of different test including Accounting, Agriculture, First Aid, FCS, Health, Algebra I, Physical Science, Nickname, American History, World War II, General Math, Zoology, Capital Cities, Sports, Psychology, English I, Construction, Music, Abbreviation, Anatomy, American Government, Trigonometry, World Geography, Spelling, Potpourri, American Geography, Chemistry, Accounting, World History, and the Constitution.

Congratulations to Jennifer Holtzen for receiving 3rd Place in Accounting, 5th Place in American Government and 3rd Place in Constitution. Congratulations to Isaac Else for receiving 1st in Constitution and 1st in American Government. Congratulations to Dylan Domeier for receiving 2nd in American Government and 5th in Constitution. Congratulations to Nolan Weber for receiving 2nd in American History and 3rd in Agriculture. Congratulations to Samuel Baysinger for receiving 3rd in American History.

This has been the most trophies we have taken home in six years; for a total of 10. Students are excited to go back again next year. :)



ART: On Wednesday, February 19th the high school went to Geneva for a glass blowing demonstration put on by Hastings College. They have a mobile blowing studio they travel around demonstrating the process of blowing glass for high school students. Hastings College just started this mobile studio last year and we are thankful Bruning-Davenport art students had the opportunity to have this experience.



WEIGHTS: School Records - Dominic—Squat, Dead Lift; Isaac—Clean; **1200 lb Club**—Isaac, Nolan, Tanner, Easton; **Chart 4 Lifts**—Isaac, Nolan, Tanner, Kyle, Keenan, Easton; **3 Lifts**—Hunter, Dominic; **2 Lifts**—Dylan, Eric, Alfonso, Sam, Anthony



SCHOLARSHIPS: Parents and Students, 2019 - 2020 Scholarships Google Doc Link: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MILJL_qhcJqy5jajrc5hnBcpxxBzFkQPRD_dg3re9Qw/edit?ts=59dbe9bf this is a Google Doc I will be uploading resources for you to utilize while we are not in session at school.

Google Doc Link: K-12 School Counseling Resources <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xWONAyqNWoD9gCyCuu8I5szT5hODwykrPjavsCLNuoo/view>

If you have any questions, please contact me at ahoffman@bdstorm.org. Thank you. Miss Hoffman

ESU #5 ROBOTICS COMPETITION: During the months of January, February and the first week of March, some of our 6th - 8th graders were found programming a remote control car! They used their computer coding skills to make the car drive itself, turn away from obstacles in its path and even drove it with a "joystick" via bluetooth and an iPad. They had to take notes, make videos, and provide evidence of learning 21st Century Skills. The notebook was scored ahead of the competition. Participating students were Braiden D., Zoie R., Jacob J., Michael B., Luisa L., Karolyn O., and Alexis H.. On March 11th. Karolyn, Alexis and Luisa went to Beatrice to put their skills to the test at the 3rd annual ESU #5 Robotics Competition. Round one found them taking an online test about coding servo motors and having their RC car drive itself. It had to stay within the write space on the paper and not run into the box in the center. Round 2 saw them driving the car against the clock accurately via iPad "joystick". After lunch, the girls experienced the final round, which was Battle Bots (much like a demo derby with cars that were pushed out of bounds or flipped over being eliminated from competition). Between rounds they could re-engineer their robot so it would be more successful in the next round. They had a lot of fun, learned a lot, and practiced perseverance and resilience. Luisa, Karolyn, and Alexis are pictured with Mr. Cactus the Awesome Robot. Congratulations, ladies!



DR. SEUSS: Kindergarten, First Grade and the 4 year olds celebrated Dr. Seuss Day in the Library. Mr. Kugel read them a story and they enjoyed cookies and received a bookmark and coloring page.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Grade	Name	Date
9	Malory Dickson	1
9	Colten Houser	1
9	Paige Oltmans	1
11	Hunter Cox	3
7	Catelin Schaffer	3
7	Elissa Schaffer	3
9	Samantha Enghauser	4



Grade	Name	Date
	Donna Schweer	11
PreK	Hudson Wallace	6
1	Lauren Lahners	8
11	Shakira Sunday	17
10	Liberty Campbell	18
PreK	Clara Soukup	29



Tips for Parents During COVID-19 Pandemic

1. **Limit Media and Social Media Exposure** – This is good advice for people of all ages. The target audience of media outlets is adults, so their broadcasts can cause even more confusion and anxiety for younger children.
2. **Have a Routine** – With school out it is important to establish a new daily routine. Wake up, get dressed, complete distance learning school work, eat meals, and go to bed at the same time each day. Create a schedule that includes these things plus relaxation time, chores, exercise, creative time, etc.
3. **Allow Your Child to be in Closer Proximity to You** – With so much change and uncertainty, children may need additional reassurance.
4. **Make Time to Allow Your Child to Talk About How They are Feeling** – Ask open ended questions, listen without interruption and avoid the temptation to quickly provide a solution to their concerns.
5. **Provide Factual Reassurance AFTER They Have Had a Chance to Express How They are Feeling** – Honesty and accuracy is critical. Facts to consider sharing:
 - Most people do not have COVID-19 and most people who have it don't get seriously ill
 - We can control the spread of the disease by washing our hands and avoiding contact with people who have it
 - The nation's best medical professionals are working to help people with COVID-19 some of which are right here in Nebraska.
 - If true, remind them that everyone in their family is fine.
6. **Tell Your Children You Love Them and Spend More Time with Them** – Make more time than usual to share activities together; play games, read to each other, watch a movie or TV show, create art, make crafts, sing and dance, go for a walk outside. There are many free online resources to help generate ideas.
7. **Encourage Teens to Do Stress Reducing Activities** – read, journal, write poetry or short stories, draw, exercise, listen to music, or simply close their eyes and focus on taking slow deep breaths.
8. **As Much as Possible Have Your Child Eat Healthy Well-Balanced Meals** – this has an impact on mental and physical health.
9. **If You Have Concerns Reach Out to Your Child's School Counselor** – If their district is doing some kind of distance learning, chances are their school counselor is working from home and is prepared to support you and your child during this difficult time. Reach out to them via their school email address. Keep in mind each school district has its own set of criteria for school counselor ability during this time.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER: College fairs in Lincoln and Omaha canceled: If you live in the Lincoln or Omaha areas, please note that, due to the Coronavirus outbreak, EducationQuest has canceled the March 29 Lincoln Area College Fair and the April 5 Omaha Area College Fair. We will conduct those fairs in the fall. In the meantime, find [college selection resources](#) at EducationQuest.org.

Seniors...It's decision time! Here's how to make your final college decision.

Compare your college acceptance letters, financial aid award notifications, and campus visit notes. List the pros and cons of each school using the following criteria:

Location – Is the college too close? If you come home every weekend, you won't experience true campus life. Is the college too far away? If so, you may not make it home as often as you'd like.

Cost – Can your family afford the school? What can you expect for financial aid beyond your freshman year? Did you receive renewable scholarships? How much in [student and parent loans](#) will you need to borrow to cover expenses?

Academic program – Which college offers the degree program that best fits your career interests? What happens if you change majors? Does the college offer other degree programs that interest you?

Student life – Does the school offer activities you will enjoy? If you plan to live on campus, do you like the housing arrangements provided by the school? Will you have an opportunity to work on or near campus?

Make your final decision by **May 1** and then notify the colleges you're rejecting so they can offer your spot, and financial aid, to another student.

Juniors... these questions will help you narrow your college choices By picking your top colleges now, you'll be better prepared to apply for the financial aid and college application processes early next fall. Start by answering these questions:

What do you want to study? Explore your [career interests](#) and then research colleges that offer programs in areas you may want to pursue. Use college selection tools like [College Profiles](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).

What kind of school do you want to attend? Do you prefer a large university or a small college? Are you interested in a community college? What kind of student/teacher ratio do you want?

Where do you want to go to college? Do you want to live close to home or far away? Do you want to be in a major city or a small town? How big of a factor is out-of-state or private school tuition? If you want to go out of state, investigate programs like the [Mid-west Student Exchange Program](#) which may provide discounted tuition.

What can you afford? Consider overall costs: tuition, room and board, books, transportation, and personal expenses (see "[Nebraska College Costs](#)" at EducationQuest.org). Determine what you and your parents can afford to pay out-of-pocket and plan to apply for financial aid to help make up the difference. Calculate [the loan debt](#) you and your parents may need to incur to pay for your college education. For more details, see [Selecting a College](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#).

April "To Do" List

Seniors

- ___ Continue applying for [scholarships](#).
- ___ Make your final college decision.
- ___ Start purchasing dorm essentials.
- ___ Start looking for a summer job.

Juniors

- ___ [Register](#) by April 3 for the May 2 SAT.
- ___ [Register](#) by May 8 for the June 13 ACT.
- ___ Start looking for [scholarships](#).

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Omaha	Lincoln	Kearney	Scottsbluff
402-391-4033	402-475-5222	308-234-6310	800-303-3745 ext. 6654
888-357-6300	800-303-3745	800-666-3721	

[EducationQuest.org](#) Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)! *Your Journey to College Begins with Us*

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - The Unified Board of Education met in Bruning on March 9, 2020. Pursuant to laws and notices posted in Bruning and Davenport, all proceedings were taken while convened meeting was open to the public. Vice-President Dan Domeier called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. Unified members present were Jerry Baysinger, Sarah Bolte, and Jeff Hoins Local board members present were Sarah Krehnke, Ryan Miller, Rod Tegtmeier, and Brad Williams. Also present were Superintendent Kolin Haecker, Principal Damen Kugel, Sara Dierking, Beth Ardissono, and Patricia Remmers.

Jerry Baysinger made the motion to excuse the absence of Unified Board Members Jamie Koch and Michael Schroeder. The motion was seconded by Sarah Bolte.

Vice-President Domeier recognized the Open Meeting Act and welcomed guests.

The Consent Agenda included the agenda, minutes of February 10, 2020 Unified Board meeting, Treasurer's Report, and March claims. Jeff Hoins moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Baysinger seconded the motion. Roll call vote carried 4-0.

Principal Kugel gave his report on the following items: PK-12 enrollment, CRC JH Vocal/Band, Basketball Update, a Quiz Bowl update with both the Middle School and High School placing 5th at CRC, Luisa Lemke took 1st place at the Thayer County Spelling Bee, 2020 World-Herald Academic Recognition (Isaac Else & Jen Holtzen). A Lock Out/Lock Down drill along with a tornado drill will all be done in March and he closed his report with upcoming events.

Superintendent Haecker reported on the following items: Golf (2 students), update on E-Sports, legislative update on a couple of bills, Alternative Education spots and Covid 19 (Coronavirus)

New Business (All motions require a roll call vote and all carried 4-0 unless noted.)

- A. Hoins moved to congratulate the basketball coaches, Shana Gerberding, Treva Nutter, Greg Schroeder, Zach Schlegel, and respective teams for their successful season. Bolte seconded the motion.
- B. Motion was made by Hoins to approve the membership and dues to Nebraska Association of School Boards, seconded by Baysinger.
- C. Baysinger moved to approve Leah Werner as the 4th Grade teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion was seconded by Bolte.
- D. Motion was made by Baysinger to approve the School Calendar for the 2020-2021 year, seconded by Bolte.
- E. Bolte motioned to approve the resignation of Ivan Aguilar as the Spanish teacher effective at the end of 2019-2020 school year. Baysinger seconded the motion.
- F. Baysinger moved to approve a \$4000.00 increase to the Superintendent's compensation package (\$123,000.00) for 2020-2021 school year. Hoins seconded the motion.

Bolte motioned, seconded by Baysinger, to enter executive session "to prevent needless injury to an individual" at 8:12 pm. Baysinger moved to come out of executive session at 8:34 pm, seconded by Hoins.

Domeier adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Sara Dierking, Recording Secretary

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NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2020

BOXHOLDER/RURAL PATRON