



KENESAW PUBLIC SCHOOL

VOLUME XII, ISSUE VI



THE BLUE DEVIL BUGLE

February 2019

- February 1: TVC Wrestling (A) Kearney
- February 2: Speech (A) Gothenburg
- February 5: Elem Quiz Bowl; GBBB (A) Red Cloud
- February 6: P/T Conference; Sr. High Quiz Bowl; 1:30 Dismissal
- February 7: Field Trip; JH Quiz Bowl
- February 8: Winter Formal
- February 8-9: District Shelton
- February 9: Speech @ Sandy Creek; GBB (A) Bertrand; JH BB (H) Red Cloud
- February 11-12: GBB Subdistricts
- February 11; JH BB (H) Amherst, Board of Ed. Meeting
- February 12: JH BB (H) Harvard

Kenesaw Gets a Student Teacher

Timothy Zimmerman



Kenesaw Public School will be having a student teacher during this second semester. Helen King is currently in her last semester at UNK. She will be graduating with two degrees in May, Elementary Education, and Special Education K-12. Ms. King is originally from the small town of Shelby, Nebraska, and has now lived in Kearney for 6 years. She's the middle child of 5 siblings, 1 brother, 1 older sister, a twin sister, and younger sister. She will be working with Mrs. Bittfield in the 5th-grade classroom until February 22. She has started to teach some lessons, learning classroom management and instruction. After February 22, Ms. King will be transitioning to the elementary special education room until April 14. She'll be learning how to take over case-loads and paperwork. After her time is up in the special education classroom, she will finish off school in the high school special education classroom.

Kenesaw Earns High Achievement

Jared Summers and Mr. Rick Masters

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is committed to leading and supporting the preparation of all Nebraska students for learning, earning, and living. One way that the NDE can determine whether schools are meeting this mark is through the results derived from the state accountability system - AQuESTT. AQuESTT stands for Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow. The AQuESTT accountability system recognizes school success by ratings schools on six tenets. These six tenets include Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success; Transitions; Educational Opportunities and Access; College, Career, and Civic Ready; Assessment; and Educator Effectiveness. AQuESTT allows schools to focus on educational equity for their students. The NDE, through the AQuESTT system, classifies schools into four categories: Excellent, Great, Good, and Needs Improvement. These classifications are based on the six tenets and take into account a number of indicators from each tenet. Classifying schools through the AQuESTT system is an annual process. The goal is to give students equitable access and opportunities for success. For the 2017-2018 school year, Kenesaw was rated as Excellent through the AQuESTT system, one of only 28 school districts to receive this rating across Nebraska. This achievement shows that Kenesaw is on the right track, and the school will keep driving to continually improve education for our students. Kenesaw Public Schools is having a banner made to celebrate this success.



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A Big Kenesaw Thank You

As the saying goes, “It takes a village to raise a child.” (African Proverb) This is particularly true in the village of Kenesaw as many have been generous with their time, talents, and money to ensure Kenesaw children are well taken care of.

First, we extend a sincere “Thank you” to the CPI employees who generously made a \$500 donation to the Backpacks of Love program. The company itself then matched the amount raised by the employees, gifting the Backpacks of Love with a \$1,000 total donation in January. Backpacks of Love, a local organization that collects monetary donations and non-perishable food items to be sent home with children, helps to ensure that Kenesaw children are supplied with nutritional food weekly. “Thank you” also to the many in our community who brought their donations of food items to the school during December and January and placed them anonymously near the Christmas tree.

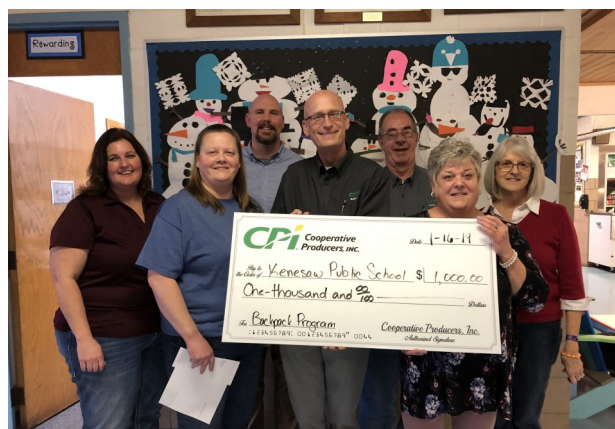
Secondly, “Thank you,” Mr. Masters and Mr. Richardson, for assisting with the janitorial work of helping to clean up the stands after basketball games. You help to ensure that our custodians get home at a decent time on those late nights. “Many hands make light work.” (English Proverb) Perhaps your initial assistance will inspire others to pitch in. We, indeed, can accomplish tasks more easily and more quickly when we work together, giving our kids beautiful, well-cared for facilities.

Actually, another school employee pitches in her time. Secretary Jan Dassinger works after her regular hours at school a couple nights a week cleaning bathrooms since the custodians have been short-handed with the new additions to the school, ensuring a clean environment for the kids.

To anyone and everyone in our village of Kenesaw who give of themselves to raise great kids, “Thank you!” So many of you graciously give your time, money, and support to ensure that our school is able to operate efficiently and to ensure that our students are well-taken care of, all without ever being noticed or known, let alone thanked. This is an overdue “Thank You.” We sincerely appreciate all that you do for us.

Sincerely,

The Kenesaw Student Body



Haley Reaches Milestone

Noah Klein

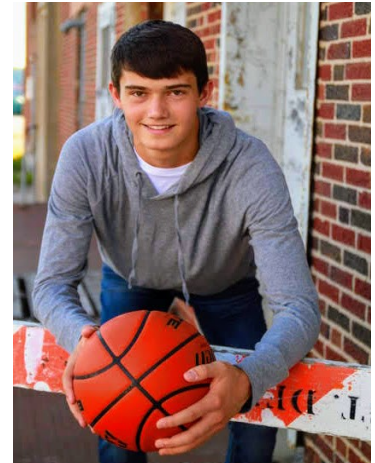
While playing a game against Pleasanton, Haley Schukei scored her 1001th point. As the 3-point shot swished through the hoop, the crowd erupted in praise. After the game, Haley said that she knew she was close but thought that she was still more than fifty points away, but the crowd and the coaches at the start of the game knew that she only needed nineteen points. During the third quarter, Hannah Schnitzler drove into the lane and dished it out to Haley, who swished the three!



Senior Spotlights

Parker Bittfield

Parker, son of Brian and Jamie Bittfield, participates in Cross Country, Basketball, K-Club, Track, and FBLA. Parker's current plan for the future is to start his Gen Eds at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. His words of wisdom are "Don't try too hard." Parker says the thing he'll miss most about high school will be basketball. Mrs. Engelhardt's deadlines best prepared him for the rest of his life. The best memory Parker will take from school is the time he played in a state championship game.



"You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today"
-Abraham Lincoln



Taylor Pulver

Taylor, son of JR and Laurie Pulver, participates in Football, Student Council, Trap, Track, Skills USA, and National Honor Society. Taylor's current plan for the future is to study at Northeast Community College in the Utility Lineman program. His words of wisdom are "Live life without regret." Taylor says the thing he'll miss most about high school will be building stuff in the shop with Mr. Perry. Mrs. Mousel's math classes best prepared him for the rest of his life. The best memory Taylor will take from school is the class trip to D.C.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave or forsake you."
-Deuteronomy 31:6

Jared Summers

Jared, son of Jamie Ditsworth and Rob Summers, participates in FBLA. Jared's current plan for the future is to start his Gen. Eds at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. His words of wisdom are "Don't be a lazy senior." Jared says the thing he'll miss most about high school will be Amy's chipotle sauce. Mrs. Bonnie Engelhardt's classes best prepared him for the rest of his life. The best memory Jared will take from school is the time his class took the trip to D.C. and New York.



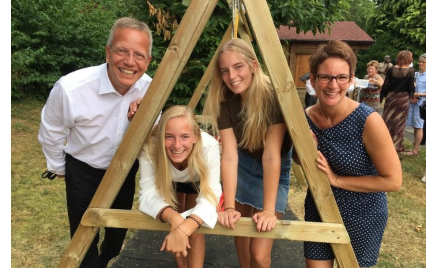
"I spent 113,880 hours just to get a piece of paper and a handshake." -Anonymous

Kenesaw Enjoys Having Foreign Exchange Students

Written by Noah Belz and Ryan Thomas

Johanna Ricks

Johanna joined our school in August and was immediately accepted by everyone. Born in Fritzlar, Germany, she travels quite often. She has visited Denmark, Spain, Italy, France, Canada, Switzerland, and eight other countries. Along with traveling to all those countries, she fluently speaks four languages and is currently learning another. During the day in Germany, she goes to school from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.. Outside of school, she works at a hospital with her father, and in her free time she enjoys sailing, swimming, and meeting with friends.



Emilie Andersen



Emilie Ronnow Andersen is a foreign exchange student from Denmark. Emilie enjoys many things from America; however, there are some things she does like more about her home country such as free education, free healthcare, and better food. Emilie's favorite food in America is the hamburger. Emilie would like to see Malibu Beach in California; Boston, Massachusetts; or the southern states before going home.

Katie Traussnig

Katie Traussnig is a foreign exchange student from Austria, who joined us in the second semester. One of Katie's earliest memories is hanging out with friends and dancing at the disco, she enjoys many things from America; however, there are some things she likes more about her home country. "I miss our bread; the American bread is too sweet. America also doesn't care as much about the environment. You waste so much plastic and other stuff that hurts our planet." Katie enjoys American pasta and noodles, and she also enjoys American hamburgers. A place Katie would like to see before she goes back to Austria is New York City.



Thank You Host Families For Hosting The Girls!



Boys' Basketball

John Schuster

The Kenesaw Blue Devils boys' basketball team has started the year strong with a 10-2 record. They are 6th overall in power points, and expectations are high for the team. The only two losses were at the hands of Class C-2 Doniphan-Trumbull (61-50) and Elm Creek (47-35). Parker Bittfield, commented on the most challenging part of the season so far: "It has been hard learning the new offenses that Coach has put in place, and it is also hard having so many underclassmen on varsity because we have to help them with the offense schemes and defensive assignments."

Kenesaw is the #1 seed in the TVC basketball tournament. With expectations high, we hope that the boys' basketball team can continue developing and winning games, especially into the postseason.



Junior High Boys Basketball

Ryan Denkert

The Junior High Boys' Basketball team has gotten off to a great start this season with a record of 2-1. In those three games, they have come away with wins against Silver Lake and Shelton; however, the team suffered a tough loss to Franklin at the buzzer. The boys were looking to recover from that loss on January 21 against Amherst, at home but that game was postponed due to weather. The game has been rescheduled for February 11 at Kenesaw. They have games against Gibbon, Red Cloud, and Harvard that will be played in early February, and then their season will come to a close on February 23, where they will be playing in a 4-team tournament in Harvard.

Good luck to everyone as Conference and District Tournaments Approach!

Girls' Basketball

Ashley Uden

The Lady Blue Devil schedule has been full of ranked opponents in higher classes. These games have been a difficult task for the girls, but in the end, it will make them a better team and better prepare them for a post-season run. The girls are still having a successful season with a record of 8-5 with all 5 losses against ranked teams. Coach Morgan said, "We have strong senior leadership with Haley, Hannah, and Ashley. They're doing a great job of leading the way for us with hard work in practice and lots of useful game experience. We have a talented group of girls from freshman to seniors, and that's really given us some very competitive practices which is making everyone better." With all the improvements the team has been making the girls are hopeful and looking forward to the goal of ending the season competing in Lincoln. The team is willing to give it their all to achieve the goal. Senior Haley Schukei has met a special goal of reaching her 1000th point in the game against Pleasanton on Saturday, January 19. The TVC Tournament is coming up and the girls are looking forward to more wins and making it to the championship game.



Wrestling

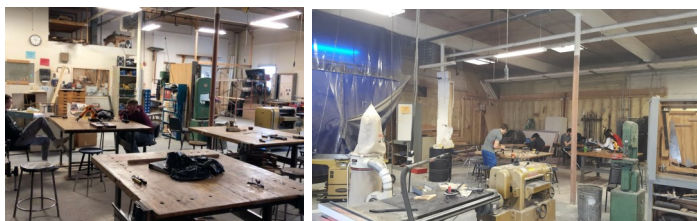
Nick Sharp

The Kenesaw wrestling team is small but mighty. The team consists of Freshman Sean Duffy and Sophomore Trevor Kuehn. Coach Mike Pritchard was happy with the first meet at Harvard. Coach Pritchard said the first meet went well. Sean and Trevor went 2-2 but did not make it to finals. He would like to see them place in the upcoming meets which would keep their record at 50%. Ideally, he would like to see them improve that percentage. Trevor has placed 3rd at the Shelton and Pleasanton meets. Sean Duffy said he is looking to get a game plan and try to get stronger. His overall goal is to place in a meet.

Shop Gets a Make-Over

Katie Long

Over Christmas break, the school had volunteers to come and help take down the back room of the shop. The school decided to take the room out due to the lack of space for projects. There was still some work to be done when students came back from Christmas break, so the school looked at it as a learning opportunity. Kids helped tear up the tile from where the room used to be. The shop students are now learning how to draw up and read blueprints for the new design. Students will have opportunities to help and learn how to build shelves; in other classes, kids will be helping build the frame for the new room and learn how to hang sheetrock. This is a good learning opportunity that most students do not have. The design for the office and shelving are not finished at the moment, but the building will begin as soon as possible.



Speech Off to a Great Start

Micha Cordes

The Kenesaw Speech team is off to a good start. On January 5, 2019, six students from the team competed at the Adams Central meet. Congratulations are due to Paityn Jameson- 1st in Varsity Entertainment, Rayne Cole- 1st in Novice Poetry, Madi Kennedy- 4th in Varsity Persuasive, Emma Schroeder- 5th in Varsity Serious, Payton Morrow- 5th in Varsity Poetry, and Paige Morrow- 6th in Varsity Informative. Mr. Sales has a positive outlook for this year's speech team, hoping to see many go to state.



Skills USA hosting another Fundraiser

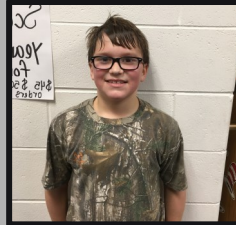
Ms. Molly Engelhardt

The Kenesaw SkillsUSA Chapter is partnering with Buffalo Wild Wings in Grand Island to help raise funds to send students to competition. On Friday, February 8, Buffalo Wild Wings will donate 10% of your total bill to Kenesaw SkillsUSA. You will need an "Eat Wings, Raise Funds" ticket for the 10% to go to SkillsUSA. You can pick up a ticket at the school, or you can cut it out here. Come eat some good food while supporting Kenesaw students. Thank you for all of the support that you, the community, have given this great organization.



KIDS' CORNER

- 1- Do you know who Cupid is?
- 2- What's your favorite flower?
- 3- Why do we celebrate Valentine's Day?
- 4- What colors are associated with Valentine's Day?
- 5- Can you touch your tongue to your nose?



- 1- No
- 2- Violet
- 3- No
- 4- Red and Pink
- 5- No

Matthew Long

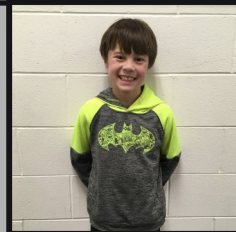
Third Grade



- 1- No
- 2- Poppies
- 3- When friends give you candy
- 4- Pink and Red
- 5- No

Eva Wiese

Preschool



- 1- No
- 2- Rose
- 3- No
- 4- Pink and Purple
- 5- No

Jace Kauk

Fourth Grade



- 1- No
- 2- Rose
- 3- I don't know
- 4- Pink and Purple
- 5- No

Quinnley Hurt

Kindergarten



- 1- He shoots people.
- 2- I like sunflowers.
- 3- To make fun of the single people
- 4- Pink and Red
- 5- No, but close.

Kami Kennedy

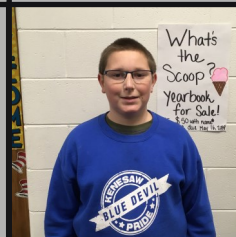
Fifth Grade



- 1- No
- 2- Rose
- 3- To get candy from people we know
- 4- Red
- 5- No

Garrett Peterson

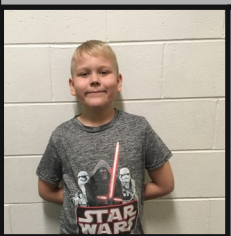
First Grade



- 1- Yes
- 2- A rose
- 3- I don't know
- 4- Pink and Red
- 5- No

Casey Poland

Sixth Grade



- 1- Yes, I do.
- 2- Rose
- 3- It's for love.
- 4- Red
- 5- Nope.

Dante Cole

Second Grade



- 1- Yes, a baby shooting arrows at people making them fall in love.
- 2- Rose
- 3- We do it to spend more time with loved ones
- 4- Red
- 5- No

Corey Frase

High School



*Mission Statement:
"In partnership with stakeholders we will develop
challenging academics, encourage positive
citizenship, and promote lifelong learning."*

Kenesaw Public School


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