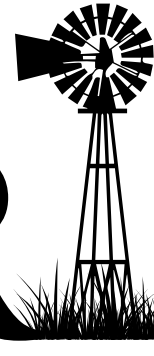


THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

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NO. 43

Stapleton Public Schools is great again

MARCIA HORA

Ask Stapleton Public Schools Principal Kris Walker what makes Stapleton Public Schools great, and without hesitation she will say - it's the teachers and students.

For the second year in a row, the district received a "Great" classification comparison on the Accountability for a Quality Education System (AQUEST) report.

SPS's middle school achieved an "Excellent" comparison and the elementary and high school were designated "Great."

"We were very close to being "Excellent" in the district and were just four proficient test scores away," Principal Walker said. "We are very pleased with the results and it also shows we have had tremendous growth and students are achieving and learning. This, in turn, will help them achieve their lifelong goals."

The school will continue to work on improving English Language Arts.

Stapleton Public Schools outperformed state scores in all categories. Combined grades 3rd through 8th and 11th grade scores for SPS and the state:

English Language Arts (ELA): Stapleton, 66%;

State, 52%
Math: Stapleton, 71%;
State, 52%.

Science: Stapleton, 90%;
State, 66%.

The percentage proficiency based on ACT/NSCAS for 11th graders shows Stapleton at 67%, compared to 51% for the state and 57% of its peers.

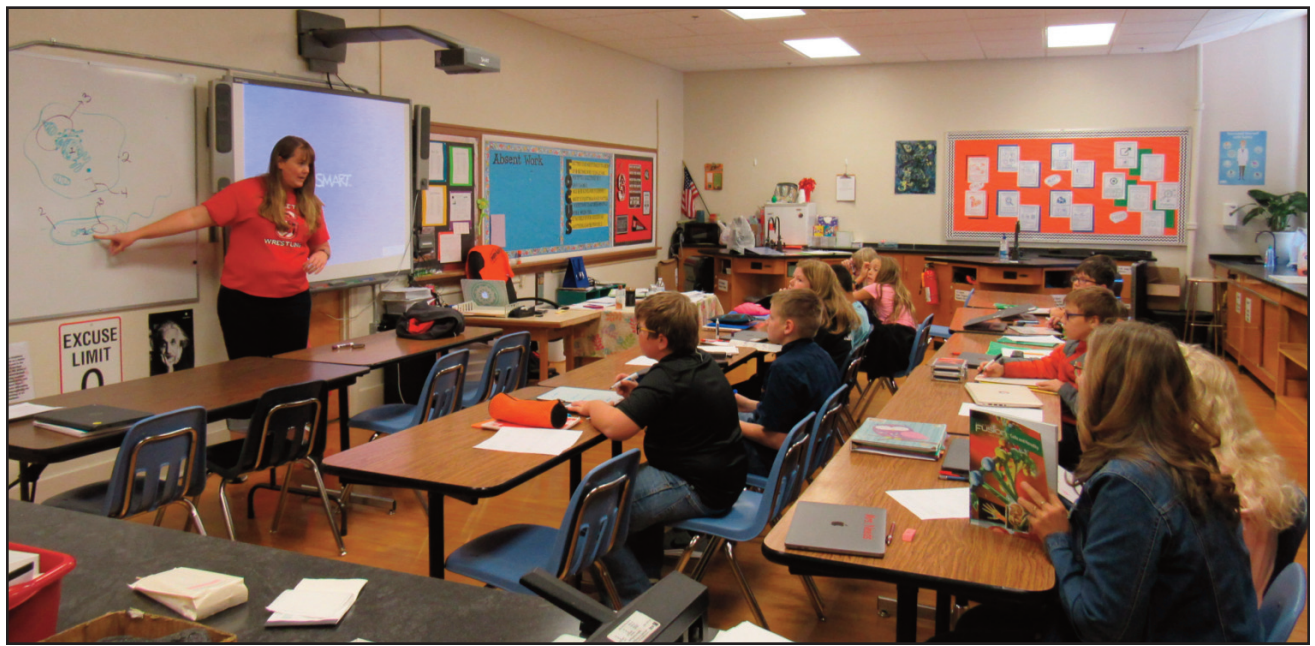
"We are now known as the "math" school because of our testing in this area. We are extremely strong in science as well," Principal Walker said. "I credit this to our staff. They are constantly looking at data and how we can improve."

Principal Walker said she also believes being on a "school needing improvement" list bolstered SPS to greatness.

"We hired WestEd to come and help us. Our teachers were determined to bring our school up and be the best that we could be. We have a firm foundation to build on and we have been doing benchmark formative assessment for nine years. Our teachers have worked very hard to bring us up to where we are today," she said.

Because of that work and dedication SPS elementary went on to receive a National Blue Ribbon School designation.

Last year the high school



MARCIA HORA - THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

Mrs. Stewart, science instructor at Stapleton Public Schools, is using innovative ways in her classroom to help students prepare for testing. Science is becoming a very popular class, as students learn how to problem solve and conduct experiments. SPS scored 90% on their testing, compared to 66% statewide. Pictured above is the 6th grade class.

was one of the top four high schools in Nebraska based on growth, graduation percentages, and performance on tests.

Stapleton was selected as a field test in science two years ago. All schools participated in field testing this year and next year will be the first time science will be tested statewide with results being compiled.

Principal Walker credits high science scores to instructor, Patty Stewart. "Mrs. Stewart is imple-

menting new and innovative programs in her classroom and students are excelling. She is setting the bar," she said.

Mrs. Stewart said the new testing is much more difficult and students are being pushed to problem solve and away from memorization.

She challenges her students and has taken it to new levels, including finding out what the large orange formation was that showed up in her back yard this summer.

Students were required to obtain information and use scientific skills to come up with the answer - cedar apple rust.

Seniors in her anatomy class had to find out and explain why a tattoo is permanent. They drew out the layers of skin and discovered and learned how ink is captured and cannot escape.

Hope Wade's explanation was, "the tattoo is found on the epidermal-dermal junction. Your body responds to wounds by sending macrophages to close the wound and swallow up any invaders. Tattoo ink is too large for the macrophages (white blood cells) to destroy, so they get stuck in the dermis. If the tattoo ink didn't go beneath the epidermal-dermal junction, it would probably just

fade away. In conclusion, to keep a tattoo permanent, you have to be in the dermal layer."

Seventh graders delved into declining deer population.

Mrs. Stewart's students agree science has definitely "come alive," and they have enjoyed conducting experiments, constructing explanations, engaging in arguments, and coming up with answers to questions.

"Students are learning how to interpret graphs, look up viable and reliable information on the information and problem solve," Mrs. Stewart said. "These are skills they will be able to use throughout their entire life."

SPS has also achieved 96% attendance for the past four school terms.

Disaster relief check arrives

Logan County Emergency manager, Sean Carson, reports a check for \$33,464.26 has been received from FEMA/NEMA for Disaster Declaration #4387 due to June 2018

flooding in Logan County.

The total project cost of \$44,619.01 and repairs in the county included rebuilding the road on Avenue 190, work on Avenue 40, and culverts.

Carson continues to work on Disaster Declaration #4420 in the county. An approximate cost of \$181,000.00 in damages has been assessed on

flooding between March and May of 2019. This amount will go higher as the disaster timeline was extended through July 14, 2019.

Sen. Brewer to seek re-election

Sen. Tom Brewer has announced his campaign for re-election to a second term in the Nebraska Legislature. Sen. Brewer represents Nebraska's 43rd Legislative District.

"It has been my great honor to represent the outstanding Nebraskans of my district for the last four years. It is a sacred responsibility that I take very seriously," Brewer said. "The people of western Nebraska can trust and rely on my proven

conservative leadership to keep Nebraska growing and moving forward."

First elected in 2016, Tom Brewer is a conservative republican representing Nebraska's largest legislative district covering two time zones, and over 70,000 square miles across 15 counties including the Sandhills. In 2019, he was elected to the chair of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Brewer is also a member of the Educa-

tion Committee and had previously served on the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.

Sen. Brewer has worked hard on issues important to this district, including:

- Passing legislation to reform the Brand Committee
- Fighting for urgent property tax reform for all Nebraskans, especially Ag producers
- Strongly supporting the Property Tax Ballot Initiative
- Passing legislation to protect property rights against industrial wind energy facilities
- Passing legislation to aid and assist military veterans and members of law enforcement
- Collaborating on a task force seeking reform in Nebraska's Department

of Corrections
• Gun owner and strong defender of 2nd Amendment rights, recently taking 1st place at the International Sniper Competition

Sen. Brewer is a retired Army Colonel and decorated combat veteran with multiple deployments to Afghanistan, where he received the Bronze Star medal and two Purple Heart medals. He earned a bachelor's degree from Doane College in Crete, NE and a master's degree from the US Army War College. Sen. Brewer is a member of the Lakota Sioux Tribe. He and his wife Kelli, have a son and daughter who now both serve in the Nebraska Army National Guard.

Top 30% of the Class

Hannah Harwager of Stapleton, recently received an honor for being in the top 30% of her class at the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing in Scottsbluff. She was nominated for the award by UNMC faculty.



Hannah is now part of the Sigma Theta Tau International Gamma Pi at-large chapter. It is the only national nursing honor society.

Hannah graduated with an Associates of Science degree from Chadron State College, and is now attending the College of Nursing in Scottsbluff.

She is a Stapleton High School graduate and the daughter of Jesse and Heather Harwager of Hershey.

Register your trunk

Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce needs your trunk registered for the event that will take place Halloween evening, Thursday, October 31. Call Frey's General Store at 308-636-2636 to register or for more information. Voting for the \$25.00 in Chamber bucks will be by "People's Choice," in buckets located in the back of Stapleton Cooperative Market & Deli.

-- News Briefs --

NCYC Kids To Host Haunted Forest Park

The NCYC kids will be hosting a haunted forest park tour on Halloween night, Thursday, October 31.

Hot chocolate and a bake sale will be held after the event in the St. John's Catholic Church basement.

Please join them on Saturday, November 14, for a hunter's breakfast to be served in the Catholic Church basement.

Jingle Bell Shop Set For November 23

Mark your calendars and be prepared for some fun and great gift ideas in Stapleton, Saturday, November 23.

This year's "Jingle Bell Shop," sponsored by the Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce will feature shopping incentives, a bigger and better craft show at the Stapleton Community Center, and door prizes from local merchants. Be watching for more information!

McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- Red Cross Bloodmobile Friday, November 1 McPherson Co. Fair Bldg.

Notices



- Legal Notice To Bidders
 - NE DOT Statewide Storage Buildings
 - McPherson County School District #90 Proceedings
 - McPherson Co. School Land Lease Sale
 - Logan County Commissioners Board Proceedings
 - Village Of Stapleton Board Proceedings
- Read The Notices
It's Your Right

Weather



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
12	40	18	T
13	57	23	0
14	66	22	0
15	78	33	0
16	58	23	0
17	65	24	0
18	82	31	0
19	69	31	0
20	64	30	0
21	57	35	0

A trace of snow was recorded on October 12. Winds were measured at 22 MPH on October 12; 26 MPH on October 20; 35 MPH on October 21

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