

YMS



Kenny Loosvelt

PRINCIPAL

Volume 7

Number 7

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible

APRIL 2022

Greetings YMS Parent(s):

Well, we **marched through March** at YMS! Our **vocal music** students put on a **fantastic performance** of “*High School Musical*”, we completed a **tornado drill**, & track **practice** got rolling. 8th-grade students got to tour **SCC-Lincoln and Doane University**. We had a successful **HOPE week** that reminded our students of the peer support that is available to them at YMS.

With Spring Break over it is time for **everyone** at YMS to do our **best work**. We are going to **challenge your student(s)** to do their best **in class, in the halls, at performances**, and especially on the Nebraska State **assessments**.

Speaking of those state assessments the name has changed. What you might have once known as NeSA is now called the **Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System or NSCAS**. At YMS it doesn't matter what anyone calls it, we are here to give our very best effort and we are constantly trying to **improve each and every day**.

YMS **8th grade** students will be taking the NSCAS Science test on **March 30 & 31**. All **6-8 grade** students will be taking the NSCAS English Language Arts test from **April 11-14**. Finally, all **6-8 grade** students will be taking the NSCAS Math assessment on **April 18-22**.

Here are a **few tips** that you can **do as parents** to help ensure that your child performs to the best of their ability as we tackle these important tests.

- Make sure that if your child is **able to be in school** that they are **in school**. Missing these test dates will require your child to miss regular instruction time to make up the test, so please make sure you do **everything in your power** to have them **in school** on these days.
- Ensure that your child has **at least 9 hours of sleep** on the nights **preceding their tests**. On the morning of the tests please make sure they have a **nutritious breakfast**. Make sure you remind them to do their very best and that **you believe in them**.
- Encourage your child to do their best while reminding them that these tests are not “**all or nothing**” exams. Yes, we want all our students to do well on these exams but we are very **confident in what we are doing at YMS**. A substandard result on a test will not result in anything more than a **chance for students to grow**. We **know** that we are doing **great things for kids** not only *academically but socially and emotionally here at YMS and that is as important as any assessment grade*.

In the **fourth quarter** of football games, teams will often **hold up four fingers** to let the opposing teams know that they “**own**” the **fourth quarter**. At YMS are putting up our **four fingers** to let everyone know that this is the time **when we do our best work**. This is the time that we show why **we give a great effort**. This is a time we show everyone that York Middle School has the **hardest working students**, the most **dedicated staff**, and is the **best middle school in the state**.

Kenny Loosvelt
YMS Principal

School Counselor Connection NSCAS Growth

Although it is hard to imagine, spring really is right around the corner! And with spring comes sunshine, rain (hopefully), outdoor recess, and...state assessments!

Students will be taking the NSCAS Growth assessments. These assessments are given to all students in grades 3-8. The tests are taken on the computer. The Math and English Language Arts subject tests are adaptive in nature, which means they adjust to student responses. Students in grades 5 and 8 will also be taking the NSCAS Science assessment.

This spring students will also be taking the MAP tests for reading and math. However, beginning in the 2022-23 school year, NSCAS Growth will replace the MAP assessments for reading and math. Which means students will take the NSCAS Growth in the Fall, Winter and Spring in place of MAP Growth. This will reduce the amount of tests that students will take while also giving teachers valuable assessment information that we have come to rely on with the MAP tests.

Individual Student Results (ISR) Reports will be shared with parents next fall.

YMS will be following the testing schedule below. **It is very important that your child be at school on testing days** and prepared to do their best. Teachers will communicate with students which day(s) they will be taking the NSCAS Growth.

NSCAS Science **March 30-31** (8th Grade only)
NSCAS English Language Arts Week of **April 11-14**
NSCAS Math Week of **April 18-22**

To learn more about the statewide assessment system, feel free to access the Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System site <https://community.nwea.org/community/nebraska> On this site, here is a Parent/Student tab that you can go to in order to access the Online Student Tutorial to learn more about NSCAS Growth. There is also a link titled "Item Type Sampler" that shows you types of questions on the test.



8TH GRADE ORIENTATION

On April 27th the 8th graders will attend 8th-grade orientation at the York High School. Orientation will be from 1:30 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. During this time, your student will be able to talk to current YHS students, be given a tour of the building, and will be able to see all the extracurricular activities that they offer. York Public Schools will provide after school transportation for this event. Our goal is to give your student a glimpse of all the possibilities at York High School. Also, on Wednesday, April 27th from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the high school theater, there will be an 8th-grade parent meeting. At this meeting, academic planning, credits, dual credit opportunities, etc. will be discussed. We highly encourage parents and students to attend.



York High School Show Choir, Dukes & Duchesses, and Chamber Singers Auditions

Auditions for next year's Dukes & Duchesses Show Choir and Chamber Singers will take place on Wednesday, May 11th, 2:15—4:30pm. D&D audition will consist of a singing audition and a dancing audition; Chamber auditions will simply be singing. We will have choreography rehearsal on Tuesday, May 10th and Wednesday May 11th from 7:00—7:45 am. This is when the students will learn and rehearse the dance portion of the audition. Please be watching for more audition information.



The Annual YMS Talent Show!!



We are getting ready for the annual YMS Talent Show. The Talent Show is scheduled for May 5, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the York High School Theater. All students in 6th, 7th & 8th grade choir will be a part of this show. Those who are interested in performing a small act, auditions will be held on April 5th & 6th. Students who were selected to perform small acts will need to be at the required dress rehearsal on Wednesday, May 4th from 2:30 – 4:30 pm in the YHS Theater. We are looking forward to another great show, showcasing a lot of talented students!!



FLAG SQUAD AUDITIONS

Students interested in being a part of the 2022-2023 York High School Flag Squad may attend our audition rehearsals April 25th through 28th beginning at 7:15 a.m. in the Auxiliary Gymnasium. Auditions will be held on Friday, April 29th at 7:15 a.m. For more information, please contact Mrs. Cooper or Mr. Forsch.

Buy a YMS Yearbook!

- Preserve great memories!
- Remember fun events!
- The YMS yearbook is loaded with school experiences, quotes, and candid photos.

Make checks payable to YMS.
The yearbooks will be delivered
in the fall!



From the school nurse,

Have you ever thought about challenging yourself and family members to ‘unplug’ from all forms of digital technology and TV? The first week of May is designated as screen-free week, a time where people can get away from news feeds, targeted ads and autoplay videos which allows more opportunities for real connection and time to explore more engaging activities. Does one week sound impossible?

Do you think that you can commit yourself and your family to one day? Screen free Saturdays (or any day of the week that you choose) can become a time where priority is placed on your family and your own wellbeing.

The website, screenfree.org, offers up a great option of starting the screen-free time at sundown on Friday and ending with family movie night at sundown on Saturday! ‘Unplugging for a day allows so much time for more physical and creative activities or time to do nothing—all of which helps to reset some balance in our lives for the rest of the week. Check out the piece from screenfree.org for ideas to motivate you!

MAKE A FORT. HAVE A DANCE PARTY. READ A BOOK. FIND BURIED TREASURE. HELP IN THE KITCHEN. SHOOT SOME HOOPS. MAKE TORTILLAS. FLY A KITE. PAINT A MASTERPIECE. LAY ON THE FLOOR. LEARN A NEW SKILL. MAKE MASKS. GO FOR A HIKE. PUT ON A PLAY. TALK. GO FOR A BIKE RIDE. PLAY PRETEND.



UNPLUG TO...

How will you spend your Saturdays?

www.screenfree.org/saturdays

April 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					B	
3	4 Steered Straight Assembly	5 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Crete MS Dual (Doane College) 4:00pm	6 2:00 Dismissal	7	8	9
	G	B	G	B	G	
10	11 Board of Education Mtg.	12 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Aurora Tri. 4:00pm	13 2:00 Dismissal	14	15 NO SCHOOL Easter Break	16
	B	G	B	G	Good Friday	
17  Easter	18	19 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Columbus Invite (Pawnee Park/ Memorial Field) 9:00am	20 2:00 Dismissal	21	22	23 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Aurora Invite 9:00am TR- York Yowell Track Invite 10:00am
	B	G	B	G	B	
24	25 Board of Education Mtg.	26 YMS 5TH grade Orientation 8:30-11:30am YMS 6th Grade Wax Museum	27 2:00 Dismissal 8th grade Orientation @ HS	28 7 & 8 Coed TR - Home Quad vs. Crete MS, Fairbury, Seward 2:00pm	29  Arbor Day	30 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Aurora Invite 11:00 am
	G	B	G	B	G	



Parents/Guardians,

We have some exciting activities planned for the York Public School summer program.

Here are the details:

- The summer program is FREE to students that live in the York Public School Attendance Zone or attend York Public Schools
- The summer session will run from June 1 - July 12, Monday thru Friday
- Holiday - No Program - JULY 4-5th
- The summer program will be Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 12 PM.
- Students **must** attend a minimum of **five days during the summer**.
- It will be open to the first 30 elementary students per grade level and 45 middle school students registered.
- DROP OFF AND PICKUP WILL BE AT YORK ELEMENTARY
- The summer program will provide both educational opportunities and enrichment activities.

Attached, you will find the registration form for the summer program. Enrollment forms MUST be completed in their entirety prior to enrollment. Around the beginning of May, you **will** receive a letter confirming your student's enrollment into the program. Please give the completed registration form to your afterschool teacher or YMS/YES office.

Thank you for enrolling your student in our summer program! It has been a great year and we are looking forward to continuing to serve your student/s in the summer.

If you have any questions about our summer program, please don't hesitate to contact me at amy.vernon@yorkdukes.org

Sincerely,

Amy Vernon

Amy Vernon, After-School Program Project Director

2022 York Public Schools Summer Program For Current Grades 5-7

Office Use Only
Received: _____
State ID: _____
All Data Complete: _____
Other: _____

Student Information:

Name of Student: _____ **22-23 School Yr Grade:** _____

Attends: York Public Other: _____ Gender: _____

Parents or Guardian: Father _____ Mother _____

Father Employer: _____ Mother Employer: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Number we can reach you: Home Cell Other _____

Emergency Contact (other than parents/guardians):

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Each week a different club will take place in the middle school program. You may sign up for one or more clubs.

Check all weeks that interest your student:

___ **June 1st - 3rd:** Fun With Ag & Safety Camp- We will learn about different farms and the History of Farming. We will also be learning about what to do in an emergency with a visit to the Fire Department to learn how to use a fire extinguisher and then a visit from NPPD for Electricity Safety.

___ **June 6th - 10th:** Cooking Camp- ASC will be doing bake-off challenges, learning to prep. a healthy meal, and where our Food Comes From.

___ **June 13th - 17th:** The Wild Outdoors Camp- We will be investigating what wildlife is around us with the help from UNL visitors, Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo Trunk, and a field Trip to Pioneer Park.

___ **June 20th - 24th:** Outdoor Explorer Camp- We will be learning how to set up a shelter, orienteering, and family fishing all with the boy scouts and doing a service project for Recharge.

___ **June 27th - July 1st:** Games Camp- ASC will be going to the 4-H fairgrounds to learn Archery and then learn Disc Golfing.

___ **July 6th - 9th:** Crazy Summer Fun Camp - Every day we will be doing science experiments and learning how it happens. Playing some water sports games and delivering our Service Project.

___ **July 11th - 12th:** We will continue with our Crazy Summer Fun Camp. Then the last day will be a fun swimming day!

Program Description:

The summer program runs from **8:00 AM – 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday**. Each day will include free breakfast & lunch, physical activity, academic work, educational enrichment, and an optional free lunch. Summer program students also get to experience field trips during the summer program.

Behavior Policy:

Students at York Public Schools Summer Program must be compliant with rules to provide a safe and fun environment for all students. We operate on a three-strike system. When extreme behavior occurs parents will be contacted and a strike note will be issued. Extreme behavior would include but is not limited to, spitting on others, kicking, hitting, running, or hiding from staff, injury to others, and defiant behaviors that result in an unsafe situation. Upon receiving the third strike the student will be dismissed from the YPS Summer Program.

I have read and understood the behavior policy.

Pick-up:

If a student does not have a parent available to pick them up by 12:05 PM if your student is not having lunch **OR** 12:45 PM if your student is staying for lunch:

1. A warning will be issued.
2. A second warning will be issued notifying the next time the student will be removed from Summer BOOST.
3. The student will be removed from the Summer Program

I have read and understood the late pick-up policy.

End of Day: Students must be picked up before 12:40 p.m.

Which of the following will you allow at the conclusion of the day?

- My child will stay for lunch My child will **not** stay for lunch
- I will pick up my child. My child may walk home.

I specifically authorize the following:

- Yes No I permit YPS Summer Program to use my son/daughter’s photograph on the school website or in promotional material for the program.
- Yes No I give permission to summer staff to take my child off school premises. (Numerous field trips planned for the summer)
- Yes No My child has a NON-Food allergy. (If YES, please specify) _____
- Yes No My child has a food allergy. (If YES, please specify) _____

In order to ensure the safety of students with food allergies, proper medical documentation must be provided.

Please request this paperwork upon enrollment.

Attendance: (Initial beside each statement)

_____ I understand that YPS Summer School Program is grant-funded and only receives funds for students that attend **5 days or more** during the summer program.

_____ I understand that enrolling my student says that I value the YPS Summer Program and will plan to meet or exceed the 5-day attendance goal.

_____ I understand that YPS Summer Program is not a drop-in/as-needed program.

Please Mark all that apply:

This student:

- is a resident of York School District in foster care is a ward of the court
- is a ward of the state has a current IEP opts into YPS

I grant permission for my son/daughter to participate in the YPS Summer Program. I hereby release York Public Schools, its employees, volunteers from any financial responsibility or claims for the sickness and/or accident to my child during the YPS Summer Program. I understand that this program is sponsored by York Public

Schools and that my child must follow all school rules set forth by York Elementary and Middle School. I understand that violations of school rules may result in suspension or removal from the program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date