



DUKE NEWS

December 2022

Volume XXXVII Number 4

Jason Heitz
Principal

Tyler Herman
Assistant Principal/Activities Director

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL --

Semester Finals Coming Soon!

Before we know it, YHS Finals Week will be here! Semester Finals are scheduled for December 19 - 22. Throughout finals, students in 9-12 have "open campus" privileges for lunch. As we have done for several years, some finals are scheduled in blocks. For example, all students in Physical Science will take the final at the same time. To continue with this example, if your student has Physical Science during 3rd period, then while 3rd period finals are taking place, your child would have open campus at that time.

Students who are failing class, students who are on the ICU list, and students with "incompletes" in the gradebook, will NOT have open campus, and must stay on campus during the lunch and free times.

Snow Day Communication

Now that December is here, I want to remind you we will utilize the emergency messenger in Infinite Campus. You will receive a text message with any weather delays or cancellations. Please make sure that you have the correct cell phone information in Infinite Campus. You are able to check your cell phone information in the parent portal, or please call the YHS office. We will also utilize radio, TV, and social media to communicate these decisions.

Choir and Band Concerts

The Madrigal Dinner at York United Methodist Church will be at 6:00 pm on December 3 and 4.

The Holiday Band Concert is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm, with the Band Booster Soup Supper taking place prior to the concert, 5:00 pm to 6:45 pm. The concert will take place in the YHS Theater.

The YHS Christmas Choir Concert is scheduled for Monday, December 12 at 7:30 pm in the YHS Theater. The YMS Concert is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 pm in the YHS Theater.

One-Act Performances

The York One-Act will perform on Tuesday, November 29. The students will perform for the student body at 2:30 pm, and for the community at 8:00 pm.

York will once again HOST the DISTRICT One-Act on Friday, December 2.

Jason Heitz
Principal
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Holiday Break

No School December 23 through January 3

First Day of 2nd Semester is January 4



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR'S OFFICE -----

Holiday Moratorium

Every year, there's a moratorium for ALL activities over Christmas break. This gives our students an opportunity to spend time with family and friends and take a break from the busy school schedule. This year, the moratorium is December 23rd through December 27th. There will be no practice or games and students may NOT use the school facilities.

Activities Calendar

We have a great activities calendar on our school website that we update throughout the year with any changes to the schedule. This calendar gives you the option of selecting certain activities (i.e = 9th Grade Girls Basketball), certain days, or the entire schedule. This is a great resource for those wanting to learn more about our activities schedule.

You can find the activities calendar and schedules on the school district's website (yorkpublic.org). Click on "Links" in the upper right hand corner of the screen. Use the pull down menu to click on "rSchoolToday." You may also download the "rSchoolToday" app on your phone.

While on the activities calendar page, you have the option to sign up for email notifications of any schedule changes such as postponements and cancellations. All you need to do is click on the "Notify Me" text and sign up for the notifications.

Go Dukes!!

Tyler Herman
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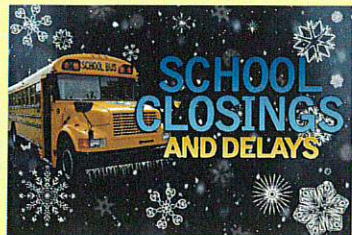


YHS Winter Ball

The Winter Ball will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2023. The dance will be from 8:30 to 11:00 pm in the indoor tennis courts. The cost is \$5 per person. All high school students are invited! If you plan to bring an out-of-town date, you will need to pick up a sign-up form in the main office. Dates must be at least in high school, and no older than 20.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

It is the policy of York Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age, or national origin in its educational programs, administration, policies, employment, or other district programs.



WEATHER RELATED EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES

In case of a weather emergency, we will follow the same procedure that has been in practice in the past years. That procedure is as follows:

1. Radio Station KOOL(103.5 FM 1370 AM), and KTMX-FM (104.9) will again serve as our primary source for dispensing "school closing information". They are 24 hour stations.
2. If severe weather necessitates an early dismissal, a school cancellation, or information concerning school buses, it will be broadcast on KOOL and KTMX.
3. Bus drivers are instructed to use good judgment in determining whether a road is passable. The Transportation Department will notify parents where children can be loaded if a specific road cannot be traveled. Buses will travel the regular routes and maintain a time schedule consistent with the conditions of the road.
4. "Emergency Messages" will be sent to our student's parents and guardians who have an email or cell phone number listed in Infinite Campus, and the YPS Staff. Information will be posted on our website at www.yorkpublic.org, on our Facebook page at York Public Schools and on Twitter at @MitchBartYPS (#yorkdukes). **Parents and Guardians - please be sure to provide the school secretaries with your current email address and cell phone number in order to be notified!!**

York Athletic Booster Club

From the York Athletic Booster Club...

Good Luck to our York athletes as Unified Bowling, Bowling, Boys Wrestling, Girls Wrestling, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball and Dukettes get underway!

For the latest updated schedules for our York Dukes, visit -

<https://yorkpublic.org> < Links < "rschooltoday" which will lead you to all the sports listed in the Central Conference calendar.

Also follow us on Facebook at -- York High School Booster Club! We post forms and lots of good info and pictures there!

Thanks to the volunteers that helped run the Hoopla Girls Tourney November 19th. We greatly appreciate our Booster Members' help with gate and concessions!!

MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

01/21/2023 Hoopla Boys Tourney - we need volunteers to man the gate and the concession stand at YHS. Please contact Ken Booth (ken.booth@yorkdukes.org) if you can help us out.

GO Dukes!!

**The 2021-2022 YHS Yearbooks have arrived!
Pick up your yearbook in Mr. Loofe's room.**



SPEECH: It's not too late to get involved!

Speech competition is a NSAA sanctioned activity that promotes public speaking. Becky Stahr, Avie Veldkamp, Rachel Fox, and Elias Dallmann will be coaching the team this year. According to www.clark.edu, competitive speech has the following benefits:

- * Speech team sharpens your ability to research and analyze problems, think and listen critically, express your thoughts clearly and fluently and better understand public affairs.
- * It increases your confidence and poise and provides constant intellectual stimulation.
- * Many executives, lawyers, teachers, public relations officers, radio and television personalities, and prominent public figures testify to the benefits of their speech team participation. Many of them found life-long friends through their involvement. They also gained valuable skills for use in their careers.

SPEECH TEAM—Frequently Asked Questions

What is Speech?

- An extra-curricular activity
- It promotes a student's ability to present in front of a group.

What are the categories in which to compete? (You may compete in 2 events.)

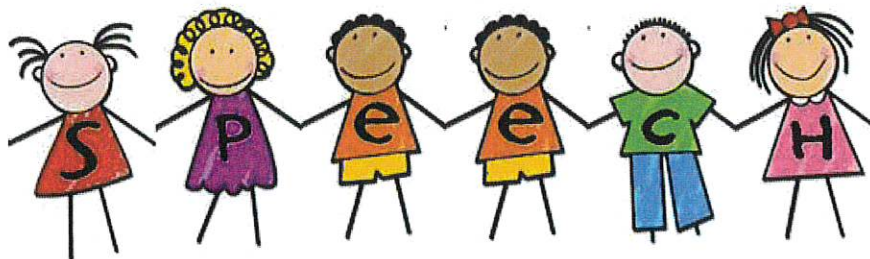
- Poetry: (6-8 min./use a script/one or several poems)
- Persuasive: (10 min./may use a script/problem → solution)
- Entertainment: (8 min./no script/entertaining/organization)
- Extemporaneous: (5-7 min./prepare in 1hr./use note card)
- Informative: (8 min./note card/organization/sources/visuals)
- Drama: (3-5 people/15 min./script/gestures/no acting)
- Duet: (2 people/12 min./no script/props of table & chairs)
- Serious Prose: (8-10 min./piece of lit./memorize & gestures)
- Humorous Prose: (8-10 min./piece of lit./memorize & gestures)

When will we practice?

- Practices are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00 pm in the library. **Group meetings will happen during lunch.** These will mainly occur a day or two before a contest.
- Work days
- Before school
- After school
- Lunch
- Evenings (One evening will be a mock contest with other teachers as the judges.)

When are the competitions?

- Speech meets are typically held on Saturdays. They are listed on the York High School calendar.
- We compete at Invitationals, Conference, Districts, and State.



YORK HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS!

Special Points of Interest:

- *Madrigal Dinner*
- *YHS Christmas Concert*
- *YMS Christmas Concert*
- *Annual Soup Supper*
- *Duke Card*
- *Instrument Cleaning*
- *Band Booster Notes*



HEAR YE HEAR YE! MADRIGAL DINNER!

The King and Queen would like to announce the York High School's Madrigal Dinners at 6:00 pm on December 3rd and 4th; to be held at the First United Methodist Church, 309 East 7th Street. Join us for a three course feast, musical entertainment, and a masque, all provided by the YHS Chamber Singers! Tickets are \$25 and on sale now. Tickets are limited and may be purchased at the York High School office.

YHS CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Please join us for an evening filled with song and Christmas joy. York High School's Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, Treble in Paradise, and Dukes & Duchesses will be presenting a great concert on Monday, December 12th at 7:30 pm in the York High School Theater.

YMS CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The YMS Christmas Choir Concert will take place on Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 pm! This concert will feature York Middle School's 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs as well as Expressions, in the York High School Theater.

ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER

The High School Band will perform at the annual Soup Supper on Tuesday, December 6th. This will be their final formal concert of the semester. The bands have grown tremendously over the semester and I am excited to see their growth in the second semester.

DUKE CARD

There are still some Duke Cards available for sale. Please contact a band member or Mr. Harris if you wish to purchase a card!

INSTRUMENT CLEANING

Students who are looking to clean their instruments might take the break time as a perfect time to send in their equipment to the repair shop.

BAND BOOSTER NOTES

Reminder that the annual Band Booster Soup Supper is Tuesday, December 6th. Please refer to the Sign Up Genius if you would like to help out. Thank you!



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The YHS Music Department would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. We thank you for the opportunity to work with your children and for all your support for music in our schools. Merry Christmas!!

Joshua Harris, Jenna Schwarz, & Jessica Wagner

COUNSELING NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH / FINANCIAL AID

Check the EducationQuest Foundation website at www.EducationQuest.org for scholarships for which you may qualify and for help with financial aid. If you are filling out the FAFSA for the first time, you can make an appointment with them to have them help you fill out your forms. Make your appointment early because they do fill up. They have offices in Kearney (1-800-666-3721), Lincoln (1-800-303-3745) or Omaha (1-888-357-6300). Keep in mind that students and parents will each need to create a username and password at <https://fsaid.ed.gov> that will serve as your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID for the FAFSA, IRS Data Retrieval and to apply for student loans. (Students should not use their school email address.) You will each need an email address to create an FSA ID. Let us know if you need assistance.

Federal money (PELL grants, etc.) is first come, first served so it's important to get yours done as soon as possible.

Students are encouraged to check with their churches, parents' place of employment and other outside outlets for scholarships. Also remember to check the school website which is continually updated with scholarships not offered through the local scholarship process. To find this list, go to www.yorkpublic.org, then click on Schools, High School, then Counseling. The updated local scholarship list will not be available until mid January.

Southeast Community College (SCC) scholarship application opens December 1 for seniors planning to attend there next fall. Other college scholarships are open so check out their websites or communicate with admissions or financial aid staff to learn more.

NOW is a great time for seniors to ask teachers, work supervisors or other adults for a recommendation letter for their scholarship application process. Most local scholarships request two recommendation letters (one from school and one from a community member) but it can be a good plan to have three on file. Signed recommendation letters should be turned in to Mrs. Stuhr in the counseling office.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER YOU FILE YOUR FAFSA

The FAFSA opened October 1, so many of you have already completed and submitted your form. Here's what happens next:

Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) via an email link. The SAR tells you that your FAFSA was processed and lets you know if you need to take further action. If you do not receive an email, the SAR can be accessed when logging back in to the FAFSA website.

Watch for verification requests. The college(s) you listed on your FAFSA might request verification of your FAFSA information. If so, send the required documents to the colleges' financial aid office. ***The college will not process your financial aid until they receive the documents.***

Watch for financial aid award notifications. The colleges you listed on your FAFSA – and were accepted to – will send you financial aid award notifications detailing the types and amounts of aid they're offering based on your financial need.

HORATIO ALGER SCHOLARSHIP

The Horatio Alger Scholarship has made some changes. Seniors may apply for the Horatio Alger "Targeted" Scholarship. You must be a senior who has overcome an adversity, must be involved in school and community activities, have a GPA of 2.0 or better and demonstrate financial need (\$55,000 or less AGI) to attend college. Ten percent of the scholarships awarded will be to TeamMate mentees. Apply online at www.horatioalger.org

Junior students may apply for the National Horatio Alger Scholarship. The application for these scholarships opens December 1 and is due March 15.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY REMINDER

If you have decided you would like to participate in Division I or Division II athletics in college, you must register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse to be certified for play. Requirements and registration guidelines are on their website at www.eligibilitycenter.org. The colleges that offer Division I or II sports are: Chadron State College, Creighton University, Wayne State College and the University of Nebraska-Kearney, Lincoln and Omaha. **NOTE:** The Eligibility Center requires that your ACT score be sent directly from ACT, so if you are planning to take the test on December 12, be sure to request that your score be sent to the Eligibility Center by contacting ACT at 319-337-1270 or go to your ACT website account and add the code 9999 to your list of college choices. There is no charge to do this by the specified date. After this date, there is a fee for this service.

NAIA ELIGIBILITY

If you plan to attend a smaller school that is a member of the NAIA and you would like to play a sport, you will also need to register with the NAIA Eligibility Center. Visit their website at www.playnaia.org to review their requirements and register.

COLLEGE CAMPUS VISIT

Just a reminder that seniors have two exempt absence days to use for college visits. These are really important! We encourage students to use these days to step foot on campuses and get a true feeling of life there. If you need assistance setting up these visits, please call Mrs. Stuhr. She'll be glad to make this happen! Most colleges have an online registration form to set up these visits.

SCHOLARSHIPS FROM COLLEGES

Seniors: Please report ALL scholarship offers to Mrs. Stuhr as soon as possible. Scholarships you do not plan to accept or to schools you don't plan to attend STILL need to be reported for data collection. This is part of the Honors Night recognition. Thanks!



SCHOLARSHIPS

A message from the school nurse.....

Vision, hearing and dental screenings will be conducted during the 3rd quarter for 7th and 10th grade students. If a student does not meet the screening guidelines set forth by the state, a letter recommending further evaluation will be sent to the parent/guardian. If you have concerns regarding your child's hearing, vision, or dental health, please follow up with your healthcare provider, eye doctor, or dentist, even if you do not receive a letter of referral. If you do not want your child to participate in these screenings, please notify the school office prior to January 9, 2023.

Tips to enjoy the month:

- ♦ Strive to maintain, not lose weight, during this time. Enjoy the spirit of the season and time with family and friends.
- ♦ Stay active in spite of holiday schedules. Walk the neighborhood to view the lights and decorations instead of driving, dance to the music, or move in place while watching your favorite movies of the season.
- ♦ Pack high protein and/or fiber snacks to curb hunger. Good choices include almonds, protein bars, string cheeses, and beef jerky.
- ♦ Enjoy without overindulging. Start at the healthy end of the table and fill up on fresh veggies and fruits as you make your way to the pecan pie and sugar cookies.
- ♦ Replace sugary drinks with water. If you need a treat, go for the unsweetened tea or low-fat milk. Some drinks like Gatorade, pop, festive punch, and sweet tea have more than a day's worth of sugar.

Have a great December!

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Christmas Vacation will begin Friday,
December 23rd.

School will resume on Tuesday,
January 4th.

POST-PROM

The Post-Prom Committee
needs your help!

Please call Kelly Hornbacher at 402-631-8209
if you would be able to help with
this year's Post-Prom.

YORK FFA

Upcoming Events

- Winter Chapter Fun Activity:
Date TBD
- District Leadership Development
Events 01/18
- Rise to the Top LDE State
Qualifier Preview: Date TBD
- State Degree Interviews 02/01
- District Proficiency Judging
02/01
- District Welding Contest 02/15
- National FFA Week 02/18-02/25
- District Career Development
Events 02/28
- State FFA Convention 03/29-
03/31
- End of the year Banquet Date:
TBD

Huge thank you to ALL community members, businesses, parents, and alumni who support us through all these activities and opportunities. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

December 2022



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
YHS Madrigal Dinner @ First United Methodist Church - 6:00 pm	State Unified Bowling @ Sun Valley Lanes, Lincoln - TBD 9 BBB-Home vs Fillmore Central (Aux Gym) - 6:30 pm	Band Booster Soup Supper 5:00 to 6:45 pm YHS Cafeteria Commons YMS/YHS Holiday Band Concert - 7:00 pm YHS Theater	Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm	GBB-Home vs Ralston JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB-Home vs Ralston JV-4:30 / V-7:30 pm BWR @ Seward Tri w/ Norris (JV/V) - 4:30 pm GWR @ Seward Tri w/Norris (V) - 4:30 pm	GWR @ West Point Invite (V) - 2:00 pm One-Act Districts @ York - 9:00 am YHS One-Act Performs at 1:30 pm	Academic Decathlon BWR-York Invite (JV/V) - 9:00 am 9 BBB-Home vs Adams Central @ YMS - 9:00 am YHS Madrigal Dinner @ First United Methodist Church - 6:00 pm
YHS Christmas Choir Concert - 7:30 pm YHS Theater Board of Education Meeting	YHS Christmas Choir Concert - 7:30 pm YHS Theater Board of Education Meeting	GBB-Home vs Elkhorn JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB-Home vs Elkhorn JV-4:30 (Aux Gym) / V-7:30 pm	Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm	BWL @ Aurora Invite (JV) - 4:30 pm BWR-Home Tri w/ Fillmore Central, Boone Central / Newman Grove (JV/V) - 4:30 pm GWR-Home Tri w/ Fillmore Central, Boone Central / Newman Grove (V) - 4:30 pm 9 BBB-Home vs Bruning- Davenport-Shickley (Aux Gym) - 6:30 pm	GWR @ Wahoo Invite (V) - 4:00 pm BWR @ Ralston Invite (V) - 4:30 pm GBB-Home vs Aurora JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB-Home vs Aurora JV-4:30 (Aux Gym) / V-7:30 pm	BWL @ Boone Central Invite (V) (Kings Lane Norfolk) - 9:00 am 9 BBB-Home vs Columbus (Aux Gym) - 10:00 am GBB-Home vs Lexington JV-2:30 / V-4:00 pm BBB-Home vs Lexington JV-2:30 (Aux Gym) / V-5:30 pm
	BWL @ Waverly - TBD 9 BBB-Home vs Cross County (Aux Gym) - 6:00 pm GBB @ Centennial JV-5:30 / V-7:00 pm YHS Semester Exams	GBB @ Adams Central JV-4:00 / V-5:30 pm BBB @ Adams Central JV-4:00 / V-7:00 pm	Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm	End of 2nd Quarter (Noon Dismissal)	Winter Moratorium NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break	Mini Dukettes Camp 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Performance at 12:00 pm
Christmas Winter Moratorium	Board of Education Meeting NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break			G/B BB @ Amherst Holiday Tournament (V) vs Hastings St. Cecilia G-1:30 / B - 3:00 pm	BWR @ Fillmore Central Invite (JV/V) - 9:00 am GWR @ Fillmore Central Invite (V) - 9:00 am G/B BB @ Amherst Holiday Tournament (V) - TBD	Speech Workday 1:00 to 6:00 pm New Year's Eve