



Kenny Loosvelt

PRINCIPAL

Volume 9

Number 6

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible

APRIL 2023

Greetings YMS Parent(s):

Well, we **marched through March** at YMS! Our **vocal music** students put on a **fantastic performance** of "Newsies Jr", we **completed a tornado drill**, & track **practice** got rolling. 8th grade students got to tour **SCC-Lincoln and Doane college**. 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 during the week of **April 3-6**. All **6-8 grade** students will be taking the NSCAS English Language Arts test **April 11-14**. Finally, all **6-8 grade** students will be taking the NSCAS Math assessment on **April 17-21**.

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**. 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



York High School Dukes & Duchesses and Chamber Singers Auditions

Auditions for next year's Dukes & Duchesses A Cappella Choir and Chamber Singers will take place on Wednesday, May 10th, from 2:15 - 4:30 p.m. 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 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. 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 4th & 5th. Students who were selected to perform small acts will need to be at the required dress rehearsal on Wednesday, May 3, from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the YHS Theater. We are looking forward to another great show, showcasing a lot of talented students!!



YMS BAND

We hosted our 21st York Middle School Honor Band program on March 18. We had 152 students and 15 schools represented. York was well represented in the two bands. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event a success.

The 6th grade band just completed their band exhibition for the 5th grade band. They showed the skills they have learned by performing a few pieces of concert band music, and introduced musical instruments to the 5th grade students.

March 28th, the middle school Jazz Band competed at the Northeast Jazz Festival in Norfolk.

School Counselor Connection

Nebraska State Tests

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 Nebraska public schools 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.

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 **April 3-6** (8th Grade only)
NSCAS English Language Arts Week of **April 11-14**
NSCAS Math Week of **April 17-21**

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, there 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 26, the 8th graders will attend 8th grade orientation at the high school. 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 of the extra-curricular activities available.



Cheer tryouts will be the week of April 17th. There will be a mandatory parent meeting on April 16th at 7:00pm at the activities entrance. Cheer clinic will be from 3:30-5:30pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Tryouts are set for 6:00pm Thursday the 20th. Cheer packets are available in the office and must be returned to Allison Ecklund before 10:00pm on April 16th.



**YORK
HIGH SCHOOL**

DUKE CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS

Do you have what it takes?
Then join our cheer team!

**PARENT MEETING APRIL 16TH 7PM
CHEER CLINIC-MONDAY APRIL 17 • 19
3:30-5:00 PM
TRY OUT THURSDAY APRIL 20TH
6-7:30PM
HIGH SCHOOL AUX GYM**

We are looking for energetic, enthusiastic,
and efficient cheerleaders who will help
spread the school spirit.

Contact Allison Ecklund for more
information 402-730-8119

York Volleyball

SPRING CLINIC



Cost \$30

Mondays 6:00-7:30 pm

April 3rd, 17th, & 24th

SKILLS, GAMES, PRIZES & MORE!!

Please return to office by March 31st. Proceeds will go to the York Volleyball Program. Cash or Checks accepted, made payable to York Volleyball.

Player Name: _____

Current Grade: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th

Location:

1st & 2nd @YHS (Aux)

3rd & 4th @YES

5th & 6th @YMS

Parent Name: _____

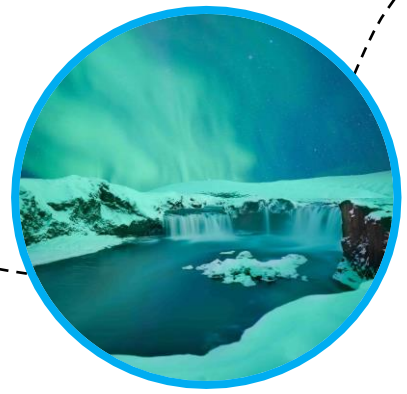
Parent Email: _____

For **Current**
7th & 8th Grade Students

We're going to...

Iceland!

Summer 2024



Dear Parents & Guardians,

I am so excited to invite your student on this upcoming educational travel opportunity! Learn more about this exciting tour at an information session where we'll discuss:

- What we'll see and do
- Travel logistics
- How to earn high school or college credit
- Affordable payment options
- How to enroll on this trip (before it fills up!)

Please register for the meeting by April 13th

I look forward to seeing you there!
Scott Kohmetscher

P.S. Can't make the meeting but want more information?
Register using the QR code or link below and select "No but send info."

Register below & join us for more details!

Meeting date & time:
April 13th, 2023
@ 6:00 PM

Location:
Room C8

Contact information:
scott.kohmetscher@yorkdukes.org

Register with this QR code
to attend the meeting!



<https://bit.ly/40mlGIF>



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 May 30-June30
- The summer program will be Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 12 PM.
- Students **must** attend a minimum of **five days during the entire summer program.**
- It will be open to the first 30 elementary students per grade level and 45 middle school students registered.
- DROP OFF WILL BE AT YORK MIDDLE
- PICK UP AT YORK HIGH SCHOOL
- 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 after school 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

2023 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: _____ **23-24** 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:

___ **May 30th - June 2nd:** Fun in the Outdoors Camp- We will be playing different outdoor sports & games to build team working skills. All while having a blast getting wet while we do it!!!

___ **June 5th - 9th:** Blast From the Past- ASC will be learning about some of our American history and playing games, cooking, doing crafts, visiting a living history farm, and much more!!

___ **June 12th - 16th:** Worldly Cooking Camp- We will be traveling the world through cooking this year. We will be learning about different cultures and cooking some of the foods from those different countries.

___ **June 19th - 23rd:** Outdoor Explorer Camp- We this year is going to be different then the years past. We will be Rock Climbing, going on a hike and making a snack on the way, fishing and lots more.

___ **June 26th - June 30th:** Space-X Camp- Is a new camp this year. The kids will be making different rockets, trying different astronaut's food, and learning about aerospace engineering!!

Program Description:

The summer program runs from **8:00 AM – 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday**. Each day will include free 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

Preferred Communication Method

Our afterschool program would like to stay in contact with you and keep you informed about upcoming events, student highlights, and much more. You can receive this communication by text, email or both.

Please indicate your preferred method of communication.

☐ Text @ _____


☐ Email @ _____

☐ Both

☐ Additional Text and/or email _____



April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 April Fool's Day
2	3 G	4 7 & 8 Coed TR Home Dual w/ Crete 4:00pm B	5 2:00 Dismissal G	6 B	7 NO SCHOOL Easter Break Good Friday	8
9 Easter 	10 NO SCHOOL Easter Break Board of Education Mtg.	11 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Seward Tri w/Aurora - 4:00pm G	12 2:00 Dismissal B	13 G	14 B	15
16	17 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Columbus Invite (Pawnee Park/) 9:00am G	18 B	19 2:00 Dismissal G	20 B	21 G	22 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Aurora Invite 9:00am
23	24 Board of Education Mtg B	25 G	26 2:00 Dismissal 8th grade Orientation at YHS B	27 G	28 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Crete Quad w/ Beatrice, Seward 2:00pm B	29 7 & 8 Coed TR @ Aurora Invite 11:00am
30						