



# Duke News

January 2025

Volume XXXIX Number 5

**Brian Gralheer**  
Principal

**Tyler Herman**  
Assistant Principal/Activities Director

## From the Principal's Desk —

### Winter Ball Scheduled

The Winter Ball has been scheduled for Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 8:30 pm to 11:00 pm in the CWAC. Students can pick up outside date forms in the office beginning January 6. Admission will be \$5 per person with proceeds going to YHS YAAD.

### ICU and Infinite Campus Reminders - LINK - <https://tinyurl.com/yv9ya5av>

York Public Schools has been using the ICU database now for several years. Here are a few reminders for parents now that the year is in full swing:

- We have an ICU lifeguard, Mrs. Johnson, that has been working with students throughout the day in study halls and lunch periods.
- Notifications: Parents should be receiving a text and email when your student is placed on the ICU list. If you would like us to change the cell number or email address, please let us know and we can get it changed.
- Notifications are NOT meant to get the student in trouble with parents. Instead, we are looking to enlist the support of the parents and ICU lifeguard to help keep the student on track.
- Grades and assignments can be checked on Infinite Campus with the parent portal link above. Please contact YHS main office or guidance office for troubleshooting log in issues.

### YHS Office Closed Over Winter Break

The YHS Office will be closed from December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 until it reopens on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### Spring Semester Schedules

Student schedules for the Spring semester are available on the student and parent portals. Students will be able to adjust schedules through the YHS counseling office until Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



## GO DUKES!

**Brian Gralheer**  
High School Principal  
[brian.gralheer@yorkdukes.org](mailto:brian.gralheer@yorkdukes.org)

# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR'S OFFICE —

## ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION

Once again, participation in extracurricular activities is high at York High School. This is very encouraging due to the many benefits that students receive from being involved in activities. Education based activities serve as an extension of the classroom. Good high school programs focus on the development of the total student. It has been shown that students who participate in activities have higher grade point averages, better attendance, and less disciplinary issues. Education based activities have great educational value and it's encouraging to see how many of our students are involved. At York High School, we truly do have a program for every student to participate in and be successful.

Here's a list of participation numbers for activities offered in the fall and winter:

Boys Tennis = 28  
Volleyball = 22  
Girls Golf = 15  
Football = 56  
Girls Cross Country = 11  
Boys Cross Country = 9  
Softball = 19  
Play Production = 104  
Unified Bowling = 10

Boys Wrestling = 32  
Girls Wrestling = 26  
Boys Bowling = 17  
Girls Bowling = 8  
Girls Basketball = 22  
Boys Basketball = 29



**GO Dukes!!**

**Tyler Herman**  
Assistant Principal/Activities Director  
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Twitter: @YorkDukesAD

**Mini Cheer Camp**  
Rescheduled for  
Saturday, February 8  
8:30 am to 11:30 am



## YHS Winter Ball

The Winter Ball will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2025. 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.

## COUNSELING NEWS

### LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Counseling staff will be talking to seniors early in January about the application process for the local scholarships. A list of these scholarships will be available to them. The instructions and the application itself are or will be available on the school website at [www.yorkpublic.org](http://www.yorkpublic.org) and can be downloaded for students to fill out and then print. Handwritten applications will NOT be accepted.

To apply, students must submit scholarship application packets which consist of a cover letter and application. The two recommendation letters that had already been submitted to the Counseling Office will be attached by staff. **These will be due on or before 4 pm on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7<sup>th</sup>. EARLY applications are encouraged.** (Applications turned in early can be reviewed by the counseling staff if asked and the student given the opportunity to correct errors; applications turned in on the deadline date will be accepted as is.) TO RESPECT THE COMPETITIVE COMPONENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS, INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.

### SENIORS - FAFSA - COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID

Good news! The FAFSA opened December 1. ALL SENIORS ARE REQUIRED to complete the FAFSA this year. We invite you to contact EducationQuest at 800-303-3745 to make a FREE appointment if you wish to have them assist you with this. We also are so fortunate to have an Education Quest representative visit YHS by appointment on designated Thursdays. Connect with Mrs. Stuhr if you'd like to schedule FREE assistance with the FAFSA or any other college prep assistance. The dates she is at YHS coming up soon are January 16 and January 30. The student AND the parent each need to create an FSA ID at least 3 days prior to completing the FAFSA.

A tutorial of how to fill out the FAFSA is available on the EducationQuest website if you need help at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org). Feel free to call with questions at any of their offices: Kearney (1-800-666-3721), Lincoln (1-800-303-3745), or Omaha (1-888-357-6300).

EducationQuest has informed us that colleges and the FAFSA request that you submit your taxes electronically to prevent delays in getting your financial aid package. The FAFSA application now has an "IRS Data Retrieval Tool" that you will click on to retrieve your tax returns and "drop" them into your application. We recommend using this step because colleges' financial aid offices randomly review 1 of every 3 FAFSA applications – this is called verification. Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool reduces your risk of being selected for verification, so it is in your benefit to use this tool. Being selected for verification does not indicate you did anything wrong, the college is doing a random quality control check. Federal money is always first come, first served, so apply early.

**NOTE:** *Even if you think you won't qualify for a PELL grant, you still need to fill out the FAFSA to receive any federal student or parent loans and college scholarships. This is just part of the financial aid process.*

**FEBRUARY 1 REMINDER:** The Susan Buffett Thompson Foundation scholarship requires all information be submitted electronically, as well. This scholarship has a deadline of February 1 at 5:00 pm CT. New this year as part of the Buffett scholarship: the FAFSA submission information is due Tuesday, March 11, 2025. FAFSA Submission Summary (results from FAFSA) are typically ready within 3-5 days after the application is completed.

### ACT TEST – Please see the counseling office if you think you may qualify for a fee waiver.

TEST DATE – February 8  
TEST DATE – April 5  
TEST DATE – June 14  
TEST DATE – July 12

REGISTRATION DEADLINE – January 3  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE – February 28  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE – May 9  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE – June 6

**\*\*ALL JUNIORS WILL TAKE THE ACT TEST AT YORK HIGH SCHOOL ON MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>.\*\***

Students have access to ACT prep through Google classroom. Class code is 7pyepyy

### SENIORS – FEBRUARY ACT

Seniors are encouraged to take the February ACT test if they have chosen a private college. Check with your private college or university of choice to determine if they will accept them.

**CLASS OF  
2025**

## COUNSELING CENTER NEWS

### ACCUPLACER TEST SCORES

The ACCUPLACER test was given at the high school this fall. Those students received their scores right away and the school received a copy for their files. Students who took the test at York High and have, or plan to, apply at a community college should request a transcript and these scores from the counseling office. Seniors who took this test at a community college need to request their scores from *that* college. The counseling office can help you with this. **REMINDER:** Students need to apply by March 1 to be eligible for scholarships at most community colleges AND take the ACCUPLACER by then.

### DUAL CREDIT CLASSES – PERU and SCC

Registration for second semester dual credit classes through Peru State College will be completed in early January. To help you in planning, tuition payment for dual credit classes through Peru State College are \$60 per credit hour for all classes (\$180 for Speech and \$240 for Biology). For each Peru and SCC class there is also a \$35 materials fee payable to YHS. The \$35 materials fee per class will need to be paid to YHS (check payable to YHS or cash). Mrs. Stuhr will email each student and parent about the materials fees amount. Peru and SCC both do their tuition billing via email to the student email provided when students register. Just a reminder, first semester tuition must be paid to the college before your student is able to register for second semester classes. Call Mrs. Stuhr with questions.

### CAMPUS VISITS

Reminder that senior students have TWO exempted days to make college campus visits. These opportunities are so important for students as they explore and narrow down their college options. Please take advantage of these days. If you need help coordinating these visit days, let Mrs. Stuhr know.

### OUTSIDE AND COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Please remember to bring copies of your scholarship information from colleges or other outside scholarships to Mrs. Stuhr so this can be compiled and announced during Honors Night and at graduation. ANY scholarship awarded, whether you accept/use it or not, is important to us so please share this information!

## DUKE NEWS

### **YHS Band**

The band is working on continuing to build our musical foundation with new music and exciting opportunities for our students.

Several students were accepted into Honor Bands this past semester. Naomi Renner was selected into the University of Nebraska at Kearney Honor Band, Xavier Paris was one of only two students from Nebraska selected into the South Dakota State University Honor Band. Katelyn Ecklund was selected into the Wayne State College Honor Band. Three students were selected into the Kearney High School Underclassmen Honor Band: Danica Larsen, Allie Holmes, and Gage Stahr. Congratulations students!



# Thank You

to everyone for  
supporting the  
Bands at the  
Annual Soup  
Supper

AND

to everyone for  
supporting the  
Fine Arts!

**Band Booster Email → [yorkbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:yorkbandboosters@gmail.com)**

## NOTES FROM THE NURSE

### Winter Driving Tips

Winter tips to help your teen driver to stay safe:

- Be aware of current and forecasted weather conditions.
- Know their proposed route and estimated time of arrival.
- Keep the vehicle in good condition and maintain appropriate fluid levels.
- Ensure that they have windshield wipers that are effective and gift them a good ice scraper and snow brush.
- Check tire tread.
- Maintain a full gas tank.
- Pack a winter emergency kit in case they would become stranded.
  - \*\*cell phone and portable charger
  - \*\*extra hats, coats, blankets, mittens, and handwarmers
  - \*\*booster cables, tire pump, flares, sand/cat litter for traction
  - \*\*flashlight and extra batteries
  - \*\*first aid kit
  - \*\*snacks and bottles of water



### Health Screenings

Vision, hearing, and dental screenings will be conducted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester for 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 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. Normal hearing and vision are vital for learning.

Good dental health improves overall health, decreases the risk of chronic disease, prevents plaque and tooth decay and is necessary for healthy adult teeth. If you have concerns regarding your child's hearing, vision, or dental health, please follow up with a healthcare provider, eye doctor, dentist even if you do not receive a letter of referral.

**If you do not want your student to participate in these screenings, please notify the health office by January 13, 2025.**

## YORK ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB NOTES

A few words from the Athletic Booster Club...

Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/YorkHighSchoolAthleticBoosterClub/>

**Good luck to all our winter sports teams!!** Look for their schedules on the app, rSchoolToday or see the link on yorkpublic.org. Poster calendars and pocket calendars are available at the YHS school office.

### **Follow:**

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Boys Wrestling
- Girls Wrestling
- Boys Bowling
- Girls Bowling
- Dukettes

### **A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY --**

- ◇ Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> - **Boys Hoopla** Basketball Tourney held at YHS. Please email Nicky Eimermann at [progressivechiropractic@yahoo.com](mailto:progressivechiropractic@yahoo.com) or call her at 402-363-1939 to sign up to work a shift at concessions or gate.



Mark your calendar for the **All Sports Banquet on Friday, May 2 at YHS!**

# January 2025



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day NO SCHOOL	2	3 Teacher Flex Day GWR @ Fillmore Central Invite (V) - 9:00 am BWR-Home Duals Invite (V) - 9:00 am BOWL @ Eikhorn (Bowliero) - 1:00 pm	4 BWR @ Fillmore Central Invite (JV) - 9:00 am Speech Workday 1:00 - 6:00 pm
5	6 SCHOOL RESUMES BOWL @ Waverly (Hollywood Bowl) - 1:00 pm	7 GBB @ Schuyler JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB @ Schuyler JV-4:30 / V-7:30 pm G/B WR-Home vs Lincoln Southeast (JV, V) - 5:00 pm	8 Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm	9 9 BBB, Res GBB @ GINW - 6:00 pm GWR @ High Plains Invite (Columbus Fieldhouse) - 9:30 am GBB-Home vs Lincoln Northwest JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB-Home vs Lincoln Northwest JV-4:30 (Aux) / V-7:30 pm	10 BWR @ High Plains Invite (V) (Columbus Fieldhouse) - 10:00 am	11 BWR @ Waverly Invite (JV) - 9:00 am BOWL @ Lexington Invite (Strike & Spare) - 9:30 am BWR @ High Plains Invite (V) (Columbus Fieldhouse) - 10:00 am Speech Workday 1:00 - 6:00 pm GBB @ GINW JV-3:30 / V-2:00 pm BBB @ GINW JV-2:00 / V-3:30 pm
12	13 9 BBB, Res GBB @ Seward - 6:00 pm Board of Education Meeting	14 BOWL @ Seward (Seward Bowl) - 4:00 pm GBB @ GICC JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB @ GICC JV-4:30 / V-7:30 pm	15 Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm	16 BOWL-Home vs McCool Junction - 1:00 pm G/B WR-Home vs Waverly (JV/V) - 5:00 pm 9 BBB @ GISH - 6:00 pm	17 GBB @ Crete JV-4:00 / V-5:45 pm BBB @ Crete JV-5:30 / V-7:15	18 Speech Contest CNFL #1 @ GISH Academic Decathlon Regional Competition - TBD GWR @ GINW Invite (V) - 9:00 am BWR @ Palmer Invite (JV) - 9:30 am BOWL @ GINW Duals (V) - 11:00 am BOWL @ GISH Invite (Westside) - 11:00 am Winter Ball @ CWAC, 8:30 to 11:00 pm
19	20 NO SCHOOL (Teacher In-Service) BBB-Home vs Lincoln Lutheran (Res) - 6:00 pm 9 BBB, Res GBB @ Crete G-6:00 / B-7:30 pm Martin Luther King Jr Day	21 BOWL-Home Double Dual w/ Lincoln Northwest, Standing Bear - 10:00 am GBB-Home vs Norris JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB-Home vs Norris JV-4:30 (Aux) / V-7:30 pm	22 Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm	23 BOWL-Home vs Hastings - 1:00 pm GWR @ Adams Central Tri w/ Aurora (V) - 4:00 pm BWR-Home Tri vs Milford, Aurora (JV, V) - 4:30 pm	24 GBB-Home vs Malcolm JV-4:30 / V-6:00 pm BBB-Home vs Malcolm JV-4:30 (Aux) / V-7:30 pm	25 Speech @ Lincoln Southwest BWR @ Lexington Invite (V) - 9:30 am BWR @ Centennial Invite (JV) - 9:30 am GWR @ Centennial Invite (V) - 9:30 am GBB @ North Platte JV-4:45 / V-3:00 pm BBB @ North Platte JV-3:00 / V-4:45 pm
26 	27 G/B BB Central Conference Tournament (V) 1st Round - TBD UNK Honor Band & Choir Clinic @ Kearney Board of Education Meeting	28 G/B BB Central Conference Tournament (V) Quarter-Finals - TBD BOWL-Home vs GISH - 1:00 pm 9 BBB, Res GBB-Home vs Central City (YMS) G-6:00 / B-7:30 pm	29 Early Student Dismissal 2:03 pm FFA State Degree & Proficiency Review @ Tri County	30 GBB Central Conference Tournament (V) Semi-Finals @ Adams Central - TBD 9 BBB, Res GBB @ Hastings G-6:00 / B-7:30 pm	31 BBB Central Conference Tournament (V) Semi-Finals @ Adams Central - TBD BWR @ Raymond Central Invite (JV) - 2:00 pm	1 G/B BB Central Conference Tournament (V) Finals @ Lakeview - TBD Speech Contest CNFL #2 @ GISH G/B WR Central Conference Tournament (V) @ Crete - 9:30 am