

# Elementary Principal Report

## April 2025

### 5-8 Music Concert

On April 5th, Arapahoe hosted a 5th - 8th grade contest with the following 14 schools competing: Arapahoe, Cambridge, Southwest, Gothenburg, Loomis, Holdrege Middle School, Broken Bow Middle School, Dundy County Stratton, Southern Valley, Chase County, Wallace, Adams Middle School, and Cozad Middle School. This was a showcase of musical talent from solos to large ensembles. The following results were reported by Mrs. Lesising:

Here are the results of Saturday's music contest for Arapahoe students. Medals were won in almost all of the categories! They received many superior ratings as well!

#### Elementary Percussion Solos - Medals

1. Liam Tarula-Garcia
3. Cody Einshphar

#### JH Percussion Solos - Medals

2. Elizabeth Magorian

#### Elementary Woodwind Solos - Medals

3. Kynnleigh Tidyman

#### JH Woodwind Solos - Medals

3. Alaina Leising

#### Elementary Brass Solos - Medals

1. Noah Hoefs

#### JH Brass Solos – Medals

2. Meg Hilker

#### Elementary Girls Solos - Medals

3. Lena Taylor
3. Jamisen tenBensel

#### Elementary Boys Solos - Medals

1. Liam Garcia-Tarula

Mrs. Leising adds that hosting this event would not be possible without the help of the Fine Arts Boosters and many high school students volunteering to help throughout the day. I would like to thank Mrs. Leising, Mrs. Sharp, and Mrs. Crawford for all of their hard work preparing our students for the concert and organizing this event.

### Arbor Day

Our fourth graders will celebrate Arbor Day on April 25th. I have been in contact with Mr. Probasco, and I appreciate his help with this project. There will be a short program on the history of Arbor Day and J. Sterling Morton followed by the planting of a tree in Arapahoe's South Park. The tree is being donated by the Arapahoe Library Foundation. We are hoping for a nice day where the kids can be outside and enjoy nature.

### Literacy Conference

The Nebraska Literacy Project Plan was approved by the State Board of Education on February 7, 2025. The goal of the project is to improve third grade reading proficiency on NSCAS and increase the number of K-3 students meeting the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act approved assessment thresholds. As part of this effort, the Unicameral has appropriated funds to Nebraska ESUs to help support school districts increase early childhood literacy. Mrs. Hambidge will be attending a 3 day Coaching and Literacy Leadership Retreat in Galveston, TX on June 22-25, 2025. She will then have the opportunity to share some of the best practices in literacy instruction with the staff.

### Summer School

Elementary summer school will be conducted Monday-Friday from June 9-27 (8:30-11:30am). Mrs. Thomas will be organizing and leading summer school one last time. The primary goal is to close gaps in reading and math and provide students with additional learning opportunities in the summer. We recently held our latest Elementary MTSS meeting on April 8th and identified 27 students that would benefit from additional reinforcement in reading and math. Mrs. Thomas is in the process of reaching out to parents and confirming whether their child will be able to attend or not. Breakfast and a grab-and-go lunch will be served Monday through Thursday.

### Upcoming Field Trips

May is going to be busy for our elementary students. All the classes will have a field trip, except for fourth grade because they already went to Stuhr Museum in Grand Island in March. Here is the schedule for the rest of the classes:

May 7: 6th to Pioneer Village in Minden

May 14: 5th to Edgerton Explorit Center in Aurora

May 15: 2nd to Edgerton Explorit Center in Aurora

May 16: 1st to Common Scents Greenhouse in McCook

May 19: 3rd to Trails & Rails Museum in Kearney

Other important Elementary dates in May:

May 1: K-4 Spring Music Program

May 15: Preschool Programs

May 21: Elementary Field Day

May 22: Last day of school