

## **Elementary Principal Report**

### **September 2024**

#### School Improvement

ESU 11 Staff Development Director, Kate Hatch, led our August 28th teacher in-service training. We are in year three of our school improvement process. This is the year that we start implementing our action plans. Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures are designed to promote student engagement, enhance collaboration, and boost academic performance through interactive learning strategies. Once trained on these methods, teachers will implement them across various subjects to create a more dynamic and inclusive learning environment.

#### 2024-2025 Testing Schedule

Fall MAP Testing:

- Tuesday, October 15th: Math, Grades 2-12
- Thursday, October 17th: Reading, Grades 2-12

Winter NSCAS Testing:

- Wednesday, December 11th: Reading, Grades 3-8
- Thursday, December 12th: Math, Grades 3-8

Spring MAP Testing:

- Monday, March 10th: Reading, Grades 2-12
- Tuesday, March 11th: Math, Grades 2-12

Spring NSCAS Testing:

- Monday, April 14th: Science, Grades 5 and 8
- Wednesday, April 16th: Reading, Grades 3-8
- Thursday, April 17th: Math, Grades 3-8

#### Fire Safety

In observance of Fire Prevention Week, we will conduct a fire safety session on October 10th. Brian Sisson will be at the school along with a group of volunteers from the Holbrook-Edison-Arapahoe fire district to talk to our students about fire safety and prevention. Students will learn the importance of having an escape plan with two exits, establishing a designated meeting place, and general fire prevention information. Additionally, a smoke trailer will be available for practical demonstrations to help students understand the importance of fire safety measures at home and school.

### Public Library Visits

We are again partnering with the Arapahoe Public Library to ensure that our students have access to a wider range of books and resources. Our Public Library days are on the last Tuesday of each month. We were excited to add afternoon Preschool, Seventh and Eighth grade this year. Our Reading Buddies program is on the first Tuesday of each month. During this time, students go to the public library and meet with volunteers that read them a story. These visits are part of our efforts to encourage reading and lifelong learning among our students.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for September 26th. Parents can expect to receive a note with their child's scheduled time. If the assigned time does not work for the parent, they can communicate directly with the teacher to arrange a more convenient time. We want to build a strong school / home partnership with parents. Conferences will be held from 2:00-5:00 and 6:00-8:00.

### Nebraska Kids Fitness & Nutrition Day

Our fourth graders will be attending the annual Nebraska Kids Fitness and Nutrition Day in McCook on October 9th. By attending this event, students will learn about healthy living habits (including nutrition and exercise) in a fun and supportive environment.