

# Hallway Happenings



January 2025 Issue 26  
Litchfield Public Schools - PO Box 167 Litchfield, NE 68852  
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## Happy Holidays from Litchfield Public Schools!



*The 7-12 Band and Elementary Music performing at the Christmas Concert on December 10.*

## New Year's Resolutions from the Newsletter Staff

**Topanga Boyles:** In 2025, I want the community to be better at not littering on the roads. If people stopped littering, the world would be beautiful. I also want all the war in the world to stop and to stop putting people's lives at danger. If people stop putting other people's lives in danger maybe there wouldn't be as many deaths and families could live a happy life without losing someone they love.

**Aliza Ellison:** I want to have a 111-day streak in Duolingo in my German classes. I believe that I could get this done this year, because as of December 9th of 2024, I have an 88 day streak. *Ich glaube, dass ich es schaffen kann.* (I believe that I can do it). I have no real reason for learning German other than just for fun.

**Ethan Evans:** My new year's resolution is to hopefully get better at interpreting what people mean and gain a broader understanding of the human mind and what causes certain reactions from certain people. The reason I want to know more about the human psyche is because the world runs on humans whether the world likes it or

not and because of that, it's good to understand how people work

**Rowdy Lefever:** My new year's resolution is gonna be to buy more cattle for my herd, get some farmland and pasture rented so I can start farming before I graduate high school, hoping to have a good year and everything goes to plan.

**Gracie Reitz:** My New Year's Resolution is to hopefully get a new job to start earning money for graduation. I would prefer to get a job in a retail store, but I wouldn't mind working in a fast-food restaurant or just a restaurant. I would like to start working soon to start saving to move out and get my own place.

**Brooke Fecht:** My new year resolution is to get all of my knee issues figured out. I really want to be able to go back and play sports again. If we can get my knee all fixed up then I can work towards going to college and getting my degrees. I will hopefully be able to have everything figured out by the end of 2025.



# Spartan Sports

## Basketball Updates

*By Ethan Evans and Rowdy Lefever*



On December 6th, the Ansley-Litchfield boys basketball team beat the Hi-Line Bulls with a score of 61-58. Then on 12/7, they went against the Ravenna Bluejays and won again with a score of 51-24. Ansley-Litchfield is starting the year off strong and lets hope they keep going strong all the way to victory. When asked about their favorite game this year, coach Matt Drew said "I liked Ravenna the most because we did a lot better. I feel like the team did great and they've experienced a lot of growth."



The Ansley-Litchfield girls basketball team played their first game of the year against the Hi-Line Bulls on 12/6 and beat them 50-27. Then on 12/7 the girls played against the Ravenna Bluejays and lost 23-31. Coach Dave Shields was glad they cut turnovers in half from last year's game, shot well from inside the paint, and rebounded very well from both ends of the floor. "We competed well versus a veteran team."

## Wrestling Updates

*By Gracie Reitz and Aliza Ellison*

On Friday the 6th the girl's wrestling team went to Southwest. And had a team score of 5 out of 29 teams. Gracie Rietz brought home fourth place for the 125 weight class. Clysta Brott took first place for the 130 weight class. Malynn Boyles brought home third place for the 155 weight class. Morgan Hawkins brought home first place for the 235 weight class. Coach Lance Ellison says "They all wrestled very well for the first meet."

Also on Friday, the boys went to Ravenna. Kaleb Aguilar brought home first place for the B-Bracket in the 144 weight class. Adrian Nienaber brought home second place for the C-bracket in the 144 Weight class.

## Speech Preview

*By Brooke Fecht*

The Litchfield speech team is very excited to compete this year! They currently have 3 returning members, 3 new members, and hopefully more to come after the this year. I asked a few students what they are excited about this season. First up we have Caydence Feldman. Caydence said, "We have very high expectations this year. We hope that we can keep our winning streak alive and be very competitive at the FKC Conference this year. We hope to be filling more events this year and have a more well-rounded team that brings home more hardware."

James Fletcher stated, "I am excited to try some new events and do better than last year and encourage our team to compete in more events."

This year will be Micheal Corliss's first year on the speech team. Micheal says, "I am excited for my first year in speech after I have become better at public speaking and I am happy I am involved in more extracurricular activities." They are all very excited for the speech season to start and to win some competitions.



# Clubs & Organizations

## FFA Update

*By James Fletcher, Litchfield FFA Vice President*

The Litchfield FFA has had a successful month! This month, 21 students across six events participated in the Leadership Development Events in SEM. From those 21 students, we had many honors: Tessa Henry, White Ribbon, Employments Skills, Jordyn Ellison, Red Ribbon, Employment Skills, Ida Gross, Red Ribbon, Senior Public Speaking, Alison Holm, Blue Ribbon, Junior Public Speaking, Koy Zulkoski, Blue Ribbon, Ag Literacy Speaking, and Taryn Cole, Blue Ribbon, Discovery Speaking.

This year the Litchfield FFA qualified three students for the state convention in March. Those students were Knox Feldman, 1st Place, Agriculture Literacy, Kinzlie McAuliff, 3rd Place, Discovery Speaking, and James Fletcher, 3rd Place, Senior Public Speaking. Looking forward to the Litchfield FFA schedule, we will have FFA state degree interviews on February 5th, and the FFA Career Development Events on February 25th. Stay tuned on the Litchfield FFA Facebook page for more updates.



## FBLA Update

*By Ava Paitz, Litchfield FBLA Reporter*

The Litchfield FBLA Chapter has had a busy month filled with fundraising and volunteering activities. They recently hosted a food drive to support the backpack program, providing meals and hygiene products to needy families.

FBLA members visited the Rose Lane Care Home in Loup City. Everyone involved—residents, staff, and FBLA members—enjoyed the experience, which included serving lunch, playing games, and spending time together.

As part of our fundraising efforts, we are selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a set of Spartan cornhole boards. These high-quality boards are crafted by Black Hills Creations and feature built-in lights and an electronic score counter. To purchase a raffle ticket, contact any FBLA member or visit their booth at any home basketball game.

## One Act Update

*By Ethan Evans*

Litchfield One Act performed “Tea for Two” this year, where a group of old grannys obsess over a very handsome homicide detective. The girls find out he's a homicide detective and go to the lengths of killing each other so the detective shows up to solve the case. Eventually the detective figures out what's happening and switches his profession to arson cases. When the ladies find out about that they burn down their house. At the end of the season, they finished 4th place overall and won 1st place for technical crew!

### FBLA RAFFLE

NOV 20 - JAN 28

ALL LITCHFIELD BASKETBALL GAMES

ONE TICKET \$5 OR SIX TICKETS \$20



WIN A SET OF SPARTAN CORNHOLE BOARDS!



Cornhole boards made by Black Hill Creations.  
\*\*Purchase tickets via QR code or in person from an FBLA member\*\*  
Winner does not need to be present to win.

# Opinion

Watch this section for future feature articles from Litchfield Newsletter students!

This month, we debut with a movie review from Ethan.

## Spartan Movie Reviews: *Joker: Folie à Deux*

By Ethan Evans

A few weeks ago I watched *Joker: Folie à Deux* (Fun Fact: Folie à Deux is French for Madness of Two). This movie is a sequel to 2019's *Joker*. Joker is now in Arkham insane asylum facing death row for the murder of many people and inciting riots. While he is in Arkham asylum, he meets the love of his life, Harley Quinn. The only problem is that Harley Quinn is in love with the Joker, not Arthur Fleck. Throughout the whole film, Arthur has to battle between himself and his dual identity Joker.

Overall, the film dives into the nitty gritty and the troubled times that comes with having two identities and is a good movie to watch among adults and older kids. This wouldn't be good for the whole family due to the large amount of graphic content. The end of the movie is pretty heart wrenching and shocking so rather than spoil it for you, I encourage you to watch it.

Out of 5 stars, I'd say the movie is 4 stars. The only reason I give this movie 4 stars is because this movie didn't tie together very well with the original *Joker*. The movie would be even better if it linked more to the original. Overall, I recommend you watch this movie.

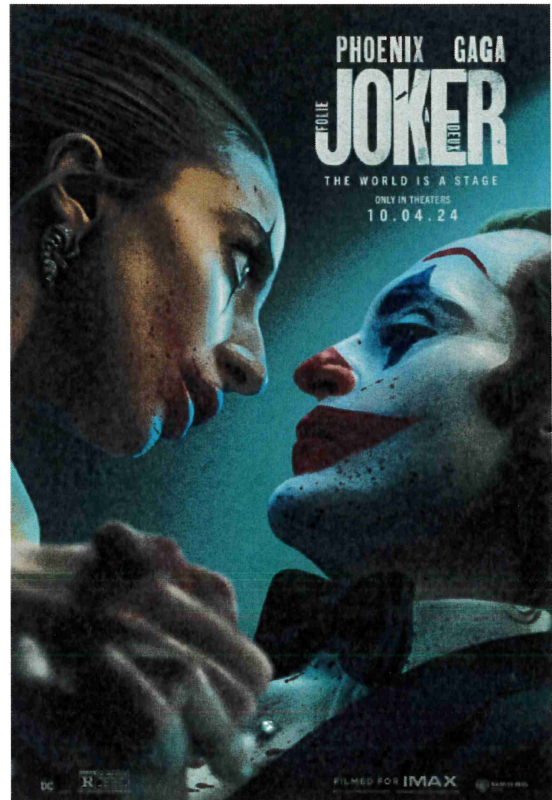


Image credit: IMDB



# NEBRASKA SMART IS A FREE VIRTUAL TUTORING PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12.



Teacher education candidates from Chadron State, Peru State, and Wayne State Colleges remotely tutor students in rural Nebraska. This program is currently offering services to:

- All NRCSA member school districts
- Educational Service Unit 1
- Educational Service Unit 4
- Educational Service Unit 13
- Other select smaller rural school districts

Visit our website for the full list of school districts served.

## HOW IT WORKS

Nebraska students in grades K-12 have free access to online tutoring with a qualified Tutor in English, math, science, and social studies. Parents must first register their child. Once registered, students can request pre-scheduled appointments with a Tutor or log in and request on-demand tutoring to be connected with the next Tutor available in the queue. Students should provide homework for which they wish to receive help or topics that they would like to cover.



## TUTORING HOURS



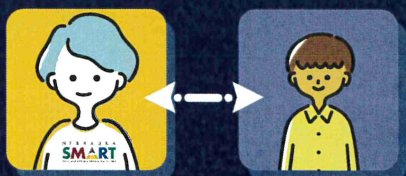
## OUR PARTNERS

The Nebraska Department of Education has awarded a grant to the Nebraska State Colleges to develop a program that provides free online tutoring to K-12 students in rural Nebraska.



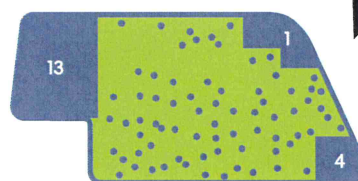
## OUR TUTORS

Tutors are full-time students at Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State Colleges who have been admitted to the teacher education program, have completed background checks, and received training through their teacher education program coursework.



PLEASE VISIT

[nscs.edu/NebraskaSMART](https://nscs.edu/NebraskaSMART)



FOR THE FULL LIST OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS SERVED.

2025

January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
					No School Teacher In-Service	Spartan Youth Bball Tourney
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
Spartan Youth Bball Tourney			BB JV/V G/B v. Amherst @ Litchfield 3:30/4:30/6:00/7:30 GWR @ Columbus TBA	BB JV/V G/B v Twin Loup @ Litchfield 4:30/6:00/7:30 WR @ Burwell 11:00		WR @ Amherst 9:30
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
				GWR @ Ord 1:00	BB JV/V G/B @ Shelton 4:30/6:00/7:30 GWR @ Ord 11:00	BB JV/V G/B @ Wilcox-Hildreth 2:00/3:00/4:30 WR @ Sandhills
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	JH BB v South Loup @ Ansley 1:00	JH BB @ Pleasanton 3:00 GBB JV/V @ Pleasanton 6:00/7:00		BB JV/V G/B v South Loup @ Arnold 4:30/6:00/7:30	BB JV/V G/B v Overton @ Ansley 4:30/6:00/7:30 WR @ Callaway 11:00	GWR @ Axtell 10:00 Speech @ Broken Bow
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
	JH BB v Twin Loup @ Ansley 1:00	BB JV/V G/B @ Litchfield 3:30/4:30/6:00/7:30			WR @ Ord 11:00	Speech @ Hampton
02	03	Notes:				

12/10/2024 02:24 PM

Posted - All; Fund Number 01; Processing Month 12/2024

User ID: TDF

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
A TO Z LAWN PRO & LANDSCAPING		1,500.00
ACTIVITY ALL CLASS		19.00
Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway & Luth, P.C.		102.00
ANSLEY LUMBER AND SUPPLY		68.25
Ansley Public Schools		3,453.29
ASK Supply Co		515.21
BLACK HILLS ENERGY		798.82
Custer Public Power		3,244.75
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING - CENTRAL FINANCE		400.21
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTION		3,470.77
Educational Service Unit 10		11,556.50
EWELL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES		210.00
Farmers Co-op Association		1,063.50
HAMILTON		133.17
HOMETOWN LEASING		341.51
JAYMAR BUSINESS FORMS, INC		611.66
Jerry M. Rolfsmeyer		599.79
KORT TRANSFER LLC		455.68
LAMMERS ABEL & KAPS, CPA'S P.C.		8,885.00
LIL REDS CLEANING		2,100.00
Litchfield Hot Lunch		485.15
LOUP CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL		2,086.04
MACKIN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES		1,166.72
NE Assoc. Of School Boards		475.00
ON TO COLLEGE		1,395.00
P & D MARKET		631.43
PETTY CASH FUND		1,166.47
POWERSCHOOL GROUP LLC		4,630.40
RITCHIE, TERRY		230.48
Sherman County Times		14.23
Sherman County Treasurer		128.37
TITAN MACHINERY		3,931.43
U.S. BANK		3,610.65
US FOODS		1,339.94
Village Of Litchfield		380.25
WEX BANK		1,391.21
Fund Number 01		<hr/> 62,591.88
Checking Account ID 1		<hr/> 62,591.88

LITCHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 16, 2024

Matt Drew called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Cole Lewandowski, April Gross, Alyssa Reynolds, and Marie Sweley.

Visitors: Mrs. Turley, Mrs. Slocum, Caydence Feldman, Malynn Boyles, James Fletcher, & Katie Slack

Matt Drew announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meeting Law is posted on the wall of the meeting room and indicated the instructions for those who wish to speak during public forum.

Cole Lewandowski moved to approved and excuse the absent Board Members; Mitch Feldman and Jim Holm who then entered late. Second by Marie Sweley. Motion carried 4-0.

April Gross made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting as written with stated correction. Second by Alyssa Reynolds. Motion carried 4-0.

April Gross moved and Marie Sweley seconded to approve consent agenda approval with the addition of Early Graduation Application to be added to the action items. Motion carried 4-0.

April Gross gave the treasurer report a:s General Fund Statement beginning balance of \$864,560.82, general funds receipts \$28,264.04, and actual cash available in general fund \$635,683.10 in the district treasury. Payroll and claims in the amount of \$259,482.98 were presented for payment. Marie Sweley made a motion to pay the claims. Second by Cole Lewandowski. Motion carried 5-0.

Brian Moser gave the Principal's report; AQuESTT Ratings, FKC Choral Clinic, Christmas Program, FFA District LDEs, End of Once Act, Speech season begins, Digital Citizenship presentation on January 7, Vaping, and Early Graduation Application .

Matt Drew gave an AD Report, Audit Information, Policy review and discussion, and Building and Grounds.

Cole Lewandowski made a motion to approve revised and adopted policies; with deletion of policy 703. Second by Marie Sweley. Motion carried 5-0.

Alyssa Reynolds made a motion for approval of Jori McNeil's plan for early graduation. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 4-0.

Marie Sweley made a motion to enter into executive session with Board member elect Katie Slack to join to discuss negotiations. Second by Alyssa Reynolds. Motion carried 4-0.

Vice President Jim Holm reinstated intent for executive session was to discuss negotiations.

The Board entered Executive session at 8:40 p.m.

Marie Sweley made a motion to exit executive session. Second by April Gross. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board exited executive session at 9:09 p.m.

Cole Lewandowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Second by Marie Sweley. Motion carried 5-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be at 7:30 p.m. on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The agenda is a continuous agenda and is available for examination during regular hours at the office of the Superintendent. Public notice of the meeting will be given in the Hallway Happenings Newsletter and in the Sherman County Times.

Marie Sweley

Board Secretary



# January 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 no school	2 no school	3 no school	4
5	6 Muffins Spaghetti	7 Loaded Hash Browns Chicken Alfredo	8 Oatmeal Bar Scalloped Potatoes	9 Biscuit and egg Riblet sandwich	10 Donuts Chili Dogs	11
12	13 Muffins Runza Casserole	14 Biscuit and gravy Taco	15 Pop tart Mexican rice bowls	16 Omelets Chicken nuggets	17 Donuts Pizza	18
19	20 Muffins Tater tot casserole	21 Pancakes Pulled pork	22 Churro Popcorn chicken	23 Oatmeal Bar Sloppy Joe	24 Donuts Corn dogs	25
26	27 Cinnamon rolls Meatball subs	28 Churro Enchilada	29 French toast Chicken patty	30 Muffins Crispitos	31 Donuts Nachos	1
2	3	Notes				

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