

# Hallway Happenings



April 2023 Issue 8  
Litchfield Public Schools - PO Box 167 Litchfield, NE 68852  
Phone: 308.446.2244 - Fax: 308.244.6608

## Spartan Foundation

Did you know that some project funds are held in the Spartan Foundation temporarily? Temporary project funds that are collected through the Spartan Foundation:

- allows for smaller organizations or temporary projects without other account access to have a place to raise and store funds
- allows access to be a non-profit organization, under the umbrella of the Custer County Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation
- allows for designated or undesignated charitable tax-deductible contributions
- Temporary Projects that have raised funds through the Spartan Foundation:
  - Ansley Public School Landscaping Project
  - Railroad Park Project
  - Ansley Park Playground Project
  - Litchfield Community Club Veterans Wall

## Litchfield Village Library

The Litchfield village library, located directly south of the Winter's Building, is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

## Career Fair in Loup City

Mrs. Poland took many sophomore and junior students to a career fair in Loup City this month. The students talked to over 20 different colleges and businesses from the area. The students gained valuable networking experience as they met with professionals and business owners from Sherman County. The students were able to learn what these business owners expect of

their employees on a daily basis. Some of our students even picked up job applications for future employment.



## Freshmen Debate Day

On Monday, March 27, the freshmen class had a debate day in business class. The students spent multiple days in class learning about the four different types of economic systems: market, communist command, traditional, and socialist command. After discussing and researching the advantages and disadvantages of each, the students were broken into groups to defend their given economic system. Many great points were shared and the students were very passionate about their sides. Student Jacky Cross said she liked the strong reasoning each team used in their arguments. Great work freshmen!



*Freshmen students preparing their rebuttals on debate day*

## **"Animal Farm" vs Napoleon**

**By Ava Paitz**

On Wednesday, March 15, the 9th grade English class took part in a mock trial made up of the actions that happened in the most recent novel they have read: *Animal Farm*. The crime the defense (Napoleon) was being accused of was cruelty against the animals of "Animal Farm." The prosecution team included James Fletcher and Jacky Cross, while Caydence Feldman, Gracie Reitz, and Gracie Ritchie (Napoleon) made up the defense team. Brooke Fecht was the honorable judge, and the jury included Wesley Fowler, Topanga Boyles, and Landon Schulte.

To start the trial, the prosecution led with their opening statement which stated that "Napoleon is to blame for being a tyrant and cruel leader to the animals." The defense responded, arguing that "Napoleon only wanted to do what was right for the farm."

Next, the prosecution called Snowball (Malynn Boyles) as their first witness to the stand. Snowball expressed that Napoleon stole all of his ideas, chased him off the farm, and that he felt threatened. The defense cross examined Snowball and came out with the fact that Napoleon cared and raised the dogs that chased him off the farm.

The second witness that the prosecution called to the stand was "Farmer Jones" (Malynn Boyles). Farmer Jones eventually admitted that he was in fact an alcoholic, and that he beat the animals just as Napoleon did.

Next up was the defense's turn for calling witnesses, and for their first witness they called Napoleon (Ritchie) to speak. Napoleon blamed everything on Squealer--an irrelevant pig on the farm--and said that the dogs that chased Snowball off the farm act upon threats, therefore they saw Snowball as a threat so they acted on their instincts.

During the cross-examination of Napoleon, he stated, "I don't know how much damage Squealer has done," implying that he was not the bad guy and Squealer was.

The last witness called to the stand by the defense was Boxer, a cart horse who was loyal to Napoleon, (Ida Gross). During the examination, he stated that Napoleon is always right and "the best leader." As the cross-examination of Boxer took place, Boxer became defensive and started denying questions. As a result of this, the court led on with their final statements.

In the final statements, the defense explained that Napoleon was not in charge, but it was in fact Squealer who was shaping the farm to be corrupt. Contradicting this theory, the prosecution retaliated by stating that Napoleon was a tyrant and should be charged guilty for crimes of animal cruelty.

After quick deliberation, the jury reached a final verdict. They found the defendant, Napoleon, was guilty for all crimes against Animal Farm.

In this book, the farm animals overtake the drunken Farmer Jones so that they can finally have power over the land and have their own rights. In the beginning, the animals live in peace and harmony with each other, and work harder than ever before because of this newfound freedom. The major takeaway of the story is that "4 legs are good, and 2 legs are bad." This is the main motto of "Animal Farm" because the animals are just happy that they are not being abused by their cruel caretakers anymore. As the story goes on, there is eventually a big feud between two pigs, Napoleon and Snowball, and eventually the more vicious of the two wins and takes power over the farm. Over time, Napoleon abandons the concept of "4 legs good, 2 legs bad" and corrupts the farm into becoming a communist run estate, and becomes abusive to the animals.

# Spartan Sports



## Boys Basketball

The Spartans punched their ticket to state by beating Bancroft Rosalie by a score of 56-46. The Ansley and Litchfield communities traveled to the Bob Devaney Sports Center in Lincoln, Nebraska to support the Spartans in their game against the Maywood-Hays Center Wolves. The Spartans were unable to defeat the Wolves and were eliminated in the first round of the Boys State Basketball tournament. The Spartans will be returning many key players to next year's roster, including Ashton Behmerwohld, Luke and Ryan Bailey, Jacob Heapy and Zach Loy. Congratulations on a great season boys!



## Track

The Spartans had a track meet on March 23rd in Loup City. Many Spartan athletes were competing in a Quiz Bowl competition on this day so the track team was smaller than usual. Luke Bailey finished 2nd in the 110m hurdles, 300m hurdles and in boys triple jump. Ryan Bailey finished 5th in the 400m, 4th in the 300m hurdles and 4th in the boys high jump. On the girls side of the track, Klarissa Dowdy finished 4th in the high jump, 5th in the 100m hurdles, and 6th in the 300m hurdles. Kerri Ryan placed 3rd in the girls high jump. The Spartan's next track meet will be Friday, March 31 at Kearney High.



# Clubs & Organizations

## Art

In February the Litchfield Art program competed in the FKC conference art show. Only 5 pieces could be submitted by each school for this competition. The pieces are all judged on the same playing field whether the piece is a pencil drawing, painting, printmaking, metal art, ceramics, etc. Fourteen different schools competed in the art show and five pieces were chosen as winners at the end of the show. None of the pieces submitted by Litchfield were chosen in the top five of this year's competition, but the art submissions by our students were very well done.

## FBLA

FBLA has a busy week coming up. On Monday, April 3 they will be leaving for Kearney to compete at the State Leadership Conference. At SLC they will perform speeches, take tests, go through the job hiring process, and learn how to be an ethical business person. Litchfield FBLA would like to give a huge shoutout to our senior team made up of Katherine Paitz and Kaylee Rohde for making it to state in a prejudged event, unlike all of the other events they will compete in that automatically qualify for state. This month members have been very focused, working on perfecting their presentations and studying for their big tests. We wish you luck at state!

-Ava Paitz, FBLA Reporter

## Speech

The Litchfield Speech team had a very successful FKC meet. Litchfield took 8

events and 6 made it to finals! Here are the results:

- Jimmy, Caydence, Ava, Malynn - OID, 6th
- Caydence - Humorous, 6th
- Malynn - Serious, 5th
- Shamane - Poetry, 5th
- Ava - POI, 3rd
- Jacob Heapy - 1st, Extemporaneous

Bringing home 9 medals is a first in at least 11 years!

The speech team also had a strong showing at Districts this year, coming home with a 4th place team finish. Seven out of ten events made it to finals. Here are the results:

- Malynn, Caydence, Ava, Jimmy - OID, 6th
- Jacob - Extemporaneous, 6th
- Jimmy - Extemporaneous, 5th, Serious, 5th
- Shamane - Poetry, 5th
- Ava - POI, 5th
- Malynn - Serious, 6th

In order to reach the finals, the speakers had to score in the top of the field in two preliminary rounds. The two preliminary round scores and the finals round scores are added up to create the final placing. Congratulations on a great year!



*Litchfield Speech Team*

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway & Luth, P.C.		102.00
Ansley Public Schools		3,175.80
BAKKO BROS., INC.		13.54
BAKKO TRANSFER, INC.		2.12
BLACK HILLS ENERGY		2,453.12
Blick Art Materials		134.58
Custer Public Power		3,543.11
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING - CENTRAL FINANCE		345.43
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTION		1,617.70
Educational Service Unit 10		8,672.19
Farmers Co-op Association		1,908.37
HAMILTON		132.35
HOMETOWN LEASING		341.51
Jerry M. Rolfsmeyer		2,457.08
JW Pepper & Son Inc		182.96
KEARNEY QUALITY SEW AND VAC, INC		165.97
Litchfield Hot Lunch		102.00
Menards		1,304.93
MOSER, BRIAN		82.00
NE Safety & Fire Equipment Inc		494.00
P & D MARKET		38.66
Pearson Education Inc.		190.00
PETTY CASH FUND		1,717.39
Pleasanton Lions Club		138.79
Sherman County Times		36.37
U.S. BANK		71.88
US FOODS		918.10
VERIZON		40.01
WEX BANK		1,576.35
Fund Number 01		<hr/> 31,958.31
Checking Account ID 1		<hr/> 31,958.31

LITCHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 20, 2023

President Mitch Feldman called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mitch Feldman, Marie Sweley, April Gross, Jim Holm, Cole Lewandowski, and Alyssa Reynolds.

Visitors: Cody Franzen

President Mitch Feldman announced that a current copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted on the wall of the meeting room.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Jim Holm moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Second by April Gross. Motion carried 6-0.

The treasurer reported a General fund statement beginning balance of \$261,735.06, general fund receipts \$221,858.05, actual general fund bank balance \$258,425.64 in the district treasury. Payroll and claims in the amount of \$220,505.48 were presented for payment. Marie Sweley moved to pay the claims. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 6-0.

In the Principal's Report Mr. Moser discussed eRate update, Apptegy, etc, student numbers added and activities, teachers' inservice, math curriculum, adding a Para, Coming up events; ACT for juniors, Prom, State FFA, and FBLA, a couple of quiz bowls, and music competition, State NSCAS testing the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>, and plenty of absences due to activities but keeping up with sub coverage.

In the Superintendent's report Matt reported on Insurance claim for ice damage, fence update, plumbing updates, and he will be bringing to the next meeting budget numbers and projects willing to pursue.

Marie Sweley moved to approve the school calendar for the 2023-2024 year as presented. Second by Jim Holm. Motion approved 6-0.

Marie Sweley moved to approve s recommended Litchfield Board Policies; adopt and revise 404.08, 0408.01 Naloxone Policy- 058.18, 408.02, 410.02, and delete 408.03, and 409.03. Review; 0408.01, 0408.04, 0408.05, 0408.06, 0409.01,

0409.02, 0409.03, 0409.04, 0409.05, 0410.01, 0410.02, Second by Alyssa Reynolds. Motion carried 6-0.

Marie Sweley moved to approve the 2 year Superintendent Contract with a salary of \$120,000.00 for Matt Drew starting school year 2023-2024. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 6-0.

April Gross moved to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 6-0.

The board entered into executive session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss personnel.

Marie Sweley moved to exit executive session. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 6-0.

Board exited executive session at 8:26 p.m.

Jim Holm moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Second April Gross. Motion carried 6-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be at 7:30 p.m. on April 17, 2023. 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

# April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 <b>Breakfast</b> Blueberry Muffins  <b>Lunch</b> Chicken Nuggets	4 <b>Breakfast</b> Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Bars  <b>Lunch</b> Tacos	5 <b>Breakfast</b> Pancakes  <b>Lunch</b> Spaghetti	6 <b>Breakfast</b> Churros  <b>Lunch</b> Enchilada Casserole	7 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	8
9	10 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	11 <b>Breakfast</b> French Toast  <b>Lunch</b> Corndogs	12 <b>Breakfast</b> Zucchini Muffins  <b>Lunch</b> Pulled Pork	13 <b>Breakfast</b> Omelets  <b>Lunch</b> Lasagna	14 <b>Breakfast</b> Donuts  <b>Lunch</b> Sloppy Joes	15
16	17 <b>Breakfast</b> Chocolate Chip Muffins  <b>Lunch</b> Hamburgers	18 <b>Breakfast</b> Bosco Sticks  <b>Lunch</b> Quesadillas	19 <b>Breakfast</b> Hash browns  <b>Lunch</b> Chili Dogs	20 <b>Breakfast</b> Churros  <b>Lunch</b> Popcorn Chicken Bowl	21 <b>Breakfast</b> Donuts  <b>Lunch</b> Ham Sandwiches	22
23	24 <b>Breakfast</b> Biscuits & Gravy  <b>Lunch</b> Mexican Rice Bowls	25 <b>Breakfast</b> Zucchini Muffins  <b>Lunch</b> Chicken Patties	26 <b>Breakfast</b> Churros  <b>Lunch</b> Stromboli	27 <b>Breakfast</b> Breakfast Pizza  <b>Lunch</b> Chicken Alfredo	28 <b>Breakfast</b> Donuts  <b>Lunch</b> Super Nachos	29



# April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 State FBLA @ Kearney	4 State FBLA @ Kearney  JH Track Meet @ Ravenna 1:00	5 State FBLA @ Kearney	6 Varsity Track Meet @ Arnold 10:00	7 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	8
9 Easter Sunday	10 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	11 Freshmen to UNK Health Sciences Day	12	13 9-12 Grade Art/ Science Field Trip	14 NSCAS/MAP Pep Rally  Varsity Track Meet @ Burwell 10:00	15
16	17 NSCAS/MAP Testing	18 NSCAS/MAP Testing  Varsity Track Meet @ Overton 9:00  JH Track Meet @ Burwell 1:00	19 NSCAS/MAP Testing	20 NSCAS/MAP Testing  Senior Sendoff 10:00  FFA Chapter Meeting 6:15	21 NSCAS/MAP Testing  <b>NO PRESCHOOL</b>	22
23	24	25 JH Track Meet @ Arnold 10:00	26 Administrative Professional's Day	27 Spring Fine Arts Program & High School Honors Night @ Litchfield 6:00	28 Elementary STEAM Day  Varsity Track Meet @ Overton 9:00	29

**LITCHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**500 N MAIN ST**  
**LITCHFIELD, NE 68852**