

# Litchfield School News



February 2021 Edition

500 N. Main | 308 446 2244 | [lynette.finley@litchfieldps.org](mailto:lynette.finley@litchfieldps.org)

## Fun Facts about Valentine's Day

By Shamane Zentz

Every February 14, loved ones all around the world exchange gifts, flowers, and candy to celebrate Valentine's Day. This popular holiday is known for its sweets and romantic gestures, but there is a history of Valentine's Day that dates all the way back to ancient Rome. It turns out St. Valentine wasn't just one person, there were two men named Valentine that inspired the holiday. Valentine's Day was actually celebrated as a festival called Lupercalia. This festival was celebrated to mark the official start of springtime. The first valentine was a poem written by a French medieval duke named Charles to his wife in 1415. He had written this valentine while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. The very first heart-shaped box of chocolates was introduced in 1861 and was created by Richard Cadbury. He had stated putting his chocolates in fancy boxes so they could sell better. The famous conversation hearts got their start as cough drops, a pharmacist named Oliver Chase invented a machine that made the way cough drops could be produced. This was the result of America's first candy-making machine, since Oliver Chase started to make candy instead of cough drops with his machine. Today on Valentine's day Americans spend a lot on love, they spend over \$20 billion on Valentine's day gifts alone. There are also about 145 million Valentine's day cards exchanged every February 14<sup>th</sup>.

# February menu



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	1 Super nachos or Pork nachos Green beans Fresh pears Milk	2 Shepard's pie Beets Dinner roll Peaches Milk	3 Ham sandwich French fries Carrots Pears Milk	4 Pot roast with Roasted vegetables Dinner roll Apples Milk Nebraska Thursday	5 Enchilada casse- role Corn on the cob Mixed fruit Apple crisp Milk	6
7	8 Turkey sandwich Sweet potato fries Baked beans Banana Milk	9 Goulash Garlic bread Green beans Berry cups Milk	10 Teriyaki chicken Fried rice Stir-fry veggies Dinner roll Grapes Milk	11 Hot dog or Chili dog Smiley fries Corn Applesauce Milk	12 Crisпитos Cottage cheese Peas Peaches Cookie Milk	13
14	15 Spaghetti Garlic bread Lettuce Carrots Oranges Milk	16 Runza casserole Dinner roll Baked beans Pineapple Milk	17 Cheese pizza Green beans Strawberries and Bananas Milk Ash Wednesday	18 Popcorn chicken Mashed potato bowl w/ corn Dinner roll Tropical fruit Milk	19  <b>No School</b>	20
21/28	22 Hamburger Fries Baked beans Kiwi Milk	23 Stromboli Pasta salad Broccoli Strawberry cup Milk	24 Pork carnita Refried beans Corn Fresh pineapple Milk	25 Taco soup or Hamburger soup Raw veggies Cinnamon roll Pears Milk	26 Fish sticks Mac-n-cheese Peas-n-carrots Mandarin oranges Milk	27

# February 2021 Spartan Activities

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 G   B JH BBALL @ Sandhills Theedford 2   3:30	2 FKC Wrestling tourney 10:00 am @ Wilcox Hildreth	3 FFA State Degree	4	5	6 National ACT Test Varsity Wrestling Sub Districts Doni-phan Trumbull
7	8 G   B JH BBALL @ Merna 1   2:15	9 JV   V G   B BBALL @ Ansley Vs Arcadia Loup City 4:30   6   7:30	10	11	12 JV   V BBALL @ Ansley VS Anselmo Merna 4:30   6   7:30	13 Speech @Burwell Wrestling Elkhorn Valley Tilden, Ne
14	15 B   G JH BBALL @ Ansley Vs Twin Loup 1   2:00 Girls Bball Subdistricts	16 6:30 FFA	17 B   G JH BBALL Vs Axtell @Litchfield 12:30   1:30	18 State Wrestling 4-7 pm PT Conferences	19 State Wrestling JV   V Boys BBALL @Pleasanton 6   7:30 No School	20 State Wrestling Speech @ Loup City
21	22	23 Boys Bball sub-districts, TBA	24 B   G JH BBALL @ Elm Creek 4:00 FKC Virtual Speech	25	Teacher Workday 26 FFA District CDE TBA No Preschool	27 Speech @ Centura
28						

## FFA News

In December, the Litchfield Junior High participated in the District 8 FFA Ag Quiz Bowl competition. Due to the pandemic the competition was completed in a quiz format. The students all took a 100 question quiz. The top four scores from each school were added together for the team scores. At the end of the competition Litchfield received first place. Students that received purple ribbons were Caydence Feldman, Gracie Ritchie and Carter Wood. Ava Paitz received a red ribbon. Only the top half of students competing were awarded ribbons and many of the Litchfield students were close.



FFA District 8 Ag Quiz Bowl championship team: Caydence Feldman, Gracie Ritchie, Carter Wood, not pictured Ava Paitz

### FFA Baked Good Sale

Due to restrictions put into place we have decided to alter plans for the 2020-21 FFA Labor Auction. We will be holding a Baked Good online silent auction on the Litchfield FFA Facebook page during the first week in February. Each student will have a picture of a baked good they will make/purchase to give to the winner of their auction. All items up for bid will be listed in the comments section under the main post. Double check to make sure your bid is placed as a comment under the item you are bidding on. All bids will begin at \$70 per item. In addition, the winning bidder will be awarded 8 hours of labor from the student. If at all possible, the students will deliver the baked good along with your invoice to collect payment following the auction. If this is not possible, we will work with the winners of the auction to make the transactions. The auction will begin on February 1<sup>st</sup> and end at 8:00 am on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Although our expenses have been reduced due to the pandemic we continue to have dues to pay and we are saving up to help purchase a Plasma Cutting Table for the shop. If you have any questions about the auction, FFA or Agricultural Education, please contact Mr. Johnson at the school.

## Girls' Basketball Recap

By Shamane Zentz

On January, 8th the Lady Spartans hosted the game against the Twin Loup Wolves. In the first quarter the Lady Spartans came out fired up and scored 10 points, with Twin Loup on their tail with 9 points. During the second quarter the Spartans pushed hard and scored 7 more points, leaving them with a total of 17, and a 3-point lead. The Wolves scored 5 more points leaving them with only 14 points. After half-time in the third quarter both, the Lady Spartans and the Wolves scored 7 points, this left the Spartans at 24. The Wolves were right behind the Lady Spartans at 21 points. During the final and fourth quarter the Lady Spartans worked hard and made 13 more points, leaving them with 37 points in total. The Wolves fell behind and only made 8 points giving them 29 points in the end. The Lady Spartans worked hard and won against the Wolves 37-29. The highest scoring shooters were; Kaylee Rohde with 21 points and Katherine Paitz with 8. Congratulations Ladies!

## Boys' Basketball Recap

By Shamane Zentz

On January, 8<sup>th</sup> the Spartans hosted the game against the Twin Loup Wolves. In the first quarter the Spartans came out ready to play and scored 10 points. The Wolves were close behind and scored 7 points. During the third quarter the Spartans were even more fired up and scored 10 more points leaving them at 20. The wolves only scored 10 points in the second quarter making halftime score 20-17. After the half-time show, in the third quarter, the Spartans worked hard and scored 21 more points. This left the Spartans at 41 points with Twin Loup only managing 8 points for the quarter, leaving them at a mere 25 points. During the final and fourth quarter Spartans made 3 buckets, leaving them with 57 points in total. The Wolves were behind and only made 9 more points giving them a total of 34 points in the end. The Spartans worked hard and won the game 57-34. The highest scoring shooters were; Tycen Bailey with 17 points and Calvin Finley with 13 points. Congratulation Boys!

## February Counselor Corner 2021

### Spring is on the rise?

Seniors are busy applying for scholarships, making decisions as to which college is their right fit, contemplating part-time jobs, and thinking about what their lives will look like when they graduate in May. Juniors are thinking about ACT testing and some are visiting colleges to see if he/she would be a good fit for the campus. Others are working on building their activities for their resumes.

### Scholarships

For local and state scholarships, visit *Scholarship Quest* at **EducationQuest.org**. It is never too early to begin searching for scholarships as well as making your list of strengths, volunteer activities, and other notable characteristics about yourself.

### College planning help??

Sign up for Education Quest's Newsletter by clicking this link: [Countdown2College](#) to receive monthly emails with tips and resources to help you plan and pay for college. If you would like to go to the Education Quest Foundation website, you can also follow the steps below to sign up any 9th - 12th grader?

### College Classes offered during high school

Multiple juniors and seniors took courses last semester. This semester, several juniors and a senior continue to take college courses. They range from English Composition II to Microcomputers to College Speech to Graphic Design II this semester. Some students are looking forward to getting courses completed prior to attending college. These students are independent and self-driven as the classes are web-based, online per zoom, or teacher-paced online.

Parents can sign up for newsletters to help their child in college planning. Go to <http://www.educationquest.org>. Click on Countdown to College sign-up on the right-hand side of the page under Resources. Have students fill in their contact information and list their current grade in high school. (Can be 9th - 12th grade) Students need an email address in order to sign up for the newsletters. Click on Subscribe to List.

### NEST 529

NEST 529 is a state-sponsored, tax-advantaged college savings plan. For more information visit [NEST529.com](http://NEST529.com)

### Prepare for the FAFSA with *free* programs and resources

Seniors, make sure you have completed your FAFSA. Depending upon your college's deadline, complete the FAFSA prior to April 1. Colleges will use your FAFSA results to determine how much they will award you in federal, state, and college-based financial aid. The following Education link will help you learn more about the financial aid process and the FAFSA <http://www.educationquest.org> **Kearney office** 308-234-6310. **Follow them on Facebook and Twitter!** Remember, if you do not fill this out, your student will NOT be eligible for federal financial aid and aid from the school he/she is attending. It is NEVER too late to file, the sooner the better.

**Food Pantry/Food Bank information:** Our school food bank is currently receiving prepackaged food from the Heartland Foodbank. It regularly serves 17 students in our school on a weekly basis. Any donations to the food pantry are appreciated. We are also accepting financial donations to help provide our families with perishables from P & D Market such as milk, bread, eggs, and fruit. At this time, we would appreciate snack

items such as bars, individual cereal boxes, individual fruit cups, etc. Items that elementary students would be able to fix with limited assistance.

Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-TALK (8255)

NAME: Susan Poland  
SCHOOL: Litchfield Public Schools  
CLASS: PreK-12 School Counselor  
SCHOOL PHONE: (308)-446-2244 ext 204  
Email: [susan.poland@litchfieldps.org](mailto:susan.poland@litchfieldps.org)  
Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/litchfieldps.org/mrspoland/>

---

## Senior Spotlight– Rebecca Mostek



Birthday- October 21st 2002

Nickname- Becca

Favorite TV show- Criminal Minds

Favorite Subject- Agriculture

Extracurricular Activities-Basketball

Favorite color-purple or blue

Favorite Song- I listen to way to much music to pick a favorite

Favorite Hangout- the river

Most Prized Possession- My animals

Favorite High School Memory- State FFA my sophomore year

# EducationQuest Foundation

## College Planning Bulletin

*A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students*

February 2021

### Seniors...make sure you complete the FAFSA process

Getting financial aid for college involves more than completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete each step of the process so that you don't miss out on money for college.

1. **If you haven't already, complete your 2021-22 FAFSA** at studentaid.go using 2019 income tax data. Before you start, you and a parent must each create a Student Aid account. If you need help with your FAFSA, contact EducationQuest to set up a free virtual appointment.
2. **Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) via an email link.** The SAR acknowledges that your FAFSA was received and lets you know if you need to take further action before the form can be processed.
3. **You might receive a verification notice** from the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA requesting documents to verify your FAFSA information. The college will not process your financial aid until you provide required documents.
4. **Watch for financial aid award notifications.** Once you're accepted for admission to the colleges you listed on your FAFSA, they will notify you of the types and amounts of financial aid they're offering.

Watch your email and student portal carefully for important details from colleges about admission and financial aid.

### What you need to know about scholarships

Most scholarships are based on academics, but others are based on community service, school involvement, or talent. Some are based on financial need as determined by the results of your FAFSA.

Here's where to look for scholarships:

1. **ScholarshipQuest at EducationQuest.org** houses over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. After you create a profile, you'll be matched with scholarships that fit your criteria. You'll also find links to national sites that EducationQuest recommends.
2. **Your school counselor's office.** Visit regularly to check on local and national awards.
3. **The college you plan to attend.** Contact the school for a list of scholarships they provide and the application procedures.
4. **Other resources** could include your coach, clubs and organizations, and your parents' employers and civic organizations.

Click here for more details about scholarships and tips to help you complete a successful application.

### Two easy-to-apply-for scholarships from EducationQuest

Don't miss out on these scholarships for Nebraska students in grades 9-12:

**Get Social Scholarship** – By following EducationQuest on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, you can enter into a drawing for a \$500 scholarship each time we hit another 250 followers. Click here for details.

**Scavenger Hunt Scholarship** – To apply for this scholarship, create a *ScholarshipQuest* profile at EducationQuest.org and then scavenge around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions on a survey. The deadline to apply is **March 31**. We'll draw two winners from those who answer all questions correctly. Click here for details.



# Save the Date...Virtual College Fair is March 2-3

EducationQuest will host a Virtual College Fair Tuesday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m.-noon and Wednesday, March 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. During this event, you can chat with college representatives and watch live college-prep presentations. Watch for details!

## February “To Do” List

### Seniors:

- \_\_\_ If you haven't already, complete the FAFSA.
- \_\_\_ Expect financial aid award notifications from the colleges you listed on your FAFSA.
- \_\_\_ Apply for scholarships.

### Juniors:

- \_\_\_ Start preparing for the ACT. Here are test-prep resources to consider.
- \_\_\_ Register by February 12 for the March 13 SAT.
- \_\_\_ Register by March 12 for the April 17 ACT.

**For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:**

<b>Omaha</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Kearney</b>	<b>Scottsbluff</b>
402-391-4033	402-475-5222	308-234-6310	308-708-7199
888-357-6300	800-303-3745	800-666-3721	800-303-3745, ext. 6654

**EducationQuest.org**

**Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!**

***Your Journey to College Begins with Us***

January Superintendent Report  
Litchfield Public Schools  
January 18, 2021

### **Swearing in New Board Member**

Cole Lewandowski was elected to the board in November.

### **Election of Board Officers**

Board needs to elect board officers for the 2021 calendar year.

### **Federal Program Administrator**

Each year the board of education must assign an administrator to be the Federal Programs Administrator.

### **ESU 10 Contract Review and Approval**

Attached are contracts from ESU 10. All of these contracts are part-time individuals who come to the school when we have special education needs. These contracts save the district from hiring half-time or full time individuals to serve our students special education population. The board needs to approve these annual contracts so the ESU may plan to hire appropriate personnel to serve the various school districts in the area.

### **2021-2022 Calendar**

Mr. Goodman, Ms. Fessler, Mr. Drew and myself have started putting together next year's calendar and will have one ready to present to the board at the February board meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. I have enclosed a copy of this year's. Looking for any concerns or wishes from the board.

### **Covid 19 Update and Employee's Leave**

We will update the board how the plans with the new restrictions are going and what we have been doing with the cases involved with our student body and staff.

The Federal government did not extend the Covid Employee's Leave beyond December 31, 2020.

### **Board and Superintendent Evaluations**

Evaluations were in your last packet to be brought back to President Feldman in December. Board may want to go into executive session to discuss evaluations.

### **Superintendent Contract**

Go into executive session to discuss superintendent contract for the 2021-2022 school year.

### **Negotiations**

Mitch and Bill can discuss update on Negotiations.

Board may want to go into executive session to discuss where they are at. February 8<sup>th</sup> would be the target date before you would have to involve 3<sup>rd</sup> party.

Vendor Name	Vendor Description	Amount
Checking Account ID 1	Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND	
Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway & Luth, P.C.		100.00
ANSLEY LUMBER AND SUPPLY		6.18
Ansley Public Schools		3,299.93
BLACK HILLS ENERGY		1,925.93
Builders How-to Warehouse		17.25
CAREER SAFE		75.00
Custer Public Power		2,941.80
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING - CENTRAL FINANCE		391.16
Educational Service Unit 10		11,944.42
ESSENTIAL SCREENS		16.00
Farmers Co-op Association		1,010.16
HIEBNER, MARK		201.84
HOWARD HAY COMPANY, INC.		1,232.34
Island Supply Welding Co.		71.50
JAYMAR BUSINESS FORMS, INC		128.58
JW Pepper & Son Inc		271.24
LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS		54.40
Litchfield Hot Lunch		84.00
MOSA MACK SCIENCE, INC		275.00
NE Assoc. Of School Boards		100.00
NEBRASKA AIR FILTER, INC		77.51
Nebraska Central Telephone		201.44
OfficeNet		513.59
PETTY CASH FUND		1,836.13
SAFELITE AUTO GLASS		259.97
Sherman County Treasurer		121.74
SPARQDATA SOLUTIONS		1,200.00
US FOODS		410.20
VERIZON		40.01
Village Of Litchfield		449.40
WEX BANK		1,048.53
Fund Number 01		<u>30,305.25</u>
Checking Account ID 1		<u>30,305.25</u>
Checking Account ID 2	Fund Number 06 HOT LUNCH FUND	
General Fund		5,000.00
HILAND DAIRY		803.62
P & D MARKET		34.81
US FOODS		592.24
Walmart		454.45
Fund Number 06		<u>6,885.12</u>
Checking Account ID 2		<u>6,885.12</u>

Principal/AD Report  
Matt Drew  
1.18.21

1. Teacher Workday 1.4.21
  - a. Went through data
  - b. Goal Setting
  - c. Elementary & High School Student Concerns
2. AD
  - a. Speech
    - i. Conference Speech Virtual
    - ii. Most meets are Virtual
  - b. Basketball/Dance/Cheer Parent's Night January 22
  - c. FKC Basketball begins January 30th
  - d. FKC Wrestling moved to Wilcox/Hildreth on February 2
  - e. Wrestling has sub-districts
  - f. COVID

LITCHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 18, 2021

President Mitch Feldman called the regular meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

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

Visitors: Sherrie Klein and her husband.

President Mitch Feldman announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted on the wall of the meeting room, and also indicated the instructions for those who wish to speak during the public forum.

Cole Lewandowski was elected to the Board in November and was sworn in as the new member for this term.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. Bill Howard made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 6-0.

The Wade Finley reported a General fund statement beginning balance of \$254,366.73, general fund receipts \$60,058.71, actual general fund bank balance \$120,442.66 in the district treasury. Payroll and claims in the amount of \$219,947.08 were presented for payment. Wade also went through bills of interest. Marie Sweley made a motion to pay the claims. Second by Bill Howard. Motion carried 6-0.

Matt Drew reported on teacher work day on 1/4/21; went through data, goal setting, elementary & High School student concerns, Speech, Basketball/dance/cheer parent's night January 22, FKC basketball begins January 30<sup>th</sup>, FKC Wrestling moved to Wilcox/Hildreth on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wrestling has sub-districts, and COVID.

Wade Finley reported on Election of Board Officers, Federal Program Administrator, ESU 10 Contract Review and Approval, 2021-2022 Calendar, and Covid 19 Update and Employee's Leave.

Bill Howard made a motion to leave officers as they were and April filling the vacant Treasurer's office. Second by Cole Lewandowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Marie Sweley made a motion to recommend that Superintendent, Wade Finley be assigned as the Litchfield Public Schools Federal Programs Administrator for 2021-2022 school year. Second by Jim Holm. Motion carried 5-0.

Marie Sweley made a motion to recommend approval of the ESU 10 contracts for the 2021-2022 school year as presented to the Board. Second by Bill Howard. Motion carried 5-0.

The 2021-2022 School Calendar is being updated to match up as closely as possible to Ansley and a final copy will be presented to the Board at the next meeting. Also the Employee's Leave did not get extended by the Federal Government beyond December 31,2020 and was discussed how to handle this item.

Marie Sweley made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Board & Superintendent Evaluations, Superintendent Contract, and Negotiations. Second by Bill Howard. Motion carried 6-0.

President Mitch Feldman reinstated the intent of entering executive session was to discuss Board & Superintendent Evaluations, Superintendent Contract, and Negotiations.

The Board entered executive session at 8:30 p.m.

April Gross made a motion to exit executive session. Second by Bill Howard. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board exited executive session at 9:13 p.m.

Jim Holm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. Second by Bill Howard. Motion carried 6-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be at 7:30 p.m. on February 15, 2021. 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 Small Town Times Newsletter and in the Sherman County Times.

Marie Sweley

Board Secretary

Litchfield Public Schools  
PO Box 167  
Litchfield, NE 68852-0167

Non-Profit Organization  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #2  
Litchfield, NE 68852

