



MAYWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Maywood Schools Reflects Growth in State Assessments & Accountability

Last Wednesday, the Nebraska Department of Education released Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) results. Maywood Public Schools has been on a plan of improvement for 7th and 8th grades for the past seven years. I am pleased to report that as a result of a variety of new curriculum, teaching strategies, and improved assessment scores, we will be removed from the continuous improvement status. This is an area that as a staff, students and district have worked together to reflect improvement that exceeds the original performance levels that placed the middle school on improvement. The AQuESTT Classification ranks the middle school 7th and 8th grades student performance as “Excellent.”

Maywood High School also received an “Excellent” rating, meaning students in grades 9 – 12 were in the top 27% of schools in Nebraska. Students at the secondary level are measured on the ACT assessment taken last spring as juniors. English Language Arts revealed 68% of students were either “Advanced or On-Track.” This represents a 20% increase in performance over last year. Mathematics assessment reflects 80% of students scored as either “Advanced or On-Track.” Compared to the previous year this represents a 46% increase. On the Science assessments the students scored 88% and were either “Advanced or On-Track.” This reflects a 17% increase in students scoring as “Advanced or On-track.”

Maywood Elementary school is classified as “Good.” with AQuESST classification. The elementary classification is based on student NSCAS performance in grades 3 – 6. Examining English Language Arts 55% of students were “Proficient,” compared to 37% the prior year, an 18% improvement. Mathematics assessments for grades 3 through grade 6 reflects 55% of students scoring as proficient. The prior year 45% of students scored as proficient in mathematics, reflecting an improvement of 10%. Science assessment scores occurred in grade 5 reveal 65% were proficient compared to the prior year of 85%. This represents a decrease of 20% in science performance. Teachers are working to improve student performance. Given the lower numbers a student or two can have significant impact on the percent proficient. I am pleased with addition of phonics in K-3, WORDS involvement from UNL, as well as the addition of our district Staff Developer to improve instruction and student engagement in all the grades, focusing on student learning.

District rankings involve examining overall performance of the elementary (Good), middle school (Excellent) and high school (Excellent) developing an overall district performance. The District ranking is “Great” for the school district reflecting an improvement from the prior year of a “Good” rating. I wanted to share this good news with all of you. If you desire to examine the full Nebraska Educational Profile for Maywood, go to the website: nep.education.ne.gov, select Maywood School. As a district, our educational team is continuing to improve along with our instructional skills focus to create greater student learning engagement and ultimately improved student learning.

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 MHC BB vs. Wallace at 4:00 p.m.	2 MHC BB vs. Southwest at Hayes Center at 1:00 p.m.
3	4 MHC JH BB vs. North Platte St. Pats at 2:00 p.m. in Maywood	5 Cattle Trail BB tournament in McCook	6	7 PreK Winter Concert at 5:45 p.m. Kgt.- 4th grade Winter Concert at 6:30 p.m. Band & Choir Winter Concert at 7:15 p.m.	8 Cattle Trail BB tournament in McCook	9 Cattle Trail BB tournament in McCook
10	11 MHC JH BB at McCook St Pats at 2:00 p.m.	12 FFA District LDE Contest #1 MHC BB vs. Sandhills Valley in Stapleton at 4:00 p.m.	13 Bloodmobile at Community Hall from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	14 MHC BB vs. Brady at Maywood at 4:00 p.m. in Maywood	15	16 MHC JV BB at South Platte BB tournament at 10:00 a.m. (Brule & Big Springs)
17	18 Maywood High School Quiz Bowl at 4:00 p.m. Semester Finals Even periods	19 Paxton Holiday Basketball tournament at 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.	20 Semester Finals—Odd periods	21 1:00 p.m. dismissal End of 2nd Qtr. Paxton Holiday BB tournament	22 No School Holiday Break	23
24	25 Christmas Day No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 Cambridge BB game at 3:00 p.m. No School	30
31						

On Monday, December 4, 2023, the National Honor Society food/hygiene drive will officially begin. All classes will have the option of bringing either food or hygiene items. The drive ends on Friday, December 15, 2023. The first two weeks of December, bring as many items as you can so we can reach our goal of 1,000 items. The food items should be kid friendly, and simple. They should be something that you don't need a lot of ingredients to make. If we reach this goal we get a day off of school March 1, 2024.

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 No School Happy New Year!	2 No School MHC BB vs Hi-Line at Eustis at 1:00 p.m.	3 No School Teacher In-service MHC JH BB at Wallace at 2:00 p.m.	4 School resumes	5 MHC BB vs. Paxton at Hayes Center at 4:00 p.m.	6
7	8	9 MHC BB vs. Maxwell at Maywood at 4:00 p.m.	10 No School Teacher In-service RPAC Quiz Bowl at Maywood at 1:00 p.m.	11 MHC JH BB vs. WaPa at Hayes Center at 2:00 p.m.	12 MHC BB vs. Sandhills Thedford at 4:00 p.m. in Thedford	13
14	15	16 MHC JH BB at Maxwell at 1:00 p.m.	17 FFA District LDE Contest #2 RPAC Art Contest at Cambridge	18 MHC BB vs. Bertrand at Maywood at 4:00 p.m.	19	20 RPAC BB at Wallace
21	22 RPAC Quarterfinals—Girls BB at Maxwell	23 RPAC Quarterfinals—Boys BB at Maxwell	24 MHC JH BB vs. Hitchcock Co at Hayes Center at 2:00 p.m.	25 RPAC BB Girls Semifinals at Wauneta	26 RPAC BB Boys Semifinals at Wauneta	27 RPAC BB Consolidation & Finals at McCook Community College
28	29	30 FFA State Degree and Proficiency Reviews	31 MHC JH BB vs. Hershey at 1:00 p.m. in Maywood			

Thank you to the many Patrons, Businesses and Friends of MPS for donating to the annual Toys for Kids. Your generosity and kindness is appreciated by so many!

Title 1 Tidbit

The upcoming winter break is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a book with your child. Reading over the school break will not only continue their progress in phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension, it can also be a great way to spend time together. As you read to or listen to your child read, here are some tips to help your child improve upon their reading comprehension skills:

*Preview the story. Ask questions before the reading. Look at the cover and the illustrations/photographs. Make some predictions.

*Ask questions before, during, and after reading. Try to connect the reading to events in your child's life as much as possible. Encourage your child to ask questions about what they are reading. Ask open-ended questions which don't have one-word answers. Questions that begin with *why* or *how often* yield good answers.

*When reading a chapter book, after finishing reading for one session, stop and summarize what was read. Before reading the next time, use that same summary to remember and reconnect with the text.

*Make as many connections as you can. Make some text-to-self connections. Try to see how the book you are reading relates to you. How is the main character like you or someone you know? These connections help to improve comprehension.

*Share ideas about the funniest or most interesting characters. Compare and contrast those characters to people the child might know in real life.

*Play an "I am thinking" game. Say: "I am thinking about someone in the story who helps the cat. Who am I thinking about?" Continue to give simple clues until the answer is discovered.

*If your child encounters any words they are unsure of, encourage them to jot them down and look them up to deepen their understanding of the text.

Enjoy your break and enjoy a book or two together as a family!

Emily Lenz
Title 1 and Special Education Teacher
Maywood Public School
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Maywood Driver's Education Class

Maywood Public School is proud to provide Drivers Education Class for any student who is interested in taking the course. Maywood Public School and the Maywood School Board will be offering this class free of charge to Maywood students. The class consists of 20 in-class hours covering 19 chapters of the AAA "How to Drive" text and a written exam as well as 5 hours of individual drive time with the driving instructor and a driving exam. The qualifications students must meet to take the class is to be 14 years of age and have a state-issued Learners Permit by the time the driving portion of the class begins (approximately March of 2024). The benefit of taking the class is receiving a waiver for the driving portion of the driver's test for a school permit and the driving requirement for the POP (Provisional Operators Permit). An additional benefit is that some insurance companies offer a discount on student driver insurance policies if they have passed a Driver's Education class. Maywood's Drivers Education Class will take place immediately after the school day, beginning in January. (A schedule is currently being constructed). Upon completion of the 20 in-class hours, individual drive time will be scheduled for after school as well. If you are interested in signing your student up for Drivers Education, please email the Drivers Education Instructor, Emily Lenz, atemily.garrison@maywoodtigers.org or call her at the school at 308-362-4223. You may also contact Mrs. Lenz on her personal mobile phone at 308-379-5761 with any questions about the program.

Thanks and drive safely,

Emily Lenz
Drivers Education Instructor

December 2023 Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>1% white or flavored milk served daily</p> <p>This institution is an equal opportunity provider.</p>				<p>1 Omelets</p> <p>Chicken Taco's Refried Beans Salsa Churro Mandarin Oranges</p>
<p>4 English Muffins</p> <p>Ham Patty Sandwich Baked Beans Apricots</p>	<p>5 Power Bites</p> <p>Pizza California Blend Apple Sauce</p>	<p>6 Breakfast Casserole</p> <p>Hamburgers French Fries Pears Pudding</p>	<p>7 French Toast</p> <p>Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Mixed Fruit</p>	<p>8 Funnel Cakes</p> <p>Beef Nachos Corn Peaches</p>
<p>11 Egg/Cheese Biscuit</p> <p>Spaghetti Green Beans Applesauce Cheesy Garlic Sticks</p>	<p>12 French Toast</p> <p>Hamburger gravy over Potatoes Baked Beans Peaches</p>	<p>13 Oatmeal</p> <p>Chicken Quesadillas Corn Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>14 Eggs and Toast</p> <p>Philly Cheese Steak Hoagie Broccoli with Cheese Pears</p>	<p>15 Pancake on a Stick</p> <p>Roasted Ham Au gratin Potatoes Green Beans Dinner roll</p>
<p>18 French Toast</p> <p>Chicken Tortilla Soup Fritos Tomato and Cucumber Salad Pears</p>	<p>19 P & J Sandwich</p> <p>BBQ Pulled Pork Peas Mixed Fruit</p>	<p>20 Cinnamon Rolls</p> <p>Cavatini Green Beans Applesauce Dinner roll</p>	<p>21 Dismissal 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Sausage Cheese Biscuit</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Peaches</p>	<p>22 NO SCHOOL</p>
<p>25 NO SCHOOL</p> <p>CHRISTMAS DAY</p>	<p>26 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>27 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>28 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>29 NO SCHOOL</p>

happy holidays

Postal Patron

Counselor's

Or n e r

Launch of the 2024–25 FAFSA® Form

There are major changes and improvements coming to the 2024–25 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form. This redesigned and streamlined FAFSA form will be available by Dec. 31, 2023.

What You Need To Know Now

The 2024–25 FAFSA form will expand eligibility for federal student aid.

- 610,000 new students from low-income backgrounds will be eligible to receive Federal Pell Grants due to updates to student aid calculations.
- Use the [Federal Student Aid Estimator](#) to get an early estimate of what your federal student aid could be after submitting the new form.

The 2024–25 FAFSA form will offer a new, streamlined user experience for students and their families.

- Applicants will be able to skip as many as 26 FAFSA questions, depending on their individual circumstances. Some applicants will need to complete as few as 18 questions, taking less than 10 minutes.
- Go to studentaid.gov to learn more! There are videos and links to help you navigate the application.

Another available resource is EducationQuest in Kearney, 308-234-6310. You can contact them for assistance with your application as well!