
YUTAN DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2017

PARENTS & PARTRONS

At the September board of education meeting, the Yutan school board held a budget hearing, a tax request hearing and approved fund budgets for the 2017-18 school year. Included in this was the general fund budget set at \$6,363,668 with a mill levy of .9494. This was the same mill levy request as the previous year. The building fund requested a mill levy of .035 to raise \$110,363. Our current district bonds, four in all, levied .166 to generate \$520,226. The Yutan district valuation increased 3.04% from \$302,943,057 to \$312,172,993.

As you can see by the above paragraph, budgets involve a lot of different numbers. However, budgeting is not as much about the numbers as it is about what those numbers represent. In the case of most schools in the Nebraska, the vast majority of a school district's budget represents personnel. Here at Yutan, 77.53% of our budget for 2017-18 reflects salaries and benefits. Keep in mind; this is not only wages, but also health insurance, the district's share of retirement, social security, medicare, and long-term disability insurance. Not only are these for teachers and administrators, but also cooks, paras, custodians, bus drivers, coaches, and secretaries. Remember, it is people that drive our children's education.

The numbers represent other things as well. We have to keep the lights on, fuel in the buses and vans, building temperatures regulated, kids fed and the insurance paid. Textbooks and teaching supplies are updated- some every year and others are used for several years. In our efforts to maintain our district's technology, we are also looking to update computers and other learning devices, as well as keeping our facilities safe and sound. I am proud of the fact that in the last calendar year, we have added a state-of-the-art scoreboard system in the gym and an outdoor marquee at no cost to district tax funds- every bit of the purchase costs were from fundraising.

Each year we look at what we can improve on and add to the quality of our children's education while being good stewards of our district's resources. Your board of education and school administrators take that job very serious and work hard for all at Yutan Public Schools.

Stan Hendricks, Superintendent

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING

www.yutanpublicschools.com

ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Superintendent's Office Phone#: 402-625-2243

Elementary Phone #: 402-625-2141

High School #: 402-625-2241

Stan Hendricks, Superintendent-stan.hendricks@esu2.org

Trevor Hoegh, Elementary Principal -thoegh@esu2.org

Tim McNamara, High School Principal -tmcnamara@esu2.org



OCTOBER LUNCH MENU

- Oct. 2nd Burrito, Tater Tots, Applesauce, Blue Berry Muffin
Oct 3rd Chicken Patty on Bun, Crinkle Fries, Pears, Applecrisp
Oct 4th Tater Tot Casserole, Green Beans, Mixed Fruit, Breadstick
Oct 5th Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Pineapple, Roll
Oct 6th Super Nachos w/Cheese Sauce, Refried Beans, Lettuce, Peaches, Animal Crackers
Oct 9th Chicken Nuggets w/BBQ Sauce, Curley Fries, Mixed Fruit, Rice, Chex Bar
Oct 10th Roast Beef and Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Pears, Roll
Oct 11th Ham and Cheese Wrap, Vegie Sticks, Apple, Sugar Cookie
Oct 12th BBQ Rib on a Bun, Seasoned Wedges, Baked Beans, Pineapple, Jello
Oct 13th No School - End of Quarter
Oct 16th Beef Sticks w/ BBQ Sauces, Smiley Fries, Applesauce, Pudding
Oct 17th Hamburger on a Bun, Crinkle Fries, Baked Beans, Peaches, Chocolate Chip Bar
Oct 18th Pizza Hut Cheese Pizza, Salad, Mixed Fruit, Cake
Oct 19th Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Corn, Pineapple, Roll
Oct 20th Baked Potato w/ Chili or Cheese, Pretzels, Mandarin Oranges, Ice Cream
Oct 23rd French Toast Sticks w/Syrup, Sausage, Tri-Tater Bar, Applesauce
Oct 24th Hoagie on a Bun, Potato Chips, Apple, Veggie Sticks
Oct 25th Chili w/Crackers, Corn, Peaches, Cinnamon Roll
Oct 26th Chicken and Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Pineapple, Roll
Oct 27th Lasagna, Corn, Mixed Fruit, Breadstick
Oct 30th Fiestada, Salad, Peaches, Brownie
Oct 31st Hot Dog on a Bun, Baked Beans, Fritos, Mixed Fruit

Yutan Public Library October 2017

Every Monday at 10:00 – Coffee Hour

Every Thursday at 6:00 – Crochet Time (all ages!)

Every Tuesday at 4:00, Story Time

OCTOBER

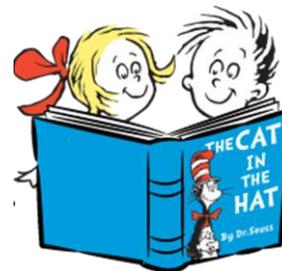
13TH – Halloween Teen Movie (rated PG13) @2:30 PM Refreshment served

17th – Kids Halloween Craft 4-5:00 PM

21st – Do you Believe in ghosts? 10:00 AM

(Discussion of the Supernatural, Paranormal & Spooky Stories)

31st – Halloween Story Time at 4:00 PM & Trick or Treat Time until 7:00



STUDENT FEES

The District charges a “Student Fee” for students in grades 9 thru 12 who participate in activities, program, and services to students which extend beyond the minimum level of required fee instruction. The “Student Fee” is \$30 per student, not to exceed \$60 per family. This fee is to be paid before a student begins participation in an activity.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

- 02 JHVB vs. DC West (H), 4:00
- 02 JVFB @Malcolm, 6:00
- 02 Junior College Fair @Fremont HS
- 02 Fine Arts Booster Mtg. 6:00
- 03 ECNC CC @JCC, 4:30
- 03 JHFB vs. Conestoga, (H), 5:00
- 03 ACT for Seniors @Yutan
- 03 VB vs. Ashland (H), 6/7:00
- 04 Post Prom Mtg. 6:00
- 05 VB @Ft. Calhoun Tri. 6/7:00
- 05 Financial Aid Workshop for Seniors
- 06 FB @Wilbur-Claytonia, 7:00
- 07 JHVB @Malcolm, 8:00
- 07 Harvest of Harmony Festival @Grand Island
- 08 Athletic Booster Mtg., 7:00
- 09 JHVB @Ft. Calhoun, 5:00
- 09 JVFB @Ft. Calhoun, 6:00
- 09 Reg. Board Mtg., 6:00
- 10 JHVB @Ashland, 4:00
- 10 JHFB vs. DC West (H) @4:30
- 11 PSAT for Gr. 10 & 11
- 12 ECNC VB Tourney
- 12 CC Districts
- 13 NO SCHOOL
- 13 End of 1st Quarter
- 13 FB vs. Malcolm (H), 7:00
- 13 JHVB @Wahoo, 4:00
- 16 JHVB vs. Mead (H), 4:30
- 16 VB Tri @Ashland, 5:30 & 6:30
- 16 JV FB @Louisville, 6:00
- 17 VB @Palmyra, 4:45 & 6:00
- 17 JHVB vs. Fr. Bergan (H), 4:30
- 19 VB @Fr. Bergan, 6:30
- 20 FB @Lincoln Lutheran, 7:00
- 20 State CC @Kearney
- 21 VB @Lincoln Christian Tourney, 10:00
- 24 VB Tri vs. JCC & Elmwood-Murdock, (H) 5/7:00
- 26 7-12 Concert & Art Show @7:00
- 27 FB 1st Round for State
- 30-31 VB Sub Districts

JOIN YUTAN ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Membership is \$25.00

>Interested in Chieftain Clothing? Contact a Booster Staff Member

2017 -2018 YUTAN ATHLETIC BOOSTER STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION

Cyndi Crews	Cyndi@pubprinting.com	(402-880-6293)
Julie Hendricks	jhendricks@esu2.org	
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Yu tan Booster website: www.yutanathleticboosters.com

YUTAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACTIVITY PASS

FAMILY PASS	\$125.00
ADULT	\$ 62.00
STUDENT	\$ 30.00



Skills USA is a club that promotes education in the area of vocational trades. Last year Yutan started a chapter and this fall looks to expand student participation. If your child is considering a career in any vocational trade, this club is for them! See Mr. Krajicek for details!



Students & Parent Handbook – Did You Know?

Students who attain 6 tardies to class must serve a one hour detention and the consequence for 9 is Saturday School.

Students must be in school the entire day in order to practice or play in activities unless pre-excused by the Principal or a Doctor's note is given to the office.

All unexcused time away from school must be made up.

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME ECLIPSE

By Natalie Lothringer

Time really does fly by when you're having fun, especially when it's two short minutes of totality with a solar eclipse that isn't likely to come back to your location for thousands of years.

On Monday Aug. 21, Yutan High School was invited to join Hampton High School and various other schools to experience the solar eclipse in totality.

The solar eclipse is a natural phenomenon that occurs only in certain locations around the world where the sun and the moon are aligned. In specific locations, the sun and the moon are not only partially aligned, but they are 100 percent in line with each other, giving it the name "totality".

Yutan High School brought both its physics and earth science classes to attend this memorable event. One specific student had to travel a bit further than the rest. Ilona Bodnaruk, Yutan's foreign exchange student from the Ukraine, happened to pick the perfect time to travel to not only the United States, but Yutan.

"I had heard about the event from some of my friends back home," Bondnaruk said. "It doesn't happen every day, so it was nice to be here on the one day it happened."

Out in Hampton, there was more than just people staring up into the sky waiting for changes with the sun. The school there turned the event into an entire day of festivities that led up to the eclipse.

"Hampton's school had been planning that day for over a year," physics teacher Leslie Kumm said. "There were dancers, a speech given by the Ashland astronaut Clay Anderson, and a magician."

During the events that happened pre-eclipse, those hosting asked for those who traveled the furthest to come up on stage and receive an autographed poster from the Ashland astronaut, Clay Anderson.

"I am so happy to have it now in my room," Bondnaruk said. "It's so cool to wake up every morning and see it."

Due to how rare this event is, not very many people had any clue what would be taking place. The curiosity of it all made the occurrence even more suspenseful.

"I didn't know if we were going to be able to see anything or not so there was a sense of anticipation," teacher Mike Davis said.

Watching the sun and moon sweep across the sky was certainly something, but the changes weren't drastic for the majority of the event. The time it took for the eclipse to reach totality was quite long even though the totality was short-lived.

"I didn't mostly enjoy the sun, but instead the atmosphere that was there with all of the people so excited," Bodnaruk said. "They were preparing really hard for this."

Those who were present in Hampton certainly didn't miss when changes started taking place up above. Eyes were immediately glued to the sky for those sweet, short moments of totality.

"When you started seeing the stars and noticed that the birds stopped singing and how it was as if the sun had set all around you, it really was magnificent," Davis said.

Those two short minutes of totality seemed to be hardly enough to really grasp all that was happening around the eclipse observers. With time sweeping by fast, everyone tried to take in as much as they could.

"I was not mentally prepared for the drastic change in temperature, light and animal behavior," Kumm said. "Those couple of minutes are really where all of the kick came in."

What the teachers and students were able to view outside was truly amazing, but what a lot of people there realized was that they felt a lot of feelings inside as well.

"At one point it almost got emotional," Davis said. "It made me realize just how insignificant we are as humans in the universe... It really puts life into perspective."

Many took this experience as an instance to reflect. What was meant to solely be a fun, school field trip quickly turned into a time where everyone was able to take a couple minutes and think about themselves in comparison to everything around them.

"I do hope kids take some humility from the event because it really was humbling to realize how small we are when we think about the grand scheme of the universe," Kumm said.

While Yutan High School does take their students on a lot of fun, educational field trips, this one in particular was unlike all of the rest.

"It was one of the neatest things I've ever seen and been involved in," Davis said. "I'm really glad I got a chance to see it."

For those who had to stay back in Yutan where there was 97 percent coverage, the experience was quite different.

"It was interesting to hear what the people who stayed in Yutan saw because they were curious as to what the big deal was," Davis said. "Those who had the opportunity to go, know that it was really a neat opportunity."

Throughout the world, there are several who go around chasing these eclipses to be able to relive those short moments of totality again and again. Many may have questioned why it seemed so important to these people beforehand, but after experiencing it their opinions changed.

"I'd think about going to do that, it was that neat of an experience," Davis said.

The students were given the chance to appreciate the eclipse, but the teachers were given more. Not only were they able to appreciate the natural phenomenon taking place above, but they were able to appreciate their career choice as well.

“Watching you guys watch totality with awestruck faces was pretty fascinating,” Kumm said. “It was probably my favorite day as an educator so far and a moment that I will always cherish.”

So much happened that day as events were taking place, but it wasn’t all lost once the sun and moon parted their ways. Everyone there was able to take part of this experience back with them in one way or another.

“I hope the kids that went out there take the experience as a message of perseverance,” Kumm said. “It’s daunting to think about how much out there that is still unknown, but it’s also super motivating to know there’s still lots out there to be accomplished.”

Once the experience was over, many people were wishing to see it again. The occasion will not be back in Nebraska for several thousands of years, but it will be back in the United States in April 2024 in New York.

“It really is worth the drive to get to see totality,” Kumm said. “I really wish I could experience that moment again.”

WEDDEL BRINGS LIFE-LONG MUSIC LEARNING TO YUTAN BAND

By Haley Herman

It all began with a little boy walking into church on Sunday morning. His mother grabbing his wrist and dragging him to the front of the congregation. The room falls silent with the sound of the opening hymn and a little boy’s voice that rings through the rafters.

Christopher Weddel is the new band director for the Yutan Public Schools. Weddel found his calling at an early age, but this isn’t the only field he enjoys.

Weddel grew up in Kearney, Neb., and was part of the choir for the Prince of Peace Catholic Church. Weddel’s mother, Maria, started the choir with just her family and it eventually grew to be a “50-piece youth choir and an adult choir.” It was here that Weddel found his passion for music.

“I think I was probably around six or seven when I began singing with my family,” Weddel said. “I was one of those kids at the supermarket that you had to tell to shut up.”

Weddel continued his music career after moving to Emerson, Neb., where he attended the high school where his mother taught. He began to branch out into other fields and found himself becoming a cadet for the volunteer fire department.

“Actually, the reason I got involved in it was because my friends were doing it and it got me out of senior English,” Weddel said. “So if the pager went off I could run out of the school and go on the rescue calls.”

Weddel continued his rescue involvement after beginning college at Wayne State College where he joined the Wayne volunteer fire department.

Weddel entered college focusing on the vocal instrumental track. Weddel considered following in his father’s footsteps in college and began the trek of becoming a funeral director and owning his own business. Weddel later changed his major again after “not liking the science courses.

“I, like a lot of college students, didn’t know exactly what I wanted to do,” Weddel said.

After changing his major seven times, he graduated with a bachelors of science in the field of instrumental music education.

“What actually pushed me into the education field was my mother,” Weddel said.

Weddel’s mother was part of the public school education system for 27 years before suffering brain injuries in a car accident. She passed away five years ago due to her injuries.

“I think she was my guiding light influence and got me through college,” Weddel said.

Weddel is in his fifth year of teaching and is currently in his second year as a masters degree candidate for the American Band College of San Houston State University.

Outside of school, Weddel is part of the Fremont Pathfinder Chorus. This is a group of about 100 men who meet every Monday night and sing in four-part a cappella harmony. The group competes internationally. The group received 13th at this year’s international competition in Las Vegas, Nev.

“We’re the premiere male a cappella group for Nebraska so we get to say that a lot,” Weddel said.

This is one way that Weddel took after his father, Gary. Weddel’s father is a retired funeral director but is currently singing with Opera Omaha.

Weddel is married to his wife Amanda who teaches music in Papillion; they reside in Gretna, Neb. Yutan will be Weddel’s third small town school.

“I’ve been a Class C teacher my whole five years of teaching,” Weddel said, “but I think the way the students carry themselves is just different here.”

Weddel had written a piece for the Yutan band the previous year that was performed at the Nebraska Bandmasters competition. He came into the school already knowing a few students and quickly got to know the rest.

“There’s a lot of town pride and a lot of student pride,” Weddel said. “In other schools, they just didn’t care and it seems like everyone here cares.”

SOPHOMORE BOY EXCELS AT MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES

By Jaymie Schroeder

Ba bump. Ba bump. You hear your heart thumping so hard it feels like it’s going to rip out of your chest.

In the background, you can hear the crowd in a frenzy as the basketball glides swiftly through the rim. Swish! Nothing but net.

“Nice three-pointer Slim!” a player says from the sideline.

Sophomore Colby Tichota experiences this kind of situation while playing his favorite sport, basketball.

Around Yutan High School, Tichota towers over most of the student body. But only being 6’3” means he is average height for his summer team, the Bison All-Stars.

“In the Bison, I’m average,” Tichota said. “When you’re 6’3”, you’re on the above average, but you are definitely not tall.”

Most of the teams Tichota faced were from larger cities such as Kansas City, Chicago, and Minneapolis. Those teams had players who were already being scouted by Division I colleges.

“Chicago teams... are bigger, stronger, faster,” Tichota said. “One game we played in Chicago, the guy comes out 6’8” and 225 and he was being recruited by three Division I teams.”

Tichota may be average for the big league, but for Class C2, he is usually one of the tallest guys on the floor. Naturally, Tichota would assume the role of a post on Yutan High School’s boys basketball team, but this summer, he has improved other skills to be a more well-rounded player.

“I really worked on being able to... dribble the ball as a wing,” Tichota said, “but also being able play post. I worked on being able to attack but also make sure I can shoot the open three.”

Tichota looks back on previous games to see what he can improve on for the next game.

“I like to break myself down,” Tichota said. “Was I in the wrong spot? Did I not look for the open shot?”

But after reflecting on what went wrong, Tichota doesn’t dwell on one game because another one will be coming up.

“You gotta kinda brush yourself off and get ready for the next game,” Tichota said.

Other than basketball, Tichota also competes in cross country and track and field. He runs varsity third runner for the cross country team.

“I took 50-some seconds off my time (at East Butler)... from last year,” Tichota said.

Over the summer, he worked to quicken himself by using resistant drills, which not only improved his cross country time but also helped him for basketball.

“I did a lot of resistance... jumping and quick movements,” Tichota said.

During the spring, Tichota competes in track and field. Although he still runs the distance races (1600 meters, 800 meters, 4x800 meter relay), he also throws discus.

“Emma’s [Lloyd] dad [Mark Lloyd] saw my wingspan one day,” Tichota said, “He’s like it’s [discus] all about your wingspan.”

Tichota’s wingspan is 6’8”, which is unusual because he stands at 6’3”. Even though he might not be the strongest guy out there, his wingspan gives him an advantage over other competitors.

“I’m definitely not the biggest guy in the discus ring,” Tichota said.

Tichota enjoys things other than sports. He participates in band and quiz bowl.

In band, Tichota plays the trombone.

“I started with it in fifth grade,” Tichota said, “and I’ve kept with it and liked it.”

Previous quiz bowl sponsor Barbara Roth recruited Tichota to join his seventh and eighth grade year.

He didn’t participate in quiz bowl his freshman year, but senior Mason Timm encouraged Tichota to rejoin the team his sophomore year.

Tichota involves himself in different activities at Yutan High School. He doesn’t just concern himself with one thing.

So the next time you hear ‘Slim’ being shouted down the hallway, know he has more to offer than just one activity.

YUTAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Established in 1991, the Yutan Public Schools Foundation is a non-profit corporation. The purpose of the Foundation is to receive gifts and funds, which are to be used for the students of the Yutan Public Schools through programs for which there is not sufficient tax dollars. The Foundation is a charity with 501©(3) status.

The Foundation provides scholarships, special-use awards, teacher project grants and school project support. The funds are generated through memberships, memorials, donations, endowments and bequests. A \$100 donation will make you a LIFETIME MEMBER, or a MEMORIAL DONATION in the name of a loved one may be designated by request.

------(Detach Here)-----

YUTAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

1200 2nd Street Yutan, Nebraska 68073 Phone 402-625-2243

Name _____ If Alumni, year _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please give your support in any amount and become an Honor Roll Donor for 2017 or 2018.

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\$ _____ School Project Use \$ _____ General Fund

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**YUTAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1200 2ND Street
Yutan, NE 68073**

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR YUTAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Again, this year Yutan Public Schools is using the School Beacon (School Messaging System). Information concerning early release, late starts, no school or any unexpected changes concerning activities will be transmitted to enrolled parents, through home or cell phone message & e-mail. Parents who wish to sign up for this may go to the school website: www.yutanpublicschools.com

All school closings will be posted on the radio stations WOW 94.1 PM, KFAB 1110 AM or local TV stations.

The Yutan School District has developed a School Safety and Security Plan that is designed to minimize danger to anyone occupying a school building should an emergency occur. Our main objective is to attend to the health and welfare of your children in the event of a crisis.

In most emergencies your children will remain and be cared for at the school she/he attends. In the rare event of an emergency affecting the school your child attends that prohibits re-entry to the building (such as a broken gas or water main, a fire or toxic chemical spill), all students will be escorted to the St. John's Lutheran Church. Junior and senior high students may be dismissed to return home for the day. Elementary students' parents will be contacted regarding dismissal procedures.

We ask that you follow this procedure if you hear of any school emergency:

- **TURN ON YOUR RADIO OR TELEVISION.** We will keep the media informed of any emergency and of any dismissal procedures.
- **PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE SCHOOL.** We have limited phone lines. These must be used to respond to the emergency.
- **PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE SCHOOL UNLESS REQUESTED TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD AT THE SCHOOL OR DESIGNATED PICK UP AREA.** Any emergency involving your child's school may mean that emergency vehicles and workers must be able to get to the building. If the emergency necessitates relocation of staff and students you will be informed via the media.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Mr. Hendricks, Mr. McNamara or Mr. Hoegh