

Dear Healy USD 468 Parents and Students,
The 2021-2022 school year is off and running.
We are so happy to see our students back!



Miss Terri's PreK-K classroom

This is the beginning of what we hope to be a monthly newsletter to better inform the Healy school community about events at school. There are so many events and activities planned that it is challenging to keep track of them! This month's newsletter will probably be longer than the average newsletter because there is so much to write about, including this past summer's events.



Football and volleyball practice have started and we are busily smoothing practice schedules. We are excited that so many students from Healy are participating in sports this fall. We are

especially pleased with our athletes because research indicates that students perform better in class when they are active in their school.

Other opportunities for students to be active in school include **Scholars Bowl** and **Student Council**. Even if a student chooses to not become a Student Council member, she or he is welcome to support the planning and implementation of Student Council activities.

Miss Sandra is looking for volunteers to help with **concessions** during games, providing yet another way for students to be active. Students and community members are both welcome.

The most-often asked question during the first week of school was whether or not we would be required to wear **masks**. The Board of Education has not mandated masks, but students and adults are welcome to wear masks if they feel the need. As with any other issue, this policy could evolve quickly as more information becomes available. Please make sure that Miss Kristie has your current contact information in case we must send information out immediately. **The school telephone number is 620-398-2248.**

Miss Corinne and **Miss Tamara**, with the help of short-term assistants, removed everything from each room, cleaned the rooms, sanitized everything, and reset the rooms over the summer. I was amazed at how brighter the rooms felt after the walls were scrubbed! Many years of wax build-up were removed from the tiled floors as well. I never knew just how light the original color had been. Miss Terri repainted the elementary restrooms when she was not busy preparing her classroom for her wonderful preK and K students!



Miss Tamara and Miss Corinne deep cleaning

The parking lot lines were repainted. So were the cafeteria walls. Paint was touched up throughout the building, including several complete walls. Even the auditorium, in which the paint had buckled along one wall, was scraped and repainted. We look forward to showing this to you during student performances this year!

Thank you for monitoring your child's grades in **goedustar**. If you are unsure about how to do this, Kristie (in the office) can assist you. If students are failing a class or are missing assignments, they may be required to stay after school to catch up. Your attention to their grades will help encourage them to maintain their efforts.

As of today, we are planning to host a full **Veteran's Day** program, including lunch, to show our appreciation for our veterans. We want all of our veterans to know how much we care. Please let us know if we are overlooking any veteran for our invitation list. Veteran's Day is Thursday, November 11.

Also as of today, we are planning the full **Thanksgiving** feast that we had to cancel last year. Any of these events could be cancelled if required, but we hope to go forward with all of

them! We will share more information closer to the date.

We have just started discussing the feasibility of **field trips**. The photograph below is from a middle school field trip this past spring.



MS students visit the Steele Home at Scott Lake

The August **character traits** that we are practicing are **Moods** and **Attitudes**. These are especially appropriate as we welcome students back to school after the long summer break! September's traits will be Compassion and Empathy. We would love for you to talk to your child about these traits and how your child can cultivate them.

We will have **school on three Fridays** this year. We are in attendance all day on Friday, September 10 to make up for missing school on Monday, September 7 (Labor Day). We also are in session until 12:30 on Friday, September 24, and until 12:30 on Friday, November 12.

Last year several community members presented programs to our students once a month on our **Wacky Wednesdays**. This year we have increased these opportunities to twice per month. Our students learned about auto care, child advocacy, space, and the sheriff's drug canine program, among other topics. We greatly appreciate the support and we look

forward to another wide range of presentations this year! If you would like to offer a presentation on a Wednesday afternoon from 12:30-1:00, please contact Mrs. Fraley. We offer a special thank you to **Savannah Moomaw**, Lane County Library Director, for kicking off our Wacky Wednesdays this year!

School Pictures will be taken on Monday, August 30. The photographer prefers to take the photographs first thing in the morning. All students and staff will be photographed, whether they are wearing a tee shirt or a tuxedo! The tentative retake day is Friday, September 24, which is a half day for students. Teachers will remain in the building to continue working on school accreditation.

Teachers have been busy preparing for classes. Lessons have been written, materials have been gathered, and classes have been decorated. All staff members have studied lessons on blood-borne pathogens, student mental health issues, homelessness, bullying, sexual harassment, and FERPA. Some staff members have attended additional training for driving school buses, dyslexia, and food services. Additionally, fully half of the teaching staff is currently enrolled in college courses, updating their skills, licenses, and degrees so that they can better serve their (your) students.

If you ever wanted to **know what teachers do in the summer**, please ask one. You will find a wide variety of activities, from taking classes to recovering from health issues, from preparing classes for their students, to teaching summer school (Thank you to **Miss Deines** and **Miss Terri!**), to preparing the library (Thank you to **Mrs. Fraley!**). There is often little time off for teachers in the summer!

Miss Kristie secured a **greenhouse** grant last spring. We are still working to source the actual greenhouse, but teachers are busy planning lessons that incorporate biology concepts and students planted a container garden. Summer school participants benefitted from the results. We also have an indoor tower garden, which students will use to study growing plants. The test results over the summer were very impressive (and tasty)!



Students prepare a container garden

Friday, September 10 is a regular school day, which makes up for taking off Labor Day. The high school **football team** plays against Cunningham **in Ransom** that evening. We are planning to take the **activity bus** to the game. The cheerleaders and the team will be on the bus. We would love to take you with us. If you would like to ride the bus to the game to support the team, please call Kristie in the office (398-2248) to **reserve your seat**. Seating is limited, but there is no charge for the ride. Admission to the game is \$5 for adults. If you speak to Mr. West, he may even cover that!



The activities on this list are subject to change. Please contact the school before traveling to ensure that you are not disappointed. The students love to see familiar faces in the crowd!

BOE Board of Education
 FB Football
 HS High School
 JH Junior High
 VB Volleyball

Monday, August 16	First Day of School! August BOE meeting
Friday, August 27	HS FB—Weskan Jamboree
Saturday, August 28	Healy Invitational VB tourney (8 teams)
Monday, August 30	Picture Day HS VB TRI @ Healy vs. Wichita County and Dighton
Tuesday, August 31	JH VB @ Bazine vs. LaCrosse
Thursday, Sept 2	JH Flag FB @ Healy vs. Sacred Heart Ness City Look at the birthdays!
Monday, Sept 6	No school—Labor Day
Tuesday, Sept 7	HS VB TRI @ Ransom vs. Heartland Christian and LaCrosse

Wednesday, Sept 8	September BOE meeting
Thursday, Sept 9	JH Flag FB @ Healy vs. Weskan JH VB @ Healy vs. Weskan
Friday, Sept 10	School Day today (all day) HS FB @ Ransom vs. Cunningham
Saturday, Sept 11	WP JH VB Tourney @ Bazine
Tuesday, Sept 14	JH VB at Ransom JH FB at Ransom
Tuesday, Sept 18	HS VB at Rozel/Burdette
Wednesday, Sept 20	HS FB at Almena
Tuesday, Sept 21	HS VB at Grainfield
Wednesday, Sept 22	Leadership Conference at Wheatland—all MS and HS students
Friday, Sept 24	School Day today—students leave at 12:30
Monday, Sept 27	JH VB at Palco HS FB at Golden Plains
Tuesday, Sept 28	HS VB at Ransom