February marks a full-swing return to daily school. Gone are the holidays and long weekends and in their place full, five-day weeks have returned. For this edition of my Principal’s message, I give a couple of friendly reminders about upcoming school events.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: This coming week, February 5th and 7th, are our second semester Parent/Teacher Conferences from 4:15-7:30pm each night. Historically, second semester conferences are poorly attended. Here are three reasons why you should make it a priority to attend these upcoming conferences:

- **Show your child that you care:** When teens know that their parents care about their education they feel more encouraged to do their best. Whether your child wants you there or not, go there because you know that they need you.
- **Improve communication between parents and teachers:** The in-person meetings can help parents put a face to a name and establish a relationship. “It’s just a way that the teacher kind of gets to know you,” says one Northwest parent, “and if there are any problems in the future, you kind of feel like you know them.”
- **Learn something new about your child:** Parent-teacher conferences can be a time to discuss academic or behavioral issues, or give teachers the opportunity to tell parents something new about their child.

I can assure you that our teachers appreciate it when parents come to conferences!

State Assessments: It’s closing in on that time of the year when State Assessments are on the minds of staff and students alike. For some this is an exciting time where demonstration of knowledge and understanding is at the forefront, but for others this is a stressful time where anxiety and stress creep into the psyche. So, what can you do as parents to help relieve test anxiety? Here are a few suggestions:

- Make sure your student is attending school regularly so that they are exposed to all schoolwork and test preparation necessary for the State Assessments.
- Check ParentVUE to assure your student is consistently completing school assignments, homework and other assigned readings.
- Maintain a healthy lifestyle – help your student get enough sleep, eat well, exercise and have some personal ‘down time’.
- Create and maintain a routine at home that will help your student be well rested during regular school days as well as during the days of testing.
- Talk with your student and encourage them to do their best. Be positive.
- Help your student develop a positive attitude about test taking; avoid talking negative about State Assessments.
- Build mental habits that help your child reduce anxiety, things like taking a deep breath, closing their eyes and slowing down their mind.
- Eat a good breakfast on test days.

Continued on Page 2
**Principal’s Message cont’d.**
There are no magic solutions to solving all test anxieties, but this list of suggestions can go a long way toward reducing those stresses.

As always, thank you to parents and families for being a part of our greater Northwest Family! Thank you for sending your students to us, for entrusting us with this great responsibility. Together we will do all that we can to best prepare your students for college or career. Together we will demonstrate *Pride, Respect* and *Excellence* in all that we do!

**Site Council Meeting**
Northwest Site Council will meet on Wednesday, February 28th from 5:30 – 6:30pm in the main office conference room A5. Everyone is invited. We hope to see you there!

**Grizzly Pride**
**YOU CAN’T HIDE THAT GRIZZLY PRIDE!!!**
Please join us for our Grizzly Pride meeting on Monday, February 12 at 6:30pm in the NW Library. You don’t have to be a member to attend and get “in the know” about what’s going on at your child’s school. Grizzly Pride supports all activities/clubs/organizations/sports teams at Northwest - we’re here to make NW a better place for your student. We hope to see you there!

**VYPE Magazine 2018 FULL COURT PRESS**
VYPE Magazine will be at the NW home basketball games on Friday, February 2 against Bishop Carroll and they will be hosting a Full Court Press Contest. **Tickets for a chance to be the winning fan to participate in the contest are only $1.** If you are the winner in the drawing, you will be escorted on to the court by a VYPE representative right before the Boys Varsity tip-off and you'll get a chance to shoot a free throw, three-pointer, and half court shot to win food and prizes:

- Make a free throw: You get dinner for one at Wendy’s and a $10 gift card from Wal-Mart.
- Make a three-pointer: You get dinner for two at Wendy’s and a $25 gift card from Wal-Mart.
- Make a half court shot: You win dinner for three at Wendy’s and a $50 gift card from Wal-Mart.
- If you miss all shots: You still win dinner for one at Wendy’s!

*Tables will be set up in the entry area of the gym from 4:45-7:00pm on Friday, February 2* so stop by and get a ticket for only $1 for a chance to be the winning fan to participate in the VYPE Full Court Press Contest!

**RUSTY ECK FORD ADOPT A SCHOOL TICKETS**
Also at the VYPE table on Friday, February 2, Rusty Eck Ford Adopt a School tickets will be available. These tickets are for a chance to win a $25,000 new car voucher! You can use the voucher towards the purchase of any new car at Rusty Eck Ford. Tickets for a chance to win are $10 and ALL proceeds go to Northwest. The drawing will be held at the end of the year. **$10 for a chance to win $25k. AMAZING!!!**

**Dinner Theatre**
The Northwest dinner theatre production this year is the musical Godspell! The show will have two performances—the evening of Saturday, February 10th and a matinee on Sunday, February 11th. Curtain time for the performances will be at 7pm (dinner at 6pm) and 1pm (dinner at 12pm), respectively. Tickets for individuals who just want to see the show will be available at the door, but if you are interested in partaking in the dinner, please make a reservation with Mrs. Draut (adraut@usd259.net) **NO LATER THAN Friday, Feb. 2nd!** The cost for the dinner and show will be $12 per person.
Students of the Month

Northwest staff believes that students who stand out for their good deeds and work in the classroom or within the school deserve recognition. Therefore, each month, faculty and staff are asked to nominate and vote for students from each grade level who they believe are most deserving of this award. The winners, their parents and two friends are invited to a reception in their honor, receive a “Jump the Line” pass to jump to the front of the lunch line for the school year and a certificate for a free item from the Bear Necessities Store. Below are our winners for January:

FRESHMAN Jaden Wheeler has taken advantage of a fresh start at Northwest in both academics and athletics. While in my English classroom, he has taken the initiative on numerous occasions to avoid distractions from others in order to focus on the task at hand. Jaden has shown responsibility by requesting additional work and working during the full class time, bell to bell, in order to improve his grade. Jaden has always been respectful to myself and the other students and is working hard towards becoming a good example for others, whether it is on the football field, the wrestling mat, or in the classroom. Elaine Chavez

SOPHOMORE Zaccheaus King found a wallet in the auditorium during lunch detention. The wallet had a money clip on the outside, and cash was visible. Although he could have easily kept it or taken the money out of the clip, he handed it to me and showed me where he found it. I called the parent of the owner of the wallet, one of last year's graduates, who had lost that wallet the day of the Senior breakfast. Zaccheaus did the right thing even when no one was looking. Tracy Morris

JUNIOR Logan Anglemyer. I was seriously worried about where the leadership would come on the boys cross country team this season, since we had no returning seniors. Logan has filled that gap and then some. He is on the verge of having a breakout season and has pulled several of his team mates along with him. Ron Russell

SENIOR Collin Pruden is an amazing student who often goes without the praise and fanfare students of his abilities usually generate. He is a low key student who concentrates on success through hard work and integrity. Collin is in my Digital Electronics class and is looking at pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering at Wichita State University. Collin knows the value of his classes and is an honor roll student and in the top 10% of his class. Collin is an ideal student and a great role model in the classroom. Collin is also an office aide for the Counseling office which he enjoys very much. Students like Collin are what makes Northwest the premier school that it is! Great job Collin! Christopher Garza

Scholastic Art Awards

The 2018 Scholastic Art Award results are in! Northwest art students competed against all schools in our region in photography, drawing and painting, printmaking, pottery, sculpture and digital art. We are very proud to announce that the Northwest art program was the most highly recognized program in our region for the 6th year in a row. Twenty-seven Northwest artists will be honored in the Scholastics Art Show at the new Mark Arts building, opening March 2nd.

Northwest received the following awards: 8 Gold Keys, 30 Silver Keys and 34 Honorable Mentions

Northwest also received 4 of the 12 portfolio awards offered in the region.

Senior Ali Thurston was nominated for the American Vision Award.

The following gold key winners will be competing at the National level:

Joel Foster, Emily Hill, Kaitlyn Scriven, Megan Strum, Ali Thurston

Great Job Northwest Artists and Teachers!
Counseling News cont’d.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

There are many scholarship opportunities available for the class of 2018. Check out: http://www.usd259.org/Page/10764 for a link to the College Career Center Scholarship Page. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Teketa Paschal, the Northwest College and Career Coordinator, at 973-6058.

NORTHWEST TRANSCRIPT REQUEST PROCEDURE

Northwest High School utilizes the Parchment Transcript Electronic System to deliver transcripts electronically to community colleges, colleges and universities. To utilize Parchment, the student must create an account at www.parchment.com. From there, the student will be able to request that his/her transcript be sent to the school of his/her choice. Please allow 24 hours for the request to be processed. Make sure you use your student’s LEGAL NAME in order to process transcripts.

Paper transcripts will only be printed for scholarship applications.

ACT TEST DATES

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Register online at www.actstudent.org; our school code is 173214. See Mrs. Tibbetts or Teketa Paschal, the College and Career Coordinator, if you are on free or reduced lunch and need a fee waiver.

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY ACT PREP WORKSHOPS

**ACT Prep (all four subjects)**
March 10, 2018
May 5, 2018

**ACT Math Prep**
February 17, 2018

All workshop dates are on Saturdays
*ACT Prep: 8 a.m. to noon
ACT Math: 9 a.m. to noon
Fee: $32 for ACT Prep / $25 for ACT

For paper registration, please call: 316-978-3440

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS TO NORTHWEST

Throughout the school year, various college admissions representatives will be at Northwest during Advocacy (from 2:44–3:43pm) to visit with any junior or senior student interested in learning more about a particular institution. Interested students will need to sign up with Ms. Paschal in the CCC (College and Career Center) Room A24 for a pass.
February 6th .......................... Kansas State University
February 8th .......................... Washburn University
February 15th ......................... Cowley College
February 27th .......................... Bethany College & University of Nebraska-Kearney
March 6th ............................... Butler County Community College
April 12th .............................. Kansas University
Counseling News cont’d.

LEARNING CENTER INFORMATION

Learning Center is a program to help students retrieve credits in failed classes that are required for graduation. The cost is $90. It is mostly online, so students are able to work at their own pace. Students will attend a mandatory orientation on either a Tuesday or Thursday after payment for the class is made to get started working on their class. The Learning Center is open 3:40 – 5:40pm Monday through Friday in B15. For questions and an application, see your student’s grade level counselor or Angela Harrell, aharrell1@usd259.net.

ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Pre-enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year began this month. Students have been shown Pre-Enrollment power points as well as attended an Elective Fair during Advocacy. Counselors will follow up with students through social studies classes with transcript and graduation report summary presentations.

If you have questions regarding your student’s pre-enrollment, please contact your grade level counselor:
Current Freshmen: Betsy Terriere bterriere@usd259.net
Current Sophomores: Scott Cathey scathey@usd259.net
Current Juniors: Brock Orchard borchard@usd259.net

High school counselor Kyla Tibbetts will be enrolling current 8th grade students. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Tibbetts @ 973-5983 or email her at ktibbetts@usd259.net.

SENIOR NEWS

Seniors need to keep in mind that failing a class required for graduation during the second semester will mean that they will NOT be able to participate in the graduation exercises on May 15th. Teachers have said over and over again that poor attendance is the cause of most failed courses. The solution is quite simple: ATTEND CLASS!!! Parents are urged to become very active in their student’s high school career. Parent involvement and parent expectations have strong relationships to high student achievement. Your student may be 18 years of age, but that does not automatically give them the maturity required to see the importance of attending each and every class and completing the required work.

In the event that your senior does fail a course second semester, Summer School and Learning Center will be available for make-up credit. Although participation in graduation exercises will not be possible, a diploma can still be earned. The high school diploma is still the ticket to a successful future. If you have questions about your student’s status, please call Kyla Tibbetts @ 973-5983 or ktibbetts@usd259.net.

MAKING UP CREDITS

There are several options for students who need to make up credits for graduation. If your student is an underclassman, please encourage him/her to make up the course in summer school. Summer school information will be available in the Guidance office in mid-March.

Learning Center is another alternative for students to make-up credits. Learning Center courses are computer based and students must pass courses at 70% or higher to earn credit. Courses currently being taken in the Learning Center must be completed by May 4th for any senior planning to graduate on May 15th. See your counselor for more information if you are interested in any of these options.