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Superintendent's Report

By Superintendent Dave Ackerman

Several years ago, each school district in Iowa was required to create a mission statement. It was believed that any organization should have its purpose clearly defined in order to achieve its intended purpose. The following is our mission statement:

The Central Lyon Mission Statement

The mission of the Central Lyon Community School District, in partnership with parents and community, is to provide an education and the opportunity for all students to become productive, life-long learners.

I find it beneficial from time to time to review the mission statement to see if we are truly achieving the ideals and intent of it. The trouble is, the true results are difficult to measure. As we work with students, parents, and community, we believe that what we are doing will make a difference, but sometimes those results do not occur until long after a student graduates from our school. Sometimes the vagueness of the mission statement leaves so much in question that perhaps the better guide to educational decisions can be found in our student goals which are listed at the right.

Central Lyon Student Goals

1. Attain the language and communication skills needed to organize thoughts and information and to express them in written and spoken composition.
2. Acquire a comprehensive, quality background in reading, writing, mathematics, science, health, fine arts, and vocational education.
3. Understand the history, political system, and geography of the United States and the world.
4. Attain the training and confidence to use current technology to obtain and process new information.
5. Develop interpersonal skills for the home, workplace, and community.
6. Understand the importance of being a life-long learner.
7. Understand and model the district traits/values of character:

Honesty	Respect
Fairness	Responsibility
Caring	Citizenship
	Safety
	Positive Attitude
8. Provide leadership and a positive attitude in setting and achieving goals.
9. Understand, appreciate, and enjoy the contributions of the world's many cultures, as well as both men and women, to our lives and work.

These student goals guide the work we do on a daily basis. Again, most of these are subjective in nature and difficult to measure precisely, but these are also the guiding principles of the material we teach, the methods we use, and the relationships we build in educating ALL students. In conclusion, the boxed quote was shared with me by one of my former professors.

"A decade after the average athlete graduates, everyone will have forgotten when and where he played, but every time he speaks, everyone will know whether he was educated."

-Theodore Hesburgh

APR

The Iowa Testing Program data is now ready for district and public view in the electronic Annual Progress Report (APR). Data displayed in the APR include the Iowa Testing Program data as well as data from the Alternate Assessment. The Iowa Testing Program data used for the APR display were reviewed and verified by the District for Adequate Yearly Progress (APY) reporting purposes. Districts should not be concerned if data displayed in the APR differ slightly from locally aggregated data. A number of factors may account for such differences, including the fact that the APR includes data from the following sources:

- All students, not just full academic year (FAY) students.
- All students enrolled in the district, regardless of their residence status (i.e., open enrolled in and tuitioned in).
- Students participating in the alternate assessment.

The public view is accessible at
<http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/blogcategory/61/896/>

Good Progress

By Curt Busch, Secondary (High School) Principal

Registration for the 2007-2008 school year took place during the first weeks of February. Mr. Tausz, high school guidance counselor, attended classrooms to review the registration procedures for students in grades eight through eleven. All students were given a course description handbook and a copy of the registration forms to be completed in order to sign up for next year's classes. Parents can also review our course offerings on-line at our school's website www.central-lyon.k12.ia.us. If you would like to review our curriculum at our website, go to high school and class information to view our course offerings. May Term registration will begin in March.

The math department at Central Lyon High School will be offering

two new math courses for the 2007-2008 school year. Replacing Applied Math I and Applied Math II will be a pre-algebra course. Our math department believes our students will be better served outside a high school education by taking a minimum of one year of algebra. The course sequence

"Feedback for the D.E.A.R. program continues to be positive ..."

following pre-algebra will be Algebra I. The second new course offering will be an advanced math course. The advanced math course would allow a step between Algebra II and calculus for seniors who are not interested in calculus but want to maintain their math skills for college.

The new legislation for students graduating in 2011 will be to follow the requirements of the model core curriculum. Under the model core curriculum model students will follow a 4-3-3-3 course sequencing enrollment throughout high school.

This will mean four years of English, three years of math, three years of science, and three years of social studies. Our current policy requires only two years of math and science for graduation from Central Lyon High School.

Two programs at the high school which are continuing to show good progress are the D.E.A.R. program and the STRIVE program. Students and staff are reading for fourteen minutes daily from the book of their choice. Feedback for the D.E.A.R. program continues to be positive. We are interested to view our future test scores in reading based on this new strategy at the high school.

The STRIVE program is also in its first year of existence. This program is sponsored by our local Kiwanis organization. Both mentors and students meet once a month to help improve the academic performance of our students. Thank you to the Kiwanis for your support of this program.

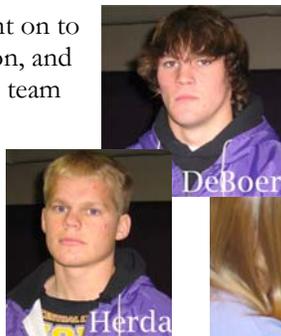
100 Wins

By Curtis Eben, Varsity Wrestling Coach

Even though the great football season caused a late start to the wrestling season, this did not prevent the Lions from having a great start to the wrestling season. The 2006-2007 season has been a success with some great individual and team performances.

The season started with a fourth place finish at the Emetsburg Tournament. We went on to win the West Sioux, Central Lyon, and Sioux Center tournaments. The team compiled a dual record of 24-0. Individually, Jordan Gacke and Nate DeBoer each completed the regular season undefeated at 31-0. Nate Herda and Nate DeBoer both reached their 100th win in their career. This is a very special accomplishment, especially considering they are just juniors. They joined an elite group of wrestlers; only eleven have reached the 100 win club at Central Lyon.

100 Win Club	Year	Wins
Keith Van Beek	1984-1987	102
Justin De Jong	1996-1999	114
Curtis Eben	1997-2000	118
Nathan Robinson	1997-2000	117
Jeremy Boogerd	1997-2000	107
Andy Rust	1998-2000	103
Tom Meester	1998-2001	152
Dan Stewart	2000-2003	103
Tim De Boer	2001-2004	137
Dan Rockhill	2002-2005	120
Drew De Groot	2002-2005	102



DNA

By Shawn De Stigter, High School Biology Teacher

Mary Hettinga from the Iowa State Extension Office recently conducted a week of labs and group activities in biology and applied biology classes. During this week, students participated in a variety of labs dealing with DNA profiling, extraction, and transformation, along with biology ethical debates.



Students received first-hand experience by working with specialized lab equipment, viewing their own DNA, culturing bacteria, and introducing new DNA into live bacteria.

What a Ride!

By Dwayne Postma, Offensive Line Football Coach

Over the holiday break I had the opportunity to relax and reflect upon our exciting ride of the CL-GLR 2006 football season. In doing so, many highlights came to mind from both a Central Lyon alumni and a coaching standpoint.

The first glimpse of what was to come appeared last June, July, and August with an amazing commitment of a nearly 100% rate of attendance at our summer lifting/speed camp activities. This was a time and effort commitment of four days per week from 6:45 a.m. to approximately 8:30 a.m. The work ethic and camaraderie displayed by the players was truly amazing.

Following the regular season and our District I championship, we began an amazing playoff run by rolling over Emmetsburg. One thing I will always remember about our next



Players raise and present the championship trophy to the fans.

game at Estherville was the scene on this spectacularly beautiful November evening. The home stands were packed with Estherville fans, and the visitor side overflowed with Lion fans—the entire field was surrounded with fans.



Believe me, this scene is burned into my memory as it is with many of you. Wow, how about those dome games? In my 30 plus years of being associated with Central Lyon and Central Lyon-George/Little Rock football, we have been involved in countless big games and 11 dome games, but never was our crowd as large and loud as at this year's championship game. It was truly an awesome sight. In past years when we've come up just short of a championship, Coach Lorenzen and I promised each other and our former players that when we won the championship, the trophy would be raised and presented toward the crowd as quickly as possible. As promised, that was accomplished.

When the season got underway, the dedication to this *all out* commitment was very evident each practice and each game day. One of our very common themes among the coaching staff in practice was to remind the guys that they “play on Friday night like they practice every day.” If you got a chance to watch this bunch play on any given Friday, then you can just begin to imagine how much fun and how hard of football was played on that practice field every day. I simply couldn't wait to get to practice each day to coach these guys and observe them playing football to their fullest ability each day; it was a real pleasure.

Talking about practice and its importance brings me to a very vital part of our football program—the scout teamers, who are usually the non-starters. It is very important for all of you to know that every single player on that roster is a state champion today. I say this because the scout teamers were the ones who made the starters better football players every day. The really neat thing about this statement is that no one knows that truth more than the starters themselves.

At this point I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the coaches, players, and managers for the lifelong memories they provided this past football season. I would also like to pass on a huge thank you to the CL-GLR Quarterback Club, George-Little Rock Athletic Booster Club, and Central Lyon Athletic Booster Club for their great support. Also a special thanks to our administrators Mr. Maxwell, A. D; Mr. Kruse, Elementary/Middle School Principal; Mr. Busch, High School Principal; and Mr. Ackerman, Superintendent, for their fantastic support throughout the season and especially the first class treatment they gave to our football team during the playoffs. The food, transportation, lodging, and a few extras really meant a lot to the players and managers. As a final thought, I would like to pass on a special thanks to all of our fans and parents of players and managers, especially the parents of the seniors. You and your sons and daughters will be dearly missed.

HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Financial Aid

By Terry Tausz, High School
Guidance Counselor
ttausz@central-lyon.k12.ia.us



For the fourth consecutive year, the College Planning Center in West Des Moines came to Central Lyon to assist parents with filing the FAFSA online. Several families of seniors utilized this free service on Monday, February 12.

Now available from the guidance office is the paper application for the 2007-2008 FAFSA. For those who will file the FAFSA online, there is a new 2007-2008 FAFSA ON THE WEB WORKSHEET. Both of these may be obtained from the guidance office.

PLAN & PSAT Tests

Back in October, 25 sophomores took the PLAN test and 35 juniors took the PSAT test. The PLAN is a preliminary ACT test that gives students an excellent idea of what the actual ACT is all about. The PSAT is a preliminary SAT and also a beginning point for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Students Score Well on Standardized Tests

By Toby Lorenzen, Elem/MS Success Coordinator & Terry Tausz, High School Guidance Counselor

Grade	IGE	NGE	IPR	NPR
2nd	2.6	2.8	84	95
3rd	4.0	4.7	99	99
4th	5.1	6.1	96	99
5th	5.9	7.2	87	96
6th	6.9	7.9	76	89
7th	8.3	10.0	90	94
8th	9.3	10.9	84	90
9th	10.3		84	
10th	12.4		95	
11th	12.4		83	

ACT Notes

Juniors interested in taking the ACT test during the 2006-07 school year were given registration materials during the fall semester. They were encouraged to take the test either April 14 or June 9—several of them choose to take it earlier. If your student is planning to take the test in April or June, mail the material by the early registration deadline, or there will be an \$19 late registration fee added to the \$29 basic fee. Please keep in mind that registration for the ACT can also take place online. There is a big push for students to do that. Online registration can have a faster turn around time in processing the application.

The ACT is generally used by four year colleges and some nursing schools as part of their entrance requirements. Students who plan to attend a vocational/technical program or specialty school usually will not be required to take the ACT. Please call or email me if you have any questions concerning the ACT test.

AD Angle

By Eldon Maxwell, Activities Director

We have an important issue that affects the business owners within our school district. The issue is advertising agencies. Companies sometimes call upon local businesses using a Central Lyon coach's name or the activities director's name in an attempt to sell advertising on the back of t-shirts, pompoms etc. Central Lyon appreciates all of the support we receive from our community, but we suggest that you call us before you commit to any advertising campaigns. If you have any questions, please call the school at 472-4051.

We would like to take a moment to extend our sympathy to the family of Jim Johnson of Sioux Center. Jim passed away Friday, 1-26-07. Jim was the AD and former football coach at Sioux Center for many years. He was a true supporter of the Siouxland Conference, and he will be greatly missed.

During the last weeks of October, students in grades two through eleven took the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (grades 2-8) and the Iowa Tests of Educational Development (grades 9-11). Individual results were sent home to parents/guardians at the high school level and were distributed at parent teacher conferences at the elementary/middle school level. The table below contains the results by grade level.

IGE stands for Iowa Grade Equivalent.

NGE stands for National Grade Equivalent.

These scores are useful when measuring individual grade growth. For example, our 10th grade students had an overall IGE of 12.4. This score indicates that overall our 10th grade test performance was approximately the same as those of typical students finishing the 4th month of 12th grade in the state of Iowa.

IPR stands for Iowa Percentile Rank.

NPR stands for National Percentile Rank.

These scores show the standing or rank order of the Central Lyon grade groups compared with similar grade groups throughout Iowa and the nation. For example, our 10th grade students had an IPR of 95%. This means they scored as well or higher than 95% of the other 10th grade classes in Iowa.

Our students' scores were awesome, with every grade scoring above average. Everyone at Central Lyon is extremely proud of our students and their efforts.

PTC Update

By Jackie McCarty, PTC President

The Central Lyon PTC (Parent Teacher Council) organizes fundraisers for the sole purpose of raising money to fund elementary and middle school classroom purchases.

Over the past four years the PTC has donated more than \$16,000 for the purchase of classroom supplies and instructional materials, ranging from whiteboard markers and *Weekly Readers* to a kiln for the art room. Teachers submit a list of items they would like to purchase for their classrooms to the PTC in May. Members of the organization review the requests and award funds based on need and monies available. A total of \$4,081 was awarded for the 2006-07 school year.

The PTC's major fundraiser is the soup and pie supper, which will be held March 8 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Academic Fair at the elementary/middle school. The PTC also raises money through the General Mills Box Top Program (\$3,073 since 2003), Land O Lakes milk cap program, and a tailgate supper in the fall.

Pizza Ranch and Pizza Hut have also donated generously over the years to their fundraising efforts by sponsoring a night when businesses donate a percentage of their pre-tax revenues.

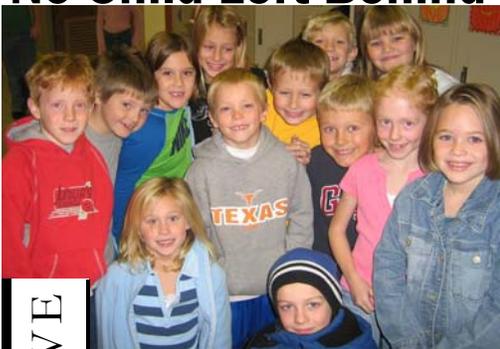
In addition to its fundraising role, the PTC hosts Kindergarten Roundup, cashiers the Book Fair, organizes room mothers for classroom holiday parties, and provides gifts for new teachers and rolls for teacher in-service in the fall.

PTC membership consists of parents and elementary/middle school faculty. Each volunteer member commits to a 2-year term on the council. Members for the 2006-2007 school year are Jackie McCarty, President; Sonya Kooiker, VP/Secretary; Kathleen Wallenburg, Treasurer; Kathy Gorter, Cindy Iwen, ReJean Metzger, Carol Molitor, Dawn VandenTop, Deb Hunt, Janet Friedrichsen, Lila Kennedy, Geneva Grooters, Polly McDonald, and Susan Van Wyhe.

If you are interested in becoming a PTC member, please contact Dan Kruse at 472-4041.

No Child Left Behind

By Dan Kruse, Elementary/Middle School Principal



Greetings everyone from the elementary/middle school office. The third quarter is well underway. The winter activities are winding down, and spring is around the corner. It's hard to believe we're already preparing for the 2007-2008 school year. Where does the time go!

I'm sure by now most of you have heard about "No Child Left Behind." I've often been asked if it

actually has any impact on our local school. It does. "No Child Left Behind" has forced schools to become more accountable. This to me has been the most obvious change. We are continually asked to report more information to both the state and local levels. Just recently, during parent-teacher conferences, we were required to inform all parents of kindergarten through third grade students of their child's score on a recent D.I.B.E.L.S. (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) test. This particular report is a state, not federal, mandate. This particular test is not part of "No Child Left Behind" legislation, but the fall-out is obvious.

Another recent example involves the scheduling of our eighth graders for their high school classes. It is now a requirement that students in the eighth grade meet with school personnel and plan out their high school career. Most schools do career planning with their students but not necessarily during a student's eighth grade year. The plans are not etched in stone but students must now have the opportunity to look at their options and plan accordingly. The school must also provide documentation to the parents that this has been done. Fortunately at Central Lyon, we had already been providing this opportunity to our eighth grade students.

Kindergarten Round-Up

There will be a kindergarten round-up meeting at 1:00 p.m. on March 15 in the elementary/middle school media center. There will be a transitional kindergarten meeting at 7:00 p.m. on March 22 in Mrs. Pytleski's room 18 in the lower level of the elementary.

Central Lyon would like to determine the number of parents in our district that plan to send their child to kindergarten or transitional kindergarten during the 2007-2008 school year. Please complete the form below and return it to the elementary school office or call 472-4041 by March 10.

PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

I will be sending (child's name)

to **Kindergarten/TK** in the fall of 2007-08.
(Please circle one.)

NOTE: Your child must be five on or before September 15, 2007.

Parents: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Birthdate: _____

Please return this form to the Elementary School Office or call 472-4041 by March 10.

The Giving Project By Brenden Metzger & Maura Knobloch, Middle School Students

Central Lyon Middle School students collected nonperishable food items and other items such as laundry detergent, toothbrushes, and toothpaste for the middle school giving tree. All items donated went to Mid-Sioux Opportunity. Mid-Sioux Opportunity is a non-profit agency that serves low income families in Lyon, Sioux, Plymouth, Cherokee and Ida counties.

Each item brought in had its weight recorded. Clothing items and toothbrushes were considered a pound. The goal was to get 2,000 pounds, or a ton before Christmas. The homeroom that donated the most pounds won a pizza party. Mrs. DeJongh's sixth grade homeroom won the contest, bringing in enough items to total nearly 400 pounds! Individual students that made contributions totaling at or above 100 pounds were Alan Fastert, Ashley Leuthold, and Cameron Hasche.

The lesson to the Central Lyon Middle School students was the spirit of giving. Since all this food and other supplies go to the less fortunate, the students learned that Christmas isn't just about getting presents—it is also about giving to others. Our hope is that students will realize that they have it good, and will not complain about failing to get everything on their Christmas lists.

By bringing in over 1200 items and nearly 1400 pounds, the Central Lyon Middle School students got into the holiday spirit of giving by donating to the Mid-Sioux Pantry!

Farming Game By Connie Boeve, Middle School Teacher

As almost everyone in

rural America knows, modern farming requires a strong back, faith for risk taking, and a good amount of math for all the figures. The kids in Mrs Boeve's math class got to learn first hand the experiences a farmer encounters by playing the Farming Game.

The kids chose when to harvest a crop, plant a crop, and buy or sell equipment and land. They applied math concepts like percents, fractions, division, and multiplication. They also became familiar with larger denominations of money, ie \$10,000 and \$5,000 bills. The class enjoyed learning math skills in a fun way with the Farming Game.



Mrs. Boeve with her math students.

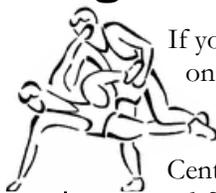
Spelling Bee By Dale Jansma, Middle School English Teacher

On Wednesday, January 24, three Central Lyon Middle School students participated in the local contest of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Central Lyon's top three spellers, Peyton Jansma, Shawn Van Bruggen, and Mark Unekis, received the opportunity to go to Sioux City to participate.

Over thirty schools and approximately ninety students took part in the contest. Out of the ninety spellers, eight qualified for the state competition in Des Moines. The Central Lyon spellers tried their best but came up short as far as the final eight is concerned. All three spellers made it through the preliminary round, but only Mark made it past the first elimination round. Peyton bowed out on the word "semantics" and Shawn missed the word "innate". Mark spelled the word "rehearse" correctly but missed "motif" in the second round.

The spelling bee was a good time for each student, along with a valuable experience. This was the first time we participated in the Scripps Spelling Bee and we hope to continue in the future.

Organized Chaos By Dwayne Postma, MS Wrestling Coach



If you were at the Central Lyon High School gym on Saturday, January 20, you observed what I call "organized chaos." Actually, it was our annual kids wrestling tournament fundraiser for the Central Lyon Booster Club. I compiled a few facts and figures just to give you an idea of the chaos.

- 700+ matches ■ 250+ participants
- 175 matches per hour on 9 different mats

By now you may be thinking, "Wow, what a tremendous undertaking." This is especially true considering the volume of volunteer help needed to serve breakfast, operate a concession stand, and do computer entries/bracketing. Volunteers also serve as timers, scorekeepers, trouble-shooters, match referees, weigh-in operators, trophy presenters, and group leaders.

Many of these volunteers were adult school supporters from the community, several of whom are Central Lyon alumni. But the bulk of the more than 100 volunteers were current Central Lyon High School students. A huge thank you to all the adults who took time out of their busy lives, and an even bigger thank you to the high school student volunteers. I am very proud of each and every one of them for their great attitudes and work ethic. It truly was a fun and impressive day for Central Lyon, not to mention very profitable.

Fathers of wrestling participants from Vermillion, SD; Harrisburg, SD; and Luverne, MN commented on how well our tournament was organized and run. What impressed these fathers most was that it was run primarily by high school students. That says it all! Great job everyone!

Spotlight on Foster Grandmas



JoAnn Douglas has been a foster grandma volunteer at Central Lyon for eight years, all of that time helping the third grade students and teachers Mrs. Foltz and Mrs. Clasen.

She was born in Rock Rapids in 1935 and has lived here all her life. She has two daughters (both graduates of Central Lyon) and five grandsons. When JoAnn's

husband passed away in 1977 she went to work at Central Lyon as a cook. After she retired, she found that she missed school so much that she decided to return as a grandma!! JoAnn has also been very involved with the girl scouts program for 25 years.

JoAnn is great with special projects and is a loving addition to the childrens' school day. We love having her share our day and hope she continues to volunteer for many years.

Lessons at Kiwanis Park

By Geneva Grooters, Fourth Grade Teacher

Fourth grade teachers and students combined social studies and science lessons at Kiwanis Park. Using the science curriculum on animals, fourth grade students learned about insects. They studied the characteristics and life cycles of insects and classified them with the invertebrate groups. As a culminating activity at Kiwanis Park, they used "insect bingo" cards to locate various insects, their relatives (spiders), insect food, insect habitats, insect eggs, larva, or pupa, etc.

For their social studies lesson, they completed their community service project (Adopt-A-Park) and cleaned up the park. They removed litter and large sticks while studying bugs.



Fourth grade students help clean up Kiwanis Park.

By Julie Boekhout, Kindergarten Teacher
and Barb Foltz, Third Grade Teacher



Iona Van Dyke has been a volunteer for the Foster Grandparent Program since 1994. She was introduced to the program by Joanne Breneman and Tillie Huyser. She has worked with many students and teachers at Central Lyon, including Mrs. Van, Mrs. Krause, Mrs. B. Boekhout, Miss Wiener, Mrs.

Keizer, Mrs. Metzger, and Mrs. J. Boekhout.

Iona moved to Rock Rapids in 1936, when she was in third grade. Iona and her husband Herman farmed north of town for 19 years. Herman was also a school custodian for 3 years and Iona served 25 years with the school kitchen staff at Central Lyon. They have five children, ten grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Iona volunteers every day from 8:00 - 12:00 and said what she loves about being a foster grandma is "working with the kids". She is a tremendous help in the classroom and assists us in keeping things organized and running smoothly.

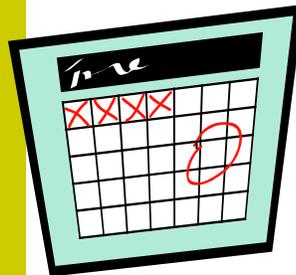
Last year we helped Iona celebrate her 80th birthday. She is a priceless addition to our school district and we hope to have her around for many years to come.

The following is a sampling of statements written by students about their foster grandmas:

- "Grandma helps me read my A.R. books."
- "Grandma is nice because she helps people."
- "Grandma is thoughtful and thankful for kids."
- "Grandma is pretty and she is nice and she helps kids and me too."
- "Grandma helped me when I missed school."
- "I like Grandma because she has helped me with all kinds of stuff, like math, reading, and phonics, thank you so much."
- "Grandma, I am thankful you are in our class and I love the way you always smile."
- "I like it when she helps because she is patient."
- "Grandma helped me learn my spelling words."
- "Grandma makes everything look good!"

Note-Worthy Dates

✓ Academic Fair/PTC Supper	3/8
✓ No School —Staff Development	3/12
✓ Kindergarten Round-up	3/15
✓ FFA Banquet	3/27
✓ CL Basketball Rodeo	3/29
✓ No School —Staff Development	4/5
✓ No School —Spring break	4/6-9
✓ School Board Meeting	4/11
✓ No School —Staff Development	4/23
✓ Prom	4/27
✓ HS May Term begins	4/30
✓ Baccalaureate	5/13
✓ Seniors last day	5/17
✓ Commencement	5/20
✓ Last day of school (if no snow)	5/25



2007-2008 Calendar

The Central Lyon 2007-2008 calendar has recently been approved by the Board of Education. The first semester is similar to the 2006-2007 calendar but the second semester has several changes from the current year due to an early Memorial Day holiday. Please note the following dates of importance:

- **Baccalaureate - Sunday May 19, 2008**
- **Commencement - Sunday, May 25, 2008 (Memorial Day Weekend)**
- **The last day of classes - Wednesday, May 28, 2008**
- **Any make-up days due to cancellations will be held after May 28, 2008**