



Argonia U.S.D. #359

January, 2016

Newsletter

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AHS BOYS CAPTURE THE 2015 BORDER QUEEN TOURNAMENT TITLE!

by Coach Almanza

The Argonia Raiders captured the 2015 Border Queen Tournament for the first time in a number of years. The Raiders got their first win of the tournament against Caldwell, the team who beat Argonia in the Sub-State Championship last year. The Raiders beat the Blue Jays 42-38, getting their first win of the season. The game was close throughout, but the Raiders pulled it out. Evan Dolley led the Raiders in scoring, chipping in 19 points.

The Raiders next played Central Burden. The Raiders were pretty familiar with this SCBL team, playing them 4 times last year. The Raiders played three solid quarters building a 46-20 score at the end of the third quarter. Although the Raiders lost some of that lead in the fourth, they managed to hang on for the victory, beating Central Burden 53 to 37.

The Raiders finished out the Round Robin tournament playing Norwich. The Raiders probably played their best defense of the season, holding Norwich to 30 points for the game. Argonia was led in scoring by Seth Hemberger, who threw in 21 points. Kolten Koerner added 13 points to help secure the win.

"As coach, I was very proud of the boys' effort in the tournament", said Coach Almanza. As alluded to before, it has been a number of years since Argonia had won the title. A further congratulations goes to Seth Hemberger and Kolten Koerner, who were selected as members of the all-tournament team.

After beating Cunningham following the tournament, the Raiders are now 4-1 on the season. They will open up league play after Christmas by going to West Elk on January 8.

DECEMBER RAIDER OF THE MONTH

by Bob Almanza



Jonathan

Jonathan Head, a 9th Grader at AHS, became the next "Raider of the Month" for December, 2015. The Activities/Athletics Department of Argonia High School has decided to recognize one student a month who has demonstrated exceptional pride and integrity while competing in athletics or activities. Students are nominated by coaches and sponsors and, once a month, a student is chosen as "Raider of the Month."

Jonathan was chosen for the month of December after being nominated by Mrs. Paxson. She had this to say about Jonathan:

"I would like to nominate Jonathan Head as Raider of the Month. He always seems to be one of those students that just loves life. I don't get to have Jonathan be a part of my classroom anymore since he's moved on to high school, but he still greets me with a smile, strikes up a conversation about anything, or tells me a joke any time we pass in the hallway. From what I've heard from other teachers, he works well in his classes, is kind, and helps out in areas that are needed and not always required. I'm glad to hear he's going out for the HS basketball team this year and I can't wait to watch him out on the court working hard in that area as well. Keep up the RAIDER PRIDE, Jonathan!"

The "Raider of the Month" is part of a renewed effort to build school pride. The student selected has their picture on a bulletin board along with comments from the coach or sponsor who nominated him or her. Look for a new student in January!!

USD 359 HIRES NEW SCHOOL SECRETARY

by Monte Haxton

As you enter the doors of Argonia Jr./Sr. High School, a new secretary, Jessie Robinson, will be there to greet you.

Mrs. Robinson is excited about the opportunity to work with the students, to get to know others in the community and to be closer to her own children.

Jessie and her family have lived in the Argonia area since May of 2013. She and her husband, Dusty, moved to Kansas from central Alabama. Dusty is a Superintendent for Strom Power Services. Jessie and Dusty have 3 children: Kelsey, 18; Bella, 10; and Emma, 2.

USD 359 students and staff want to welcome Jessie and also thank Michelle Harsh for her 15+ years of service as the Argonia Jr./Sr. High School secretary.



Jessie Robinson

JANUARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Date	Event	Time
January 01	Happy New Year!!	
January 04	JH Basketball vs. South Haven @ Home	TBD
	Argonia Skate Night @ Harper	6:00-8:00pm
January 07	JH Basketball vs. Udall @ Home	TBD
January 08	HS Basketball vs. West Elk @ Howard	TBD
January 11	HS Scholars Bowl @ Oxford	4:30pm
	Board of Education Meeting	7:00pm
January 13	Early Dismissal	12:35pm
January 14	JH Basketball vs. Central Burden @ Burden	TBD
January 15	HS Basketball vs. Central Burden @ Home	TBD
January 16	HS Basketball SCBL League Tournament Play-In Games	TBD
January 18	HS Basketball SCBL League Tournament - First Round Game	TBD
January 19	HS Basketball SCBL League Tournament - First Round Game	TBD
January 21	HS Basketball SCBL League Tournament @ Cowley	TBD
	JH Basketball vs. Caldwell @ Caldwell	TBD
January 22	HS Basketball SCBL League Tournament @ Cowley	TBD
January 23	HS Basketball SCBL League Tournament @ Cowley	TBD
January 25	HS League Scholars Bowl @ Caldwell	4:30pm
	JH Basketball vs. Attica @ Attica	TBD
January 26	HS Basketball vs. Caldwell @ Argonia	TBD
January 27	JH/HS Honor Band @ Winfield	8:15am
January 28	JH Basketball vs. Oxford @ Oxford	TBD
January 29	HS Basketball vs. Sedan @ Home	TBD



PRE-K SEMESTER "WRAP"-UP

By Linda Stow

Pre-school has enjoyed their Christmas Spirit week so we will go out with a bang after dressing up in our Santa hats by coming to school in our pajamas for our last day of school for the year! We will walk to the Manor and sing our Christmas songs and end our day with our classroom Christmas party. Merry Christmas from the pre-school class.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

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create a future for every child.*

**STAND UP
4 PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

School Board Member Appreciation
January 2016
Kansas Association of School Boards

January 2016 School Board Recognition

Ordinary citizens doing extraordinary work: that's how to describe our local board of education! These seven individuals are our friends and neighbors who are creating a future for every child in our community. They spend countless hours preparing to make decisions, participating in meetings and attending school activities and events. They advocate on the local, state and national levels for our children. They are held accountable for the decisions they make, and do all of this as volunteers.

Public education is a cornerstone of American society, and local school boards are deeply rooted in U.S. tradition. In fact, in 1966 the people of Kansas amended our state's constitution to specifically call for local public schools that are 'maintained, developed and operated by locally elected boards.'

Our local board of education is responsible for setting a vision for our local education program, and partners with staff and other members of the community to provide the facilities and infrastructure to achieve that vision. They research, study and then discuss issues so that they can make informed decisions on countless complex challenges.

Too often we forget about the personal sacrifices school board members make. The job of a school board member is tough, the hours long and the thanks few and far between. The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month and gives us the chance to say thank you!

The theme this year is "Public School Board Members Create a Future for Every Child." This is a time to shine a light on how local boards prepare today's students for success. In January, join with others throughout our district and state to salute the men and women who provide leadership for our public schools.

Argonia's school board members are: President Joe Allen (13 years of service), Vice-President Rick Nafziger (31 years of service), Scott Greenwood (23 years of service), Sarah Vineyard (7 years of service), Dave Gaddie (5 years of service), Brian Fitch (1 year of service), and Shane Morrison who is in his first year of service.



Back Row: Joe Allen, Rick Nafziger, Shane Morrison, Scott Greenwood
Front Row: Dave Gaddie, Sarah Vineyard, Brian Fitch

MARK LARSON VISITS ARGONIA ELEMENTARY

by Christine Short

On Tuesday, December 1st, Mark Larson made his way down to Argonia Elementary to give his weather presentation. This was his first time coming to the school, and he was pleasantly surprised with how much knowledge the students already had over weather. His presentation is for grades 3-5, and includes fun, engaging questions to start, a slideshow over different aspects of the weather, a student-model of the Jetstream, and concludes with a "Cloud in a Bottle" experiment.

He kept the students laughing throughout the presentation, and even took a minute to teach the kids how to do a proper hand-shake. We really enjoyed having him come down, and the students had a blast, too!



TITANS EARN POST-SEASON HONORS

by Coach Luke Greenwood

Two Argonia football players were recognized on the 2015 District 4 All-District Football Team. Junior Seth Hemberger earned 2nd Team Running Back and Linebacker. Senior Aaron Harsh earned Honorable Mention Offensive End and 2nd Team Defensive End.

Seth and Aaron were also recognized by the Wichita Eagle and Topeka Capital-Journal as Honorable Mention All-State Linebacker and Honorable Mention Offensive End respectively.

Seth and Aaron both had exceptional years. Seth rushed for over 400 yards and 6 touchdowns on offense and racked up 72 tackles, 2 sacks, 1 interception, and 5 fumble recoveries on defense. He also had 3 defensive touchdowns and 2 safeties.

Aaron had 245 yards receiving and 5 touchdowns on offense and compiled 22 tackles, 3 sacks, 1 fumble recovery, 1 defensive touchdown, and 2 safeties on defense.

Both young men, as well as Kolten Koerner and Trevor Pierce, had strong games in the State Championship game as well. Congratulations to Seth and Aaron on their recognition and congratulations to the entire team on a great season. Go Titans!

KAY CLUB SLACKER STACKER

by Cass Greenwood

Argonia KAY Club put on a Slacker Stacker food drive during the last few weeks before Christmas Break. Students brought their food and stacked it by teachers' doors. On the last day, students stacked the cans. If the cans filled up the doorway, they earned a free day in that class. This year, students stacked five teachers' doors.

The staff also participated by stacking the office door. Their reward will be lunch provided one day after break.

The food drive was a success bringing in lots of food. Thanks to everyone who brought and donated food! Great job!



AHS NAMED STATE FINALIST IN THE \$2 MILLION SAMSUNG SOLVE FOR TOMORROW CONTEST

School received two Samsung Galaxy® Tabs

Argonia High School announced that they had become a Kansas state finalist in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest, a nationwide competition to increase interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) by challenging teachers and students to take topics out of traditional classroom settings and into local communities. Unfortunately, however, Argonia did not win the next level.

"We were honored to be one of the five finalists in the State and we will continue to look into developing a project that will benefit our entire community," said Superintendent Julie McPherron.

Argonia High School moved onto the round of the competition for their interest in using STEM to address the water problems in the City of Argonia. Argonia High School was one of five schools in Kansas to become a state finalist in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. During the next phase of the competition, Argonia High School Science Teacher, Mr. Neal, created a lesson plan to address the issue in an educational setting. 51 state winners were announced in December, with Jackson Heights winning the State award.

This was Argonia High School's first time as a state finalist in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest.

STUCO SPONSORS GETAIR TRAMPOLINE PARK TRIP

by Loren Marshall

On December 5th, the Argonia Student Council took high school students to GetAir Trampoline Park in Wichita for a Christmas Party. Some of the features included foam pits that have slow motion cameras that capture the moment, basketball goals, and everyone's favorite: Dodge Ball! It was a very fun and unforgettable experience for each student who went.



The trampoline park was very well maintained...also it was fun watching everyone attempt a flip. After GetAir, STUCO took the students to Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt and the high school kids went all out on the flavors and toppings, some even had over a pound of yogurt. The trampoline park was good exercise for the students and they really enjoyed it.

ANNUAL CUPSTACKING RETURNS AGAIN!!

by Jon Mead

In recent weeks, the K-5th graders at Argonia Elementary have been learning about cup stacking and enhancing their skills. By definition, cup stacking (also known speed stacking) is a sport that involves stacking 12 specialized cups in specific sequences in as little time as possible. Sequences are usually pyramids of three, six, or ten cups. The students learned how to stack cups in pre-determined sequences as in a 3-3-3 stack, 3-6-3 stack or a cycle stack which is a 3-6-3 stack, a 6-6 stack, and a 1-10-1 stack in that order. Cup stacking participants are shown to learn cooperation, ambidexterity, speed, concentration, and hand-eye coordination.

To end their unit, a cup stacking competition was held. Kindergarten and first grades competed against each other using a basic 3-3-3 stack. Second and third grades competed against each other using the 6-6 stack. While the fourth and fifth graders had to complete the cycle stack. Winners were determined by the fastest time without any fumbles or miscues. The Kindergarten and first grade winner was Briley Booker. The winner of the 2nd-3rd grade competition was Autumn Coleman, and the 4th-5th grade competition winner was Briley's older sister, Brenna Booker. These 3 girls are all following in their oldest sisters' footsteps and carrying on in their family's tradition during the cup stacking tournament. Each winner will receive a set of cup stacking cups and a timing mat.

Great job students on all your hard work and effort in this unit!

RAIDERS LOSE OPENING CONTEST TO ATTICA, BUT PLAY HARD & COMPETE

by Coach Bob Almanza



The Argonia Raiders Boys Basketball team opened the season against their former football teammates on December 4, 2015. Although the Raiders came up a little short, they competed hard and in fact, had cut Attica's lead to single digits in the third quarter. Plagued by poor foul shooting and struggles from shooting "in the paint", Argonia simply could not sustain its comeback. The Raiders were led in scoring by Kolten Koerner. Kolten scored 18 points to open his senior season, while Evan Dolley and Seth Hemberger chipped in 13 and 12 points respectively.

The Raiders played next in the Border Queen Tourney. See front page story for results. Prior to break, the Raiders finished their pre-Christmas schedule by playing Cunningham and South Barber.

The Raiders have 12 players on the squad this year. Five players return with significant varsity experience: Kolten Koerner, Seth Hemberger, Trevor Pierce, Kamden Basinger and Anthony Handlin. In addition, Evan Dolley returns after starting most of his sophomore year. New players to the team this year are Zach Haxton, Jonathan Head, Micah Carter, Jason Hess, Christian Kiser, and Haden Craig. With increased numbers this year, the Raiders are excited for the upcoming season!

The Raiders invite all parents, students, and fans to come out and support the Raiders!

LADY RAIDER BASKETBALL OFF AND RUNNING

by Coach Dixie Brewster

The Argonia Lady Raider Basketball Team has been faced with a tough schedule to begin the season. Standing with a record of 1-4, the team is continuing to practice with a desire to improve and will look forward to the games following Christmas Break. We lost our first game of the season to Attica, but played stronger in the second half of play. Our young team will continue to work hard and find ways to win as we progress together and gain experience. The Border Queen Tournament found Argonia to post a win 44-23 against Central and losses to Caldwell 37-53 and Norwich 20-51. It was exciting to have Jesse Tracy receive All-Tournament Team Honors.

Travelling to Cunningham on December 15th, the Lady Raiders were defeated 31-50. We did not play up to our potential, but fought throughout the game. Our Junior Varsity team had an exciting overtime game against Cunningham, but lost by 5.

We will face a tough South Barber team on Friday for our last game before the break. We will open on January 8th and travel to West Elk to take on the Lady Patriots. We return to our home court on January 15th and will face Central Burden.

Jesse Tracy, Jr. and Cora Vineyard, Fr. are leading the team in scoring. Both are averaging 12 points a game and Cora is leading the team in rebounds. (8)

Team members include:

Juniors: Marlee Gaddie, Jordan Thompson and Jesse Tracy

Sophomores: Catie Hammond, Alyssa Hammond, Leah Fitch, Autumn Morin, Kaylee Schulte and Madalyn Rhea

Freshmen: Baylee Booker, Kaylee Lacey and Cora Vineyard

Sophie Schneck – Germany, and Camilla Tabasso – Italy, are great additions to our team as they provide much enthusiasm and are enjoying their experience of basketball here in Argonia!

Our team managers are Myleigh Kingsley and Moriah Carter. They work hard for us and we appreciate all they do for the team!



We all look forward to having the support of our community at the games. Come out and cheer us on!

ARGONIA JUNIOR HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL

by Coach Wayne Vineyard

The Indians opened the season with a game at home against Oxford. After one quarter of play, the Indians were hanging in there, only down 2 points. The Wildcats would start to pull away in the second quarter, leading at half time by a score of 12-2. Oxford would continue pulling away the rest of the game, defeating the Indians 31-15. Scoring for Argonia were, Love 6, Fisher 4, Dickerson 2, Phillips 2, and Topinka 1.

The Indians would next face off against Caldwell, also at home. The Blue Jays had a full court press the Indians couldn't seem to break, causing a 44-4 loss. Scoring was Fisher 2, and Griffith 2.

Next, they would travel to South Haven for their first road game. The Indians battled back and forth with the Cardinals trailing, 13-8 at half. The Indians played hard the third quarter, only trailing by 5 going into the fourth. South Haven outscored the Indians 16-3 in the fourth to win the game by a score of 34-18. Scoring for the Indians were, Love 6, Fisher 5, Dickerson 3, Phillips 2, Brown 2, Dewlen 1.



INDIAN BASKETBALL



ARGONIA JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

by Coach Kim Quinn

The Jr. High girls basketball team started off the season with a strong number of girls again this year. The 8th grade girls are Hope Casner, Mariah Newberry, and Taylor Schulte. The 7th grade girls are Emma Huntley, Savannah Shively, Aubreigh Haxton, Hannah Newberry, Destiny Baker, Karrlea Hessman, Alexis Vineyard, Shelby Handlin, and Cindy Derixson, and the 6th graders are Alyssa Martin, Chelsea Coleman, and Tori Sandoval.

They started out the season strong by beating Oxford and Caldwell their first two games at home. They then traveled to South Haven and fell in a tough battle with the Cardinals. They missed a lot of close shots and had a hard time handling their press but the girls never let down the intensity to finish in a close game. The girls then traveled to play Flinthills in a very physical and defensive game. They played hard from the tipoff but just could not come away with the win. Coach Quinn said, "I was very proud of how our defense held their scoring since we were having a hard time making our shots." Udall was their next road trip and they had their mind set on going into the Christmas break with a winning record. They came out strong the first quarter shooting the ball and then were able to hold Udall to a scoreless second quarter. The girls played hard and walked away with the well-deserved win.

Following Christmas break they will come back with two home games against very strong teams. Come out and enjoy some basketball and support the Argonia Jr. High basketball teams.

January 2016 MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>4 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Mini Meatball Sub</p>	<p>5 Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: BBQ Chicken Drumstick</p>	<p>6 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: White Chicken Chili</p>	<p>7 Breakfast: Pancakes or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>8 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Biscuits & Gravy</p>
<p>11 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Pork Rib-on-a-Bun</p>	<p>12 Breakfast: French Toast Sticks or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Taco Soup</p>	<p>13 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Corn Dog</p>	<p>14 Breakfast: Biscuits & Gravy or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Chicken Quesadilla</p>	<p>15 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Cowboy Cavatini</p>
<p>18 No School</p>	<p>19 Breakfast: Pancakes or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Chili</p>	<p>20 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Chicken Nuggets</p>	<p>21 Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Baked Ham</p>	<p>22 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Macaroni & Cheese & Meatballs</p>
<p>25 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Ham & Cheese-on-a-Bun</p>	<p>26 Breakfast: French Toast Sticks or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Pepperoni Pizza</p>	<p>27 Breakfast: Cereal Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Taco Burger-on-a-Bun</p>	<p>28 Breakfast: Biscuits & Gravy or Cereal, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Lasagna</p>	<p>29 Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt or String Cheese, Juice, Fruit Cup, Milk</p> <p>Lunch: Chicken Patty</p>

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Reminder:

School Resumes: January 4th

Early Dismissal: January 13th, 12:35pm