

# Leyton Warrior Newsletter

Leyton Public Schools, Dalton, NE-308-377-2301, Gurley, NE-308-884-2247



April, 2019



Activities From Top To Bottom:  
Kindergarteners with Miss Gipfert, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students ready to play badminton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders at recess, 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders reading with Grandma Annie, students finishing up class work in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Below-Quiz Bowl Teams Competing at MAC:

Left-Jr. High Team: Row 1-Tyler Bayne, Aiden Golden & Peyton Eckhardt. Row 2-Levi Weyerts, Jakob Kruse, Holden Syverson & Michael Kepler.

Right-The High School Team received the Runner-Up Trophy!

Row 1-Ethan Eckhardt, Josh Kruse, K.J. Bush & Brenton Abbott. Row 2-Coach Hutton, Jeremy Carley, D.J. George, Cortney Holt & Coach Shafer.



# April Newsletter – 2019

- April 01 – Creek Valley Tri State Invite @ Chappell @ 8 am–Bus-Mark-7 am  
~~April 02 – Jr. High Track Invite @ Banner Co. @ 9 am–Bus-Jennifer 8 am - Cancelled~~  
April 02 – Jr. Statewide ACT Testing  
April 03-06 – State FFA Convention–**Van & Suburban**  
April 05 – Jr. High Dance 7-10 pm  
April 08 – Creek Valley Twilight Track Invite @ Chappell @ 3 pm–Bus-Mark-1:45 pm  
April 09 – BOE Meeting @ 7:30 pm  
April 09 – NHS Induction @ 6 pm (See flyer)  
April 10 – Jr. High Track @ Potter-Dix (Kimball) @ 8 am–Bus-Jennifer-7 am  
April 11 – State Science Fair–**Van & Suburban**  
April 12 – Chadron Scholastic Contest–**Bus-Gerald-5:30 am**  
April 13 – AVP Trip @ Arvada–**Suburban**  
April 15 – Football Fundraiser – (See Flyer)  
April 17 – Creek Valley Jr. High Harlan Sutton Track Invite @ Chappell @ 8 am–Bus-Jennifer 7 am  
April 18 – Pine Bluffs Track Invite @ 9 am–**Suburban & Bus-7 am**  
April 18 – District Music @ Scottsbluff WNCC–**Bus-Eric**  
**April 19 – SCHOOL CLOSED ~ GOOD FRIDAY**  
**April 22 – SCHOOL CLOSED ~ EASTER BREAK**  
April 23 – Best of the West @ Scottsbluff @ 4:30 pm–**Van & Suburban**  
April 25 – High School/Jr. High Concert @ 7 pm  
April 25 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Safety Day ~ 8:30-3 pm–**Bus-Bruce**  
April 26 – FFA Chapter Banquet  
April 26 – Kindergarten Roundup (See Flyer)  
**April 26 – NO SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTEN**  
April 27 – MAC H.S./Jr. High Track @ Creek Valley (Chappell) @ 8 am–Bus-Eric & Jennifer  
April 29 – FFA Highway trash pickup after school  
May 01 – Jr. High Leyton Track Invite @ Creek Valley (Chappell) @ 8:30 am–Bus-Jennifer-7:15 am  
May 03 – Cheyenne County Track Invite @ Sidney (Leyton Hosts) @ 8:30 am–Bus-Eric-7:45 am  
May 06 – Honors Night @ 7 pm  
May 08 – District Track @ Creek Valley (Chappell)–**Bus-Bruce**  
**May 09 – GRADUATION @ 4 pm**



***\*ALL ACTIVITY TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE\****

Also visit the Leyton School website @ [www.leytonwarriors.org](http://www.leytonwarriors.org)

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Cheyenne County School District #17-0003  
Leyton Public Schools Board of Education  
Strategic Planning Meeting – 12:00 p.m.  
March 18, 2019

The Leyton Board of Education met Monday, March 18, 2019 at 12:00 P.M. at Points West Community Bank for a Strategic Planning Meeting. Publicized notice of the meeting was posted in the Leyton High School, Leyton JH/Elementary School, at various businesses in the community, and on the [www.leytonwarriors.org](http://www.leytonwarriors.org) website on or before March 11, 2019. Said posting gave date, time, and location of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1. Board President Jed Benish called the Strategic Planning Meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.
- 1.2. The following Board of Education members were present: Galen Bartling, Jed Benish, Ryan Borges, Colleen Cruise, Kevin Henke, and Anne Rexroth. Absent: None.
- 1.3. The following Administrators were present: Superintendent Chris Geary. Absent: Elementary/JH Principal Dana Morgan and HS Principal Lance Howitt.

2. HEARINGS AND PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

- 2.1. None

3. REGULAR AGENDA

3.1. EXCUSING A BOARD MEMBER

- 3.1.1. None

3.2. STRATEGIC PLANNING

- 3.2.1. Mr. Geary presented handouts from AQuESTT and the Board reviewed how the District is doing in each of those areas:

1. Success, Access, and Support

- Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success
- Transitions
- Educational Opportunities and Access

2. Teaching, Learning, and Serving

- College, Career, and Civic Ready
- Assessment
- Educator Effectiveness

- 3.2.2. The Board discussed AQuESTT and AdvancED Standards. The Board reviewed the notes from the last Accreditation review in 2017 and the progress that is being made on the "Improvement Priorities".

- 3.2.3. Mr. Geary presented the District 2018 Fall MAP testing scores and his plans for Intervention classes next fall. He stated that we are doing a good job, we just want to do better.

- 3.2.4. The Board reviewed the District's finances for the past ten years and discussed upcoming Building & Grounds projects and bids.

3.3. BOARD GOALS

- 3.3.1. The Board discussed goals in the following areas:

1. School Improvement
2. Staff Professional Development
3. Facilities
4. Assessment

5. Curriculum

3.4. ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS

3.4.1. Mr. Geary presented his goals which include:

1. Develop formalized plans as indicated by AdvancED
2. Implement comprehensive use of data in the classroom
3. Improve community Involvement
4. Guide use of evaluation model to improve instruction and student outcomes

3.5. POLICY REVIEW

3.5.1. Mr. Bartling asked for discussion on policy #4015. After some conversation, it was suggested that this policy review be placed on the April Board agenda.

3.6. ACTION

3.6.1. There were no decisions made and no action taken at this meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT

4.1. Motion by Cruise, seconded by Bartling to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 P.M. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Cruise, Rexroth, Borges, Bartling, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

  
Ryan Borges, Board Secretary

  
Janella Kruse, Recording Secretary

Leyton Public Schools - Payable Journal - March 2019

Jill Bartling	\$ 35.98	Great American	\$ 934.00	NIBC	\$ 85.00
Big V's	\$ 120.00	Gurley Diesel	\$ 1,754.31	Dave Nyffeler	\$ 69.60
Black Hills Energy	\$ 4,192.94	Amy Henke	\$ 135.72	Shawn Oakes	\$ 111.36
Leo Bowen	\$ 1,410.56	Josephy Hewgley, Assoc	\$ 43,680.00	OnStar Member Services	\$ 249.90
Heather Bowen	\$ 487.20	Homestead Market	\$ 18.01	Perkins County Schools	\$ 9,519.00
Bridgeport Newsblade	\$ 47.26	Lance Howitt	\$ 6.96	Allie Peters	\$ 222.61
Cardmember	\$ 2,969.75	Ideal Linen Supply	\$ 1,402.09	Quick Care	\$ 125.00
Carolina Biological	\$ 42.70	JW Pepper	\$ 20.98	Regional Care	\$ 40.00
Computer Connection	\$ 530.24	Kimball Public Schools	\$ 5,475.00	Christy Schumacher	\$ 62.64
Crossroads Music	\$ 59.00	Koke's Napa Auto	\$ 24.96	Sidney Regional Medical	\$ 738.18
Dalton Telephone	\$ 646.20	KSB School Law	\$ 1,032.00	Sidney Sun-Telegraph	\$ 169.35
DAS State Accounting	\$ 229.49	Rachel Lee	\$ 185.60	SOAR	\$ 2,196.77
Day & Night Plumbing	\$ 108.00	T'Neal Lind	\$ 48.72	Kathy Surber	\$ 6.96
Deaver Tire Company	\$ 15.00	Marick's	\$ 110.00	Triple O's	\$ 45.23
Dick's Flooring	\$ 393.95	Matheson	\$ 17.36	University of Oregon	\$ 69.00
DP Electronics	\$ 395.00	Dana Morgan	\$ 98.44	Village of Dalton	\$ 467.29
ESU #13	\$ 13,759.32	Linda Morgan	\$ 90.48	Village of Gurley	\$ 687.13
Finney's	\$ 55.14	Nature's Educators	\$ 400.00	Vocabulary Spelling City	\$ 69.95
Frenchmen Valley	\$ 3,831.61	Nebraskaland Tire	\$ 18.52	Weyerts Electric	\$ 1,115.54
Cody Gamble	\$ 76.56	NETA Conference	\$ 623.00	Wheatbelt	\$ 5,223.20
Chris Geary	\$ 472.03	Nick Newkirk	\$ 48.72		
Column Total	\$ 29,877.93	Column Total	\$ 56,124.87	Column Total	\$ 21,273.71
				Monthly Total	\$ 107,276.51

LEYTON BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 17-0003  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
March 18, 2019 – 4:30 PM

The Leyton Board of Education met Monday, March 18, 2019 at 4:30 P.M. in the District's Administrative Office. Publicized notice of the meeting was posted in the Leyton High School, Leyton JH/Elementary School, at various businesses in the community, and on the [www.leytonwarriors.org](http://www.leytonwarriors.org) website on or before March 11, 2019. Said posting gave date, time, and location of the meeting.

- 1 CALL TO ORDER
  - 1.1 Board President Jed Benish called the regular school board meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.
  - 1.2 ROLL CALL
    - 1.2.1 The following Board of Education members were present: Galen Bartling, Jed Benish, Ryan Borges, Colleen Cruise, Kevin Henke, and Anne Rexroth. Absent: None
    - 1.2.2 The following Administrators were present: Superintendent Chris Geary, Elementary/JH Principal Dana Morgan and HS Principal Lance Howitt. Absent: None.
  - 1.3 COMMUNICATIONS

A thank you card was read from Cindy Reilly.
- 2 HEARINGS AND PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None
- 3 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

None
- 4 REPORTS
  - 4.1 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

None
  - 4.2 BOARD REPORTS
    - 4.2.1 The School Improvement Committee met on February 27, 2019. The team reviewed the 2017 AdvancED External Review Report, the updated standards/key concepts for systems, systems readiness diagnostic, the SQF and accompanying planning tool and discussed the i3 Rubric. Future plans include doing surveys for stakeholders (parents, students, and staff) and developing/revising school improvement goals.
  - 4.3 STAFF MEMBERS REPORT

None
  - 4.4 ELEMENTARY/JH PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Morgan attended two IEP meetings, the John Antonetti presentation, the Chadron State College job interview fair, an administration meeting and the school improvement committee meeting. She conducted three teacher evaluations and had lunch with the February good citizens. She stated that the annual science fair was held on February 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - 4.5 SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Howitt reported that the Juniors took the ASVAB test on February 26<sup>th</sup>, that the Leyton Foundation held an Alumni Basketball Tournament on March 16<sup>th</sup>, and that the Sophomores and Juniors attended an ACT Training on March 18<sup>th</sup>. He also attended the John Antonetti presentation. He stated that the Career Exploration event for the Freshmen/Sophomores was cancelled due to the storm. Mr. Howitt presented a golf team cost analysis for the Board to review as well as listing other key points to consider in establishing this program.
  - 4.6 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
    - 4.6.1 MEETINGS/TRAVEL

Mr. Geary attended a Title IX Webinar, the Chadron State College Teacher Interview Day, an administration meeting, and ESU and MAC Conference Superintendents meetings. He met with Frieda Lange for our AdvancED Accreditation Systems Readiness Visit and completed his role as Lead Evaluator for Centura Public Schools. He reviewed

a draft schedule with the HS teachers, but it will not be finalized until all staff is hired. Mr. Geary met with the ESU staff to plan support for our district during the 2019-2020 school year.

4.6.2 CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Mr. Geary reported that the architect had met with contractors on site to review the track project. He stated that bids from three firms were opened on March 4th. The architect then worked with the companies to negotiate value engineering deductions.

4.6.3 ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Geary stated that the architect will join the meeting via phone conference to discuss the costs and other potential deductions before considering this item. He also mentioned that we have a teacher resignation and that the interview committee is recommending three new teachers for Board approval.

4.6.4 OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Geary reported that he has applied all paid time available to a staff member due to emergency circumstances, that Kali Robb will be available to work with our student-athletes this year and that per the Superintendent's contract his evaluation will be an agenda item for April. Mr. Geary stated that if the Board desires a formal recommendation to remove Bayard from the MAC conference that it will need to be on the April agenda. He added that also on the April agenda, the Board will review polices #1003 (Mission Statement) and #4015 (Employment of Board Members). Finally, he asked the Board to consider increasing the facility job price for the 2019-2020 school year with the price to be determined at the April meeting.

5 REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 EXCUSING A BOARD MEMBER

None

5.2 SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Motion by Bartling, seconded by Henke to recognize Buffy Dye for taking pictures of student events for social media, newspapers, and Parents' Night; to the Leyton Booster Club for providing player/parent pictures for Parents' Night; to Jeremy Reimers for organizing the Leyton Foundation Alumni Basketball Tournament; to Jerred Berner for sponsoring the 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball team; to the Speech Team and coaches for earning MAC Speech Runner- Up and District D1-6 Champions; to individual MAC Speech Champions (Hannah Vath, Janessa Carley and DJ George); to individual District Speech Champions (Hannah Vath, Cassidee Murray, and DJ George); to MAC All-Conference Basketball selections (Girls: Maddy Watchorn-1<sup>st</sup> Team; Ella Draper-2<sup>nd</sup> Team; Danielle Higgins-Honorable Mention; Boys: Zac Henke-Honorable Mention; Dominick Russ-Honorable Mention); to Jane Ahlschwede and Sherri Wiedeman for assisting students with science fair projects; to our science fair judges (6<sup>th</sup> grade: Dot Hall, Stuart Morgan; 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Chris Morgan, Shawn Oakes; 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Jesse Henderson, Amy Henke); to Bruce Ernest and Mark Carley for getting everything ready for the science fair; to Chris, T'Neal, Brenda, and Tiffany for making and serving cookies and punch for the science fair; to the Lions Club for completing vision and hearing screenings; to Dr. Ben Iske for doing a K-2 dental program; to the Leyton Science Fair winners (6<sup>th</sup> grade: Ella Haley, Shawnee Gamble, Zaili Benish; 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Jaxson Benish, Kaleb Borges, Trinity Beutler, Kaitlyn Craig; 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Axi Benish, Logan Craig, Justin Ernest, Chance Carter, and Damyn Russ) to the Regional Science Fair winners who will represent Leyton at the State Science Fair in April (Jaxson Benish, Ella Haley, Axi Benish, and Logan Craig); and to the following students for being named February good citizens by their classroom teachers: (Kindergarten-Zoe Tretter, 1<sup>st</sup> grade-Nora Jenson, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade-Paige Frerichs, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade-Carter Lipska, 4<sup>th</sup> grade-Kaeden Lowney, 5<sup>th</sup> grade-Josette McConnell, 6<sup>th</sup> grade-Kallista Hutton, 7<sup>th</sup> grade-Natalie Reimers and 8<sup>th</sup> grade-Logan Bartling). ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES -Borges, Henke, Benish Rexroth, Cruise, and Bartling. VOTING NO - None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.3 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Cruise, seconded by Henke to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, February 11, 2019. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.4 APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion by Borges, seconded by Cruise to approve reports presented at this meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.5 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS, WARRANTS, AND TRANSFERS

5.5.1 Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Borges to approve General Fund bills and Financial Reports as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES –Cruise, Bartling, Borges, Henke, Benish, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.5.2 Motion by Cruise, seconded by Rexroth to approve bills and financial reports from the remaining funds as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES –Bartling, Borges, Henke, Benish, Rexroth and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.6 APPROVAL OF TRACK CONTRACT

Motion by Henke, seconded by Cruise to approve Eric Reichert Construction as the General Contractor for the construction of an all-weather track, to replace the current track, in the amount not to exceed \$987,773.66 and to have a substantial completion date of August 23, 2019. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Borges, Henke, and Benish. VOTING NO – Rexroth and Bartling. MOTION CARRIED: 4-2.

5.7 APPROVAL OF JESSICA PELSTER RESIGNATION

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to approve the resignation of Jessica Pelster and to thank her for her service and wish her the best of luck in the future. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.8 APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR NEW CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Motion by Cruise, seconded by Benish to approve the teaching contracts for Amy Thacker and Christine Lecher as Elementary Teachers and Matt Haley as the High School IT (Shop) Teacher. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

7 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7.1 Next Regular Board Meeting: April 8, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.

8 MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Bartling to adjourn the regular school board meeting at 5:32 P.M. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.



Ryan Borges, Board Secretary



Janella Kruse, Recording Secretary

April 2019

## A Message from the Superintendent

This month I'd like to focus on planning. Summarizing the ideas and words of Benjamin Franklin and Winston Churchill, my dad's admonition to me was, "Nobody plans to fail, but you will - if you fail to plan." Successful organizations always have a plan; and some plans are better than others. Schools are no different. The Board and I spent some time before the March meeting beginning our planning for the next school year. We discussed budgeting, scheduling, assessment, and student success. We considered our district's vision and mission and how we can best reach our goals. Here are some data points we examined:

1. When combining state aid and local property taxes over the past ten years, there has been almost no increase: 2009/2010 - \$3,302,201; 2018/2019 - \$3,374,075. That's just over two-tenths of a percent average annual growth. In fact, compared to last year, that number decreased \$16,396. While there have been minor fluctuations, taxes over the past ten years have been very stable. The Board has set a very conservative goal of 1% annual growth.
2. Teacher's base salary over that same time period has increased more than 1.7% annually. The base salary for next year (2019-2020) has increased almost six percent! That does not include the cost of insurance which rose more than five percent for the next school year.
3. In the fall of 2018, less than 70% of Leyton students were proficient in every content area. The board has set a goal of 80% proficient.
4. The AdvancED school accreditation report indicated a need for teachers to have common time for planning and professional development as an improvement priority.
5. Our student-teacher ratio is 7:1.
6. The highest Average Daily Membership for our district in the past ten years is 214 students. We are currently serving 157 students. Our goal is 200 students. Our option enrollment has decreased significantly over that time period as well. This year we are +10 which means students coming to our district outnumbered those leaving by ten.

We are formulating plans for the next year to address each of these areas. We are focused on being fiscally responsible while providing necessary services to our students. We are committed to increasing student success by providing quality instruction in tandem with a strong curriculum aligned to state standards. We believe that it is important to value those who serve our students and commit to a compensation package that supports that belief. We will implement strategies that allow teachers to collaborate for the benefit of our students. We will increase visibility and highlight the amazing things happening in our District to attract new students and families. In short, we will be better.

Do you have ideas for improvement? I welcome your insights. My door is always open. If you prefer, we can meet in Dalton or Gurley, at the bank, at the Market, or at the Dock. Just call Janella and schedule a time. Or just stop in if you're close by. Having strong community involvement in our school will make it stronger. I look forward to hearing from you.



☺ Chris



## Board Approves Contract to Renovate Track

At the March 2019, Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, members voted to renovate the track at Leyton. Construction will begin as soon as possible. Many of you may not have seen the track recently, so I've included a picture of our track taken March 19, 2019. Track practice began February 25. To date, our student-athletes have not been able to practice on our track – and the forecast doesn't look like they'll be able to use it any time soon! Thank you to Sidney Public Schools for hosting our athletes for practice – we've been able to take our students to practice once this season. While this is not an ideal situation for our district, we are grateful for their willingness to host us.

There are a few items I would like to remind our stakeholders about this project. First, the idea for installing an all-weather track is not new. Patrons and the Board have asked previous administration about the possibility of this project for a number of years. At the Regular Board meeting in August 2018, the Building and Grounds committee reported that they had discussed the feasibility of a new track. Consequently, I was asked if funds were available for this size of a project. After researching our budget history and considering our fund balances, I informed the Board that funds were available. In October the Board discussed more formally the possibility of this project becoming reality. They scheduled a board workshop to gain community input and held that meeting on October 22, 2018. More than 40 people attended this meeting and most expressed strong support for this project at an estimated cost of \$990,000. Later that evening, the Board approved the drafting of a contract with the architect to design the track. On November 6, the Building and Grounds committee met with the architect to discuss the plans and provide input on the design. At that time the committee recommended adding an additional building for restrooms and a concession stand. Preliminary sketches were presented at the December 2018, Regular Board meeting and a contract to design the track by JR Hewgley and Assoc. was approved. The design of the track and concessions building was put out for bid in late February and sealed bids were opened March 4. Initial bids for both components (track and concession building) totaled more than \$1.8 million dollars – almost twice what was initially estimated. The board made the responsible decision to eliminate the building from the project and alter the base of the track from concrete to asphalt along with some other minor deletions. The resulting project cost was approved at LESS THAN the original estimate - not to exceed \$987,773.66. Please note that Wheat Belt PPD had previously cautioned the district that football lighting was unsafe and should be replaced. New lighting (a cost of more than \$200,000) will be installed as part of this project, and is included in the overall bid. These are funds which would have had to be spent even if a track was not installed. Funds for this project will be from the Depreciation and Building Fund – and will not require additional tax asking – and plans are in place to invest in upgrades for our high school science room and locker rooms. Neither of these projects will be compromised as a result of the track.

You may be wondering why this project is important. First, and most pressing, is that our track is not usable – as you can tell by the picture. Second, this project provides a significant return on investment. Not only will this facility be available for our students, but our community will also benefit from using this all-weather surface. This facility will not only be used during track season. PE classes will also have a safe place for outdoor activities. Finally, we will begin hosting track meets. Instead of us driving to other schools, visitors will bring their teams to our town for competition – and support our local businesses. Our first home track meets will happen in the Spring of 2020!

If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to stop in for a visit. I would love to talk to you. At the Board Retreat held March 18, our discussion centered on the commitment to improve. This project is one piece of that commitment. Our student-athletes are grateful for your support. We look forward to seeing you at the track next year!



SPRING TIME=ASSESSMENT TIME

Teachers and students in Nebraska know that Spring means that it is time for various types of assessments. In Nebraska, students take MAP, NSCAS, and ACT tests each Spring to monitor their growth and progress over the school year. Testing season can be a stressful time of the year but there are some simple steps that can help to eliminate test anxiety for your students.

1. Get plenty of rest. Well-rested students perform better on tests.
2. Keep your normal routine.
3. Attendance on test days. Unless it is an emergency, get your kids to school on testing days. Making up tests outside of their peer group can be stressful for students.
4. Whether at home or at school, eat a good breakfast.
5. Discuss with your students what they learned from the tests and what they have learned during the school year. It will help them measure progress.

No matter which side of the testing issue you are on, standardized testing has become commonplace and it is most likely here to stay. Hopefully these simple suggestions will make the testing season much more manageable in your household this year and in the future.

LEYTON 2019 JR. HIGH TRACK SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET
4/2/2019	Banner Co.
4/10/2019	Potter-Dix @ Kimball
4/17/2019	Harlan Sutton @ CV-Chappell
4/23/2019	Best of the West-Scottsbluff
4/27/2019	MAC @ CV-Chappell
5/1/2019	Leyton Meet @ Chappell

Sincerely,  
Lane J. Dowitt

## A Message from Mrs. Morgan

I can't believe it is April! It is hard to believe that we are nearing spring break. We had four students from Leyton Elementary Junior High place at the Regional Science Fair in Scottsbluff.



Congratulations to Ella Haley-6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Jaxson Benish-7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Logan Craig-8<sup>th</sup> Grade and Axi Benish-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. These four students will be going to our state science fair on April 11<sup>th</sup>! Please see the photo below. Leyton took four out of the six places overall at the regional science fair.

**Important April Dates at the Elementary/Junior High: April 2-JH Track @ Banner Co.: April 10-JH Track @ Potter-Dix: April 11-Raptor Presentation: April 17-JH Track @ Creek Valley: April 19 and 22-Easter Break-No School: April 25-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Safety Day: April 26-Kindergarten Round-Up: April 30-K-6 DIBELS**

Our selected March citizens' of the month are pictured below. Please congratulate our good citizens when you see them out and about in our community! These students will be treated to lunch with the principal. Congratulations to all of our winners: kindergarten: Breckyr Cranmore, first grade: Cainyn Rushman, second grade: Chase Moore, third grade: Gracyn Abbott, fourth grade: Hunter Borges, fifth grade: Alec Watchorn, sixth grade: Jaiden Schilreff, seventh grade: Madi Joles, and eighth grade: Dawson Juelfs. Thank you Warriors! Job well done!



### March Good Citizens

### State Science Fair



 Dana Morgan



## Spotlight on a Staff Member

Meet Tambra Shafer, our high school English teacher. Ms. Shafer is in her second year at Leyton. Here are Tambra's answers to some questions to help our community members get to know her better.

**1. Tell us about your family.**

I am from California, but moved all over as a child, so I have no hometown to claim or go back to. I have a family of four. I have two girls. We have lived in Wyoming for 13 years now.

**2. Talk about your teaching background, why English, where did you go to school, etc.**

Why English/Language Arts...why not? Such cool history exists in this subject, but you have to look for it and be open-minded about it. Teaching is my second career. I taught in the military technical school for my job and really enjoyed it, so after I retired I found myself wanting to become a teacher. I did my college online while working a full time job and finally graduated with my teaching degree in 2015. I graduated from the University of Phoenix, online. Leyton is my first full time teaching job. Prior to this job, I was a long term substitute in 8th grade English for 18 months in Cheyenne, WY.

**3. Who are your favorite sports' teams?**

I really love Major League Baseball and my favorite team is the Anaheim Angels. I do appreciate other sports, but MLB is the only one I really follow. I do love to watch the Olympics (summer or winter, doesn't matter).

**4. What do you like to do in your downtime?**

I run and bike. I have participated in some mini-triathlons (swim, run, bike) I spend time with family and friends, camp, crochet and knit. I also love to watch movies. In the summer months or when the weather is nice, I love to be outside as much as possible.

**5. Who or what inspired you to become a teacher?**

I remember my sixth grade teacher. She was so very supportive and encouraged me to do my best. My high school history teacher inspired my enjoyment of history and knowing what happened before us. My major inspiration to become a teacher was working as a technical school instructor. Taking time to help students learn and set them on a firm foundation to go forward and start their career was huge. I learned a lot and faltered some. It was a great four year experience. It reinforced the thoughts of "how can I make this better?" or "how can I help the students understand this material better?"



Thanks,  
Dana 😊

# 2019 Leyton Speech Team

We want to thank the Booster Club for all the support we received this year, including our Booster Club Parent-Lianne Higgins, and all the families who sent sandwiches/snacks on the bus and brought treats for Speech & Sweets. We appreciate all those who attended this year's Speech and Sweets, and also our bus drivers for all the hours they put in for us. We also want to thank our administrators for supporting our team throughout the season. We wouldn't have been as successful as we were without all the extra time our staff gave to help us get ready to compete. Finally, a HUGE THANKS to the Dalton and Gurley Volunteer Fire Departments for our escort out of town, and to the best student body in the world for all the cheers and high fives at our building sendoffs.

## HERE'S HOW OUR 2019 SEASON PROGRESSED:

### January 26th-Perkins County Results:

- Shelby Miller-7th in Poetry and Janessa Carley-7th in Informative

### February 9th-Bridgeport Results:

- Haley/Higgins/Kruse/Eckhardt-5th-OID and Janessa Carley-6th in Persuasive

### February 16th-Ogallala Results:

- Hannah Vath-4th in Serious Prose and George/Haley/Higgins/Kruse/Eckhardt-8th-OID

### February 20th-M.A.C. Results: Conference Runner-Up Trophy!

#### Individual M.A.C. Championships:

- Janessa Carley-Informative
- DJ George- Extemporaneous
- Hannah Vath-Serious Prose
- George/Haley/Higgins/Kruse-2nd in  
OID
- Josh Kruse-3rd in Extemporaneous
- Ethan Eckhardt-3rd in Humorous Prose
- Janessa Carley-3rd in Persuasive
- Shelby Miller-3rd in Poetry & 6th in  
Entertainment
- Bush/Holt/Jones-5th in OID
- Vath/Murray-5th in Duet Acting
- Cortney & Aly Holt-6th in Duet Acting

### March 16<sup>th</sup>-District Results: D1-6 Champions!

#### Individual District Championships:

- DJ George-Extemporaneous
- Cassidee Murray/Hannah Vath-Duet Acting
- Hannah Vath-Serious Prose
  - George/Haley/Higgins/Kruse-2<sup>nd</sup> in OID
  - Janessa Carley-2<sup>nd</sup> in Informative and Persuasive
  - Josh Kruse-3<sup>rd</sup> in Extemporaneous
  - Bush/Holt/Jones-3<sup>rd</sup> in OID
  - Cassidee Murray-4<sup>th</sup> in Serious Prose
  - Kaitlyn Jones-4<sup>th</sup> in Informative
  - Danielle Higgins-5<sup>th</sup> in Persuasive
  - Shelby Miller-5<sup>th</sup> in Poetry
  - Aly Holt-5<sup>th</sup> in Entertainment
  - Ethan Eckhardt-5<sup>th</sup> in Humorous Prose
  - Ethan Young-6<sup>th</sup> in Humorous Prose
  - Shelby Miller-6<sup>th</sup> in Entertainment

### March 22, 2019-State Speech Tournament Results:

- DJ George-7<sup>th</sup> in Extemporaneous
- Janessa Carley-8<sup>th</sup> in Persuasive
- George/Haley/Higgins/Kruse-8<sup>th</sup> in OID
- Hannah Vath-9<sup>th</sup> in Serious Prose

# CHECK IN ON OUR CHAPTER

## 2019 APRIL ISSUE

### MEMBER OF THE MONTH

ALYSON HOLT

The March

Member of the

Month is junior, Alyson Holt. Alyson is a part of the Launch Committee, an entrepreneurial business ran by a few Leyton FFA members. The committee consists of Alyson Holt, Ethan Young, D.J. George, and Dawson Wiggins. This year, this committee and its goal is to start a business of making wooden signs from the shop at Leyton High School. The students use the Computer Aided Drafting Program on the school's computer to construct designs that the CNC Router then cuts.

Alyson also received awards at the Career Development Events this year. She received a white ribbon in Floriculture at the first event, and at the second event, she received a blue ribbon in Farm and Ranch Management. Alyson also used her creativity to construct a display for the chapter consisting of all of the ribbons members have received, awards the chapter has earned, pictures of all members, and FFA quotes. Thank you Alyson for the hard work and devotion you have put in to our chapter!



### COMING UP:

#### State FFA Convention:

April 3-5

#### Officer Interviews:

April 16

#### Chapter Banquet:

April 26

### FUN FACTS ABOUT FFA:

- The greatest challenge being faced in FFA and Ag. Education is finding a qualified Ag. Teacher.
- FFA has 23 Career Development Event Contests
- There are 2.2 million farmers in America

### Become Our Friend:



Leyton FFA Chapter



Leyton\_FFA

Author: Destinee Henke,  
Leyton FFA Chapter  
Reporter

# Leyton K-12 Yearbooks Are Now On Sale!

Order Your 2018-19  
Yearbook in either office to  
reserve your copy.

Preorder Cost:\$45.00 (personalized)

Preorder Cost:\$40.00 (not personalized)

Cost After May 20, 2019:

\$45.00 and not personalized or  
guaranteed to have available

Previous years' annuals are available at a  
reduced rate. Please see Mrs. Schumacher  
to check availability of the years you are  
missing.



# Art Show

The Leyton High School Art Students will be participating in an art exhibition at the Sidney Public Library from April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 13<sup>th</sup>. The public is allowed to view the artwork anytime during library operating hours. Please take this great opportunity to see the talent of our Art students here at Leyton.

Sidney Public Library hours:  
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm | Sat 9am-5pm

Art Show

April 1<sup>st</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup>

Sidney Public Library

## CHANGE OF DATE!!



### *National Honor Society Induction*

*Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
Leyton High School Gymnasium*

*We would like to extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend the Induction Ceremony. Senior members will be honored and new members will be welcomed. A reception will follow.*

## **Leyton Elementary/Junior High Earned \$410 During Our Pennies for Patients Drive**

**Thank you to all of you who willingly donated to our students to support this cause. We had three students who raised over \$50 and earned a Hero Squad T-shirt. Congratulations to Elizabeth Higgins, Nora Jenson, and Aubri Borges (not pictured). Max Wiggins was the lucky winner of our Nebraska Husker folding chair and hat donated by Superintendent Chris Geary! Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class earned the most money and received a Silver Banner! Way to Go Mrs. Murray's Class!!!**



## **Congratulations to the following 5<sup>th</sup> grade students for having their poems selected for the Young American Poetry Digest!**

**Our students were Josette McConnell, Faith Lee, Carlyn Thomas, Kaleb Miller, Halle Carter and Macey Roelle! Job well done students and a big thank you to Mrs. Bartling for submitting your students' work.**



# SPRING IS HERE!

## Mini Photo Session

Stop in for a quick photo session with the furry, feathered and fuzzy friends of Sidney Feed & Supply!  
(Even Corn the Cat loves a good photo op!)

**Where: Sidney Feed & Supply**

**When: Fri. April 12th 2-5 pm**

**Sat. April 13th 10 am -12pm**

**\*\* FREE activity for all children, families and pets!**



Leyton Public Schools

Kindergarten  
**ROUNDUP**



**Friday April 26, 2019**  
**9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.**

**Components of the Round Up**

Kindergarten Round-Up provides an opportunity for parents & students to meet the teacher and see their classroom. Parents and students will receive a brief overview of the kindergarten program and its academic/social expectations.

**Kindergarten Registration**  
**for the 2019-2020 School year**

**What to Bring:**

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Immunization Records
- Social Security Card

**To register for kindergarten,**  
**children must be**  
**five years old**  
**on or before July**  
**31st, 2018**

**Please call the school at (308)-884-2248**  
**to register your child! Thank you!**

\*There will be no regular Kindergarten class on this day.

# April

2019

## Leyton Elementary/JH & High School Menu

Hang in there... we are so close to the end of the school year!

Students must take at least ½ cup fruit or vegetable on their tray.




Unlimited fruit and vegetables are offered daily.

Flavored skim and 1% white milk is offered daily.

An assortment of fresh and canned fruit are available every morning as well as fruit juice up to twice a week with breakfast.

A full fruit and salad bar is available with every lunch meal.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 B: Pop tart, cereal, toast L: Breakfast sandwich, tater tries	2 B: Yogurt cup, granola, toast L: Pulled pork sandwich, green beans	3 B: French toast, bacon L: Breaded or spicy chicken sandwich, baked beans	4 B: Pancake on a stick, scrambled eggs L: Spaghetti, garlic bread, peas	5 B: Ham & scrambled eggs, toast L: Cabbage pockets, French fries
8 B: PB&J L: Soft shell taco, refried beans, churro	9 B: Breakfast burrito, toast L: Pizza, green beans	10 B: Breakfast sandwich L: Turkey croissant, sweet potato fries	11 B: Pop tart, cereal, toast L: Chicken alfredo bake, roasted broccoli, biscuit	12 B: Yogurt cup, granola, toast L: HB or CB, corn
15 B: French toast, bacon L: Mini corndogs, green beans	16 B: Pop tart, cereal, toast L: HS: Baked potato bar E/JH: Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, roll	17 B: Pancakes, sausage patty L: Grilled cheese, tomato soup	18 B: Biscuits & gravy L: Chicken nuggets, baked beans, roll	19 <b>NO SCHOOL GOOD FRIDAY</b>
22 <b>NO SCHOOL EASTER BREAK</b>	23 B: Pop tart, cereal, toast L: Cavatini, breadstick, peas	24 B: Yogurt cup, granola, toast L: Chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes, roll	25 B: Breakfast burrito, toast L: HS: HB or CB, baked beans E/JH: Salad Bar Day	26 B: PB&J L: Chicken fajita, chips & salsa, corn
29 B: Pancake on a stick, scrambled eggs L: Ham slice, cheesy potatoes, roll	30 B: French toast, bacon L: French dip, green beans			



# Leyton Football Fundraiser



## Spaghetti Feed

When: Monday, April 15th, 2019 at 6:00 pm

Where: At the High School in the Multi-purpose Rm: Dalton, NE

**\$7.00 Tickets: includes spaghetti, bread, salad, and drink**

Tickets will be available through the Leyton football players or purchase at the door.

BOXHOLDER

CAR-T SORT

BULK RATE  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Non-Profit Organization  
Permit No. 2  
Dalton, NE 69131