

NCS D News Zone



VOLUME VI

ISSUE V

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Giving Kids a Place to Belong

By Shauna VanderLinden

When we were in school, we may not have labeled behavior as “bullying,” we just called it “being mean.” Bullying isn’t a new epidemic in schoolyards and classrooms, it’s merely a new label to an ongoing issue.

Recent nationwide bullying statistics for 2010 revealed about one in seven students in kindergarten through 12th grade is either a bully or has been a victim of bullying.

NCS D schools are taking a proactive approach to curb “bully behavior” and to make it unwelcome within their schools. For many schools, it’s creating a culture where all kids are celebrated for their abilities and talents instead of judged on their differences.

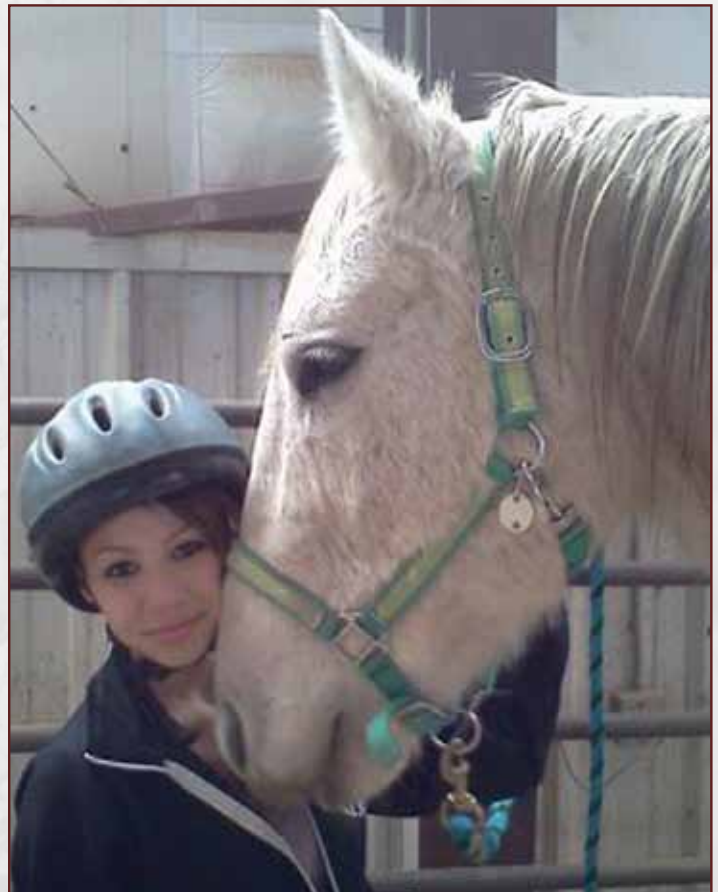
“When children feel safe, loved, and welcome, they’re more likely to be able to perform at their level,” said Dr. Anne LaPlante, principal of Summit Elementary School.

Each facility within the district has its own unique way to address and prevent bullying. After talking with leaders at four different schools, one underlying theme seemed to be present in each program: Help kids feel that they belong.

SAFE SCHOOLS AMBASSADORS

“The kids are the heartbeat of the school. So we are empowering them to be leaders.”

See BELONG, page 6



Rosemary Poling, KWHS freshman, bonds with her horse Saber. Poling participates in the Kelly Walsh Horses Offering Assistance program (see page 6).

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WITH A COP’

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FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT ...

We've upped the game. We've asked for more. More accountability, more direction, more collaboration. We've raised the bar for everyone when it comes to performance and outcomes. Your response? You've accepted the challenge with even more enthusiasm, as evidenced by the recent Gallup results on employee engagement. The Gallup data told us over the past year, there's been a dramatic increase in enthusiasm and involvement in your jobs. This is a cause for great celebration. Out of 2,421 employees, 1,861 employees took the time to answer the Gallup survey. That's a 77% response rate compared to a 68% response rate from 2010.

The results are not an accident. We're really just getting better. We are working as hard as we ever have. Leaders have had honest conversations with their staff about the work environment and improving on last year's results. We've committed to a continuous improvement effort to take the feedback we received last year to create a better workplace where staff are empowered and have the tools necessary to perform and create great outcomes. We are one year into that intentional journey. We've had great success as you've reported on the Q12 data. This is an important first step for our organization.

My belief is that people love to work for an organization that is growing, improving and has the potential to be great. These data are showing me that you believe we are becoming an organization with a potential for greatness. We are all very intentionally shaping this into a great place to work.



"We're really just getting better. We are working as hard as we ever have."

Goal #4 talks about "safe and healthy people." What it really means to me is to make this the best school district to work for in the country, creating an engaging learning environment for our kids. Getting there means you continue to give us honest feedback, leadership using it to have honest conversations, and together formulating serious action plans.

As we approach the holidays, we have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate. One thing I celebrate is all of you. We are the district. All of us. Each of us. Individuals engaged and involved in their work everyday to create great outcomes for our kids. I am so thankful and appreciative for all of you and being able to do this work in our district. We are lucky. We have a great place to work.

Enjoy the holidays and time spent with those who you hold dear!

Law Enforcement and WalMart Partner to Give Kids a Nice Christmas

By Jennifer Cousineau

I'm happy to say that things haven't changed *that* much since I was a kid. Little girls, for the most part, are still in to Barbies and baby dolls, and little boys, for the most part, are still in to superheroes and cars. At least that's what most of the 157 boys and girls who participated in this year's Shop With A Cop event, held Dec. 10, seemed to want.

This year marked the fourth year Casper's westside WalMart and local law enforcement have sponsored Shop With A Cop, which gives referred children, up to 18 years old, \$50 gift cards they can use to purchase items of their choosing.

"Kids deserve a nice Christmas," said Detective Bryan McLimore, of the Mills Police Department, who helped put this year's event together.

To start the day off right, the Elk's Lodge and ComTech sponsored a pancake breakfast to give participants the energy they needed to dash through the store. (Energy was most needed in the congested toy aisles.)

"It's what we do," Wes Stull, Elk house committee chairman, said of the breakfast. "We're a charitable organization that especially likes to

help kids. [Shop With A Cop] is a positive thing, and hopefully the kids will learn from it."

Officers from Mills, Evansville, Midwest and Casper police departments, the Natrona County Sheriff's Office, the Wyoming Highway Patrol and other area law enforcement agencies were invited to participate by going "shopping" with each child and helping them pick out goodies of their choice. Midwest Police Chief Jaime Jones said that hearing the kids' stories alone made the trip to Casper worth it.

"This is helping provide them with what they lack," Jones said. "And sometimes, it's as simple as conversation."

Jones asked a 12-year-old what he was going to use his gift card to buy.

"He told me he was going to buy his friend a stress ball, because 'his life is really hard.' That coming

from a boy who probably has a pretty hard life himself."

Everyone involved in the event agreed that it's important for the kids, not only to help them have a nice Christmas, but also to see that law enforcement officers really are the good guys.

See SHOP, page 4

Earlier this month, 157 Natrona



County kids walked away with \$50 worth of goods —the vast majority of which were toys — thanks to Casper's westside WalMart and local law enforcement.

SHOP, continued from page 3

"Kids only get a negative image of police because of what they see on TV," said Lori Kline, with ComTech, which donated \$200 for the breakfast. "It makes them be scared of police."

WalMart West is thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in the program and work with law enforcement for the fourth year in a row.

"As a parent, giving something to other families to help their kids is just awesome," Assistant Manager Wally Serafin said.

Serafin and Store Manager Darrell Seurer explained that it's part of WalMart's culture to provide this event for the community. Seurer said that the employees of the westside WalMart chose to put money from a grant they receive toward the Shop With A Cop program. In addition to the 157 kids who walked through the checkout lanes on the 10th, Seurer said that they're going to help another 14 kids whose names were brought to staff member's attention, bringing the total money given to about \$8,100. If that wasn't enough, the store is already starting to build the pot for next year's shopping extravaganza.

Three of the participants, Cameron McNaughton and Declan Potenzieri of Willard Elementary School, and their grandmother, Lana Potenzieri, sure appreciated the efforts of the police, the Casper Elks and WalMart.

"I was moved and filled with appreciation," Lana said. "What an awesome way to show children firsthand, whose environment may incline them to think differently, that cops are really good guys who desire



Willard Elementary students and siblings Declan Potenzieri, front left, and Cameron McNaughton (front right), joined by their grandma, Lana Potenzieri, walked away with \$100 worth of toys of their choosing: Declan chose a talking Spider-Man, a Transformer and a Galaxy Hero action figure. A Princess Charm School Barbie and Monster High Doll were Cameron's picks. Lt. Jerry Clark, with the Natrona County Sheriff's Office, helped them pick their must-have toys.

most to help children and their families."

Lt. Jerry Clark, with the Natrona County Sheriff's Office, assisted Cameron and Declan in their shopping. He has one simple wish for them and other Natrona County children this holiday season.

"I hope this is the merriest Christmas they've ever had, and that they just keep getting better."

INSURANCE CHANGES BEGIN JAN. 1, 2012

By Arlene Steward

CIGNA'S "CALL A NURSE ANYTIME" PROGRAM

This program will no longer be available due to low volume. Please discard your magnets.

NEW GREAT/WEST-CIGNA ID CARDS

Due to the change from the CIGNA RX Prime (TelDrug mail order) program to the MedImpact (MedVantx mail order) program, new ID cards will be issued in December. They will be activated for use beginning Jan. 1. Your current ID number will remain the same.

MEDIMPACT (LOCAL), MEDVANTX (MAIL ORDER) AND DIPLOMAT SPECIALTY PHARMACY

It is important that you read the details about this program in the State of Wyoming Benefits Press (September 2011 issue), mailed to your home in October. You may also access this information on the EGI's website, egi.wyo.gov, under Publications.

This program coordinates the prescription copay with your dependents' (spouse and/or children) other prescription program when that plan is primary and this plan is secondary.

This program will require members and their health care provider to follow "Step Therapy," which is the use of "first line" prescriptions before other prescriptions are used. You must get prior authorization before your prescription is filled. In most cases, if you have filled a prescription within 180 days (six months) prior to Jan. 1, you will be "grandfathered" in the program and no prior authorization will be required.

CIGNA's plan is to have all refill prescriptions currently on file to be moved to this program. Their processes should be transparent to the individual. You may register now, if you wish, by visiting www.medimpact.com/member. Select Register and follow the instructions. Your ID number is your number on the current Great/West-CIGNA ID card. The registration process works!

HEALTHIER WYOMING

Congratulations to the 584 employees who

completed the wellness program to earn credit for 2012! You will save \$40 per month (\$480 annual discount) on your 2012 health premiums. The discount will reflect on your paychecks beginning December 2011, through November 2012. Insurance premiums are deducted in advance.

The *Wyoming on Wellness* fall newsletter was mailed to employees' homes in October. Please review that issue regarding the opportunity to earn a \$40 monthly health premium discount in 2013. The program runs from October 2011, through September 2012.

DIRECTION FOR THE NEW HEALTH ASSESSMENT PROVIDED BY WYOMING HEALTH FAIRS AND MAYO CLINIC

Activate your Health Assessment with Wyoming Health Fairs one of two ways:

1. If you attend a blood draw event with Wyoming Health Fairs, you may request to be activated for your assessment at that time. For the Wyoming Health Fair blood draw events schedule go to www.wyominghealthfairs.com/state_employees.htm. Your blood draw results will automatically populate into the assessment. The results will also be mailed to your home or e-mailed to you, whichever you request. Then, go to www.BeWellEmbodyHealth.com to complete your assessment.

2. If you have already participated in an event (blood draw) within the last 90 days, call Wyoming Health Fairs directly at (800) 979-3711.

Please note: If your blood screenings are performed by a different health care provider, after you activate your Health Assessment by calling the 800 number listed above, you may enter your blood screening information at that time.

Arlene Steward, Benefits & Salary manager,
(307) 253-5208

Monica Sayles, Employee Relations specialist,
(307) 253-5310

Patty Hines, compensation specialist,
(307) 253-5229

BELONG, continued from page 1

MaryAnn Chavez sits in the NCHS library one afternoon surrounded by high schoolers, all with different backgrounds, different stories. Their common thread is they have been handpicked from their own cliques to spread a message of acceptance, tolerance, and respect among their peers.

Ms. Chavez is the program manager of NCHS' Safe Schools Ambassadors Program. In its second year, the group is 75 strong and is looking to recruit 25 more.

The Ambassadors receive training on how to prevent or stop bullying within their own group of friends. They encourage their friends to stop judging others, redirect their negative energy, and to learn a person's story.

"Once you know their story, it can help you value them and what they are going through," said Sherae Hoffman, senior.

Ethan Sheffield is a senior and was one of the original students chosen as an Ambassador last year. He says "by representing each individual group, you're building strength within the group and you're unifying each group together, creating a stronger school."

Ethan says he may not know the full impact of his effort as an Ambassador but he said he sees a difference within his own group of friends.

"It's nice to see so many people in your school that you know have your back," said junior Joann Colina.

The Ambassadors meet twice a month in their "family groups" and periodically as a full group to share stories, successes, or swap ideas. They would like to see the program started in the middle school level so kids have the skills and knowledge and have experienced the culture by the time they get into high school.

BUILDING CHARACTER THROUGH EIGHT KEYS

School has become more than teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic. Teachers are having to instill confidence and a sense of values for many kids who may not be getting it at home.

Teachers at Park Elementary are using the principals of the Eight Keys of Excellence. This character-building program teaches kids the importance of integrity, honesty, kindness, determination, flexibility, and positive attitudes.

"You don't need an anti-bully program when you teach them these eight keys and give them the tools to follow," said Doris Waddell, Park Elementary principal.

Mrs. Waddell says even though this is the first year for this curriculum at their school, she's seeing it working and she's hearing from parents that it's working at home. The school shares tips in

the parent newsletter to give families understanding of the program and tools to use the ideals within their own home.

To learn more about the Eight Keys of Excellence, you can visit 8keys.org.

LESSONS FROM THE SADDLE

"They do what they do because of what they've been through in the past. It takes a while to build trust. They all have stories."

"I worked through feeling scared. We connected on a different level. I trust him. He trusts me."

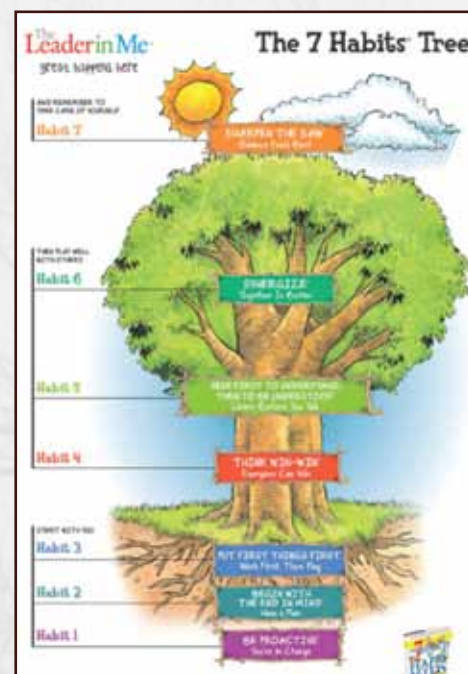
"I've learned about boundaries."

"He's a teenaged boy just like me."

These are comments shared by Kelly Walsh students. They're not talking about a relationship with a new friend, instead they're speaking of the bond they share with their horses in the K-WHOA (Kelly Walsh Horses Offering Assistance) program. K-WHOA utilizes Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) activities as a teaching tool. Students can earn one credit and up to two proficiencies in their P.E. course. The proficiencies are health and physical education. EAL focuses on health, emotional and personal development.

Julie Feiler and Karol Santistevan facilitate the program, made possible through a BOCES grant. Ms. Feiler says the kids have already learned so much from their horses. It's more than grooming, saddling them up and learning how to ride.

"I've seen them open up to each other, to us. They've developed trust with each other. They support and encourage each other." It



The 7 Habits tree poster uses the analogy of a mature tree to illustrate applying the habits to one's life. Kids' language is used to help children relate the habits to their reality (TheLeaderInMe.org). Summit Elementary uses this philosophy.

gives them another reason to come to school.

K-WHOA students spend two days a week during P.E. working with "their" horse at the Reach 4 A Star Riding Academy. It's a unique opportunity for kids to learn to appreciate and experience caring for a horse; in turn, they walk away with their own life lessons. The goal of K-WHOA is to increase student engagement in school and ultimately to earn a diploma.

Principal Brad Diller is excited about the opportunity these kids are getting.

"It's all about building relationships through trust, communication and kindness."

"The horses help to instill hope in these kids, a sense of value, and a place to belong at KW," said Ms. Felier. "EAL is an effective learning tool for any student of any age level."

MAKING IT A HABIT

Walking around Summit Elementary, the expectations are clear. Kids are encouraged to form seven habits and make them part of the language they speak and the culture they live.

"If our goal is to raise confident, competent leaders that give back to their community, it starts in elementary school," says Summit Principal Dr. Anne LaPlante.

The habit tree is a prominent feature in the school's commons area. It showcases the seven habits expected of students at Summit. It teaches kids to be responsible for their behaviors, to value each other, and to look out for each other.

LaPlante says, "We are showing kids what 'Be Good' looks like."

They don't call it an anti-bullying program; it's merely their culture that supports a loving and nurturing environment from adults all the way down to the littlest child. LaPlante believes by instilling these expected behaviors, they are teaching the kids to value and celebrate everyone's unique gifts and talents instead of judging someone for their differences.

Other schools like Sagewood Elementary are using incentives for good choices and good behavior. At Sagewood, students are rewarded with coupons that they can use to purchase small items in the school store.

Even though each of these programs is unique and use different paths to get to the end result, they all share the same goal. When kids can feel empowered to make a difference in their own schools, they can maximize their potential as learners in their own lives.

YOU CAN HELP END CHILD HUNGER FOR \$4 A WEEK

As we move into 2012 and the spring semester, Totes of Hope lead Lori Burns wants to let the NCSD community know about the program's progress. Through the work of school nurses, counselors and other staff, 200 children have been identified and are being served in almost every school in our community, including Alcova, Evansville, Bar Nunn, Mills and Midwest.

Burns has launched a new website located at TotesOfHope.org. Here you will find information on the program, including FAQs, volunteer opportunities, donation information and much more. Also, make sure to "Like" Totes on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NatronaCountyTotesOfHope to get all the latest information on the program.

The program's "stuffing station" has moved to a new location in the CSF-McKinley Annex, located at 1044 Foster Rd. Burns would like to say a big "thank you" to the volunteers who helped move on Saturday, Dec. 10.

Join Burns and other volunteers for the monthly packing events the third Wednesday of each month at the new location mentioned above. Upcoming stuffing dates are: Dec. 21, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 21 and April 18.

See TOTES, page 8

Roping the Wind

By Shauna VanderLinden

Fields of wind turbines dotting the Wyoming landscape have become a familiar site. As our state continues to harness this abundant natural resource, one Natrona County school is replicating this real-world concept in its schoolyard. This true example of 21st Century learning is available to the students at Summit Elementary School.

In a ceremony in November, community, school and district leaders, along with the Summit student body, dedicated their own wind turbine located right on the school grounds.

The wind turbine at Summit Elementary will be connected to a power and weather station to offer students a vast array of scientific lessons. There are applications for all grade levels, K through 5, including observing changes in weather, drawing connections between living things and their environment, and collecting and organizing weather data. The wind turbine offers students a realistic and relevant outlet for their science studies, while tying in

Wyoming's natural landscape and resources.

From the early brainstorming design process of this elementary school, the plan was to showcase a whole new look and function of this school as a transformative and whole different approach for learning. It's elements like this wind turbine that lend to that very idea.

This was made possible through the generosity of community partners and donors. Thank you to Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky Renewable Energy Program, Admundson and Associates, AP Wyoming, Lee H. Skolnick & Design Partnerships, RB+B Architects, Sun Power Energy, The Edwards Group, and the Natrona County School District Board of Trustees.

Summit Elementary Kid Council members cut a ribbon at a recent ceremony for the school's wind turbine.



TOTES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

The Totes of Hope program is 100% volunteer-run, and every penny counts. There currently is funding for 200 students each week through *part* of spring semester. More funds are needed to continue the program for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year and for future years. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to help the students in our community and end child hunger. Details on how to donate can be found at TotesOfHope.org/donate.

For more information on how to sign up a student in-need, volunteer, make a donation or if you have questions, please contact Burns in NCS D Community Partnerships at lori_burns@natronaschools.org or (307) 253-5394.



It costs about \$4 a week to feed a child through Totes of Hope. The district is able to keep costs low by purchasing the food through the Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies, rather than commercial stores. Visit TotesofHope.org for more information.

Food Network Chef Encourages Kids to Get Paid for Their Passion

By Shauna VanderLinden

Even the best-laid plans can get derailed, and often do. For Keegan Gerhard, he always thought he'd be an athlete. He had his eyes set on the Olympics. But it was that dream that led him to where he is today — a renowned pastry chef, restaurant owner, and celebrity chef and judge on "Food Network Challenge."

Brought in by the NCS D Discover Program, Gerhard visited Casper and the NCS D in early December as the guest speaker at the FIRST Lego League Robotics Competition and took some time to speak to students at ProStart.

"Culinary arts for me was a complete mistake. It was a matter of survival, honestly," explains Gerhard. "I was traveling around America training for bicycle racing trying to support myself, and I was cooking to do that. It turned out I found something I liked to do that I was good at."

Keegan went on to become one of the top 10 pastry chefs in the nation in 2002 and 2004, as named by both "Chocolatier" and "Pastry Art & Design." He and his wife also opened a restaurant in Denver called D Bar and are working on opening another in San Diego.

During his visit to ProStart, Gerhard shared his background with the students, learned a little about them and even demonstrated how to make ganache.

During his demonstration, he used his own life story to inspire and encourage kids to be open to what they are good at and to find a way to get paid for it. His message to students is a simple one: "It's up to you." He reminded them, though, that it requires some steps.

1. Identify what you want to do.

Food Network chef Keegan Gerhard demonstrates technique to ProStart students.



2. Have a back-up plan. Go to school.
3. Commit to it.

"You've gotta know that it's up to you. Don't be discouraged. Know that you can do whatever you want to do. If I can be a chef on TV, after my life, then anything's possible."

Keegan never set out to be a TV chef. In fact, he didn't even go to culinary school. Instead, he was fortunate enough to train under some of the best in the business. He did an apprenticeship under world-renowned pastry chef Jacquy Pfeifer and worked alongside Norman Love and Charlie Trotter.

"My career is me being fortunate to work with the best. If you can work with the best, it should rub off on you at some point and I think I'm lucky enough that some of that did," said Gerhard.

Gerhard says, though, at the end of the day he's just a cook, who owns a little restaurant in Denver, Colorado, and he gets to serve people.

"That's what I love to do. I love to make people happy and I get paid to do it."

DVORAK: 'THANK YOU' FOR TAKING ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Employee engagement is on the rise, which affects student achievement

By Jennifer Cousineau

A consultant from the Gallup Organization recently presented the results of the 2011 student and employee engagement surveys, one of the measures of the district's Goal 4: Safe, Healthy People. Employee engagement, Superintendent Joel Dvorak explains, is correlated to student achievement.

Dr. Valerie Calderon congratulated the district on the "good news" found in the report and for listening to the voices of its employees and students.

There was a 77% response rate among employees this year, versus 68% in 2010. Last year, 25% of staff said they were engaged in their work. That figure exploded this year to 40%. Compared to the best-performing school districts in the country that measure employee engagement, this figure is

"tremendous and unprecedented," according to Dvorak. Calderon explained that in these best-performing districts, about 55% of employees say they are engaged in their work.

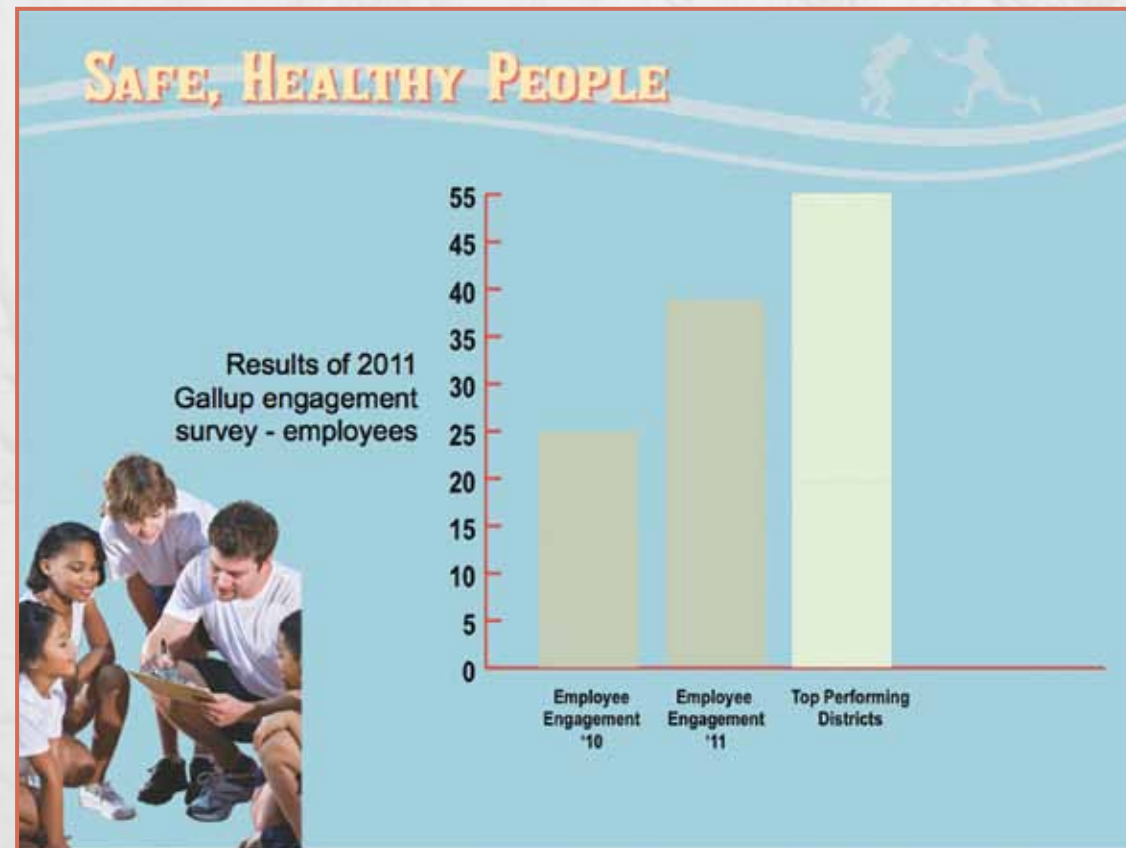
Dr. Dvorak is thrilled by this data.

"I say, 'Wow. Great job. Thank you, and let's continue to get better,'" he said. "Considering this small sample of school districts, we've closed the gap tremendously. I'm incredibly proud that leaders and employees feel good and better about where they work. We're going to make great strides next year, and the next. We're building great intentionally around how employees work, which therefore affects how kids learn."

Regarding the student survey, Calderon explained that 2,015 more students (in fifth through 12th grades) participated in the survey this year than

in 2010. Hope, engagement and well-being were measured: 56% said they were hopeful; 60% said they were engaged; and 66% said they had a sense of well-being.

Calderon and another consultant will return this month to guide district leaders through impact planning and best practices training. They also will engage in a strategy to identify and develop the strengths of district leaders.



New Program at KW Works to Increase Student Achievement, Graduation Rate

By Jennifer Cousineau

Kelly Walsh High School junior Barack West can't fall behind, being an active member in the Wyoming Army National Guard. That's why he is so grateful to his buddy, senior Dusty York, for telling him about KW's new after-school tutoring program.

The program is held in the library from 3 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The week of *News Zone's* distribution marks the fourth week of the program's existence, and it's attracting quite the crowd, from kids who are flunking classes, to kids to who need just a bit of catching up, to athletes who missed a test, and to honors students whose teachers encourage them to go for a quiet place to study.

"It's a place to come where kids can do and get help with homework," Marty Wood, KW assistant principal, said. "A lot of times, they can't get the help at home, or they might be learning things that even willing parents don't know how to help them with."

KW's library media technician, Lynnette Wiginton, said the fewest number of students the program has seen to-date was 30.

"I had no clue it would be this big," Wiginton said. "Marty had the faith, though. It's really exciting. I've had kids celebrating with me who have never even talked to me before!"

Wood suggested the idea to fellow school administrators after implementing it when he served as principal in Torrington.

Wiginton went on to explain that there always is at least one math and one language arts teacher present, plus two additional certified teachers.

"We're here to help the kids be successful, whether they need one-on-one tutoring, a quiet place to read or study, or just a question answered every now and then. This gives them

a place to come by choice. Teachers are just here to help and act as resources."

Wiginton said she just wants the kids to be loved.

Contact is made with every student as they check in and as snacks and water are passed out. Each evening, Wiginton provides to teachers and the attendance officer information about who attended that day's session.

The goal of the program is to increase student achievement and KW's graduation rate. Will it work? Wiginton and other staff members will meet in January to discuss the effects, as well as focus on strategies for next semester.

"If I fall behind, I certainly will come again," Barack said, as he snacked on some pretzels. "I've already gotten four paragraphs written on a research paper, and I came in here with nothing! With the Guard and work, I don't have time to do homework."



Kelly Walsh math teacher Beth Williams helps a group of students during the school's new after-school tutor program. Math help is one of the biggest needs, she said.

STUDENTS HELP DISTRICT SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER

Thanks to all the students who submitted their works of art for the district's yearly holiday card contest. Congratulations to the following students who won:

- * Kalob Fisher, fourth-grader at North Casper Elementary (upper design)
- * Hunter Lane, first-grader at Manor Heights Elementary (lower design)

Congratulations also to the following honorable mentions:

- * Cael Hull, first-grader at Park Elementary
- * MaKayla McMurray, third-grader at Midwest Elementary

Staff members and community partners have been sent one of the cards designed by Kalob and Hunter. The boys were recognized at last week's board meeting, and received a box of cards and envelopes with their own respective designs.



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

The Natrona County School District's Diversity Partnerships team (formerly Diversity Task Force) will hold its January meeting from 4:45 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, in the Westwood Room at the district's Central Services Facility.

The task force changed its name to support the direction of the Board of Trustees. A diversity philosophy was presented as a first reading during last week's board meeting, and, if accepted, will become a board policy.

Join Diversity Partnerships to celebrate diversity!

