This is the KES Way Kindness Effort Safety



Killingworth Elementary School

January 2025

Regional School District #17



Dennis Reed Principal



Important Dates

1 New Year's Day-District Closed

- 2 Welcome back!
- 2 Food Drive Begins
- 8 Kindergarten Registration (9:00 to 7:00 pm)
- 9 Kindergarten Registration (9:00 to 3:00 pm)
- 10 Spirit Day—Crazy Hair Day
- 15 Preschool Screening
- 15 PTO-sponsored assembly
- 20 ML King, Jr. Day—No school
- 21 Early Dismissal—1:05
- 21 No AM PreK (PM comes in AM)
- 21 BOE meeting
- 24 Spirit Day—KES Wear
- 28 PTO meeting
- 28 Food Drive Ends



<u>Safety Reminder</u> If KES ever needs to be evacuated in case of an emergency, the students will be transferred by bus to the H-K Intermediate/Middle School. Their main office phone number is 860-663-1241. WWW.RSD17.ORG Happy New Year! I hope you all have a restful and relaxing holiday season, filled with time to recharge and enjoy each other's company. It is hard to believe that we will soon be back at school, ready to begin the second half of the year!

As we move into January, our students are really starting to hit their stride. The months of January and February are crucial as students start to solidify foundational skills and make significant strides in both their learning and their independence. Whether they are growing in their reading abilities, mastering math concepts, or enhancing their social-emotional development, it's always wonderful to see how much they are learning and growing.

What's Ahead for January:

- Focus on Learning: Our teachers will continue to work closely with each student, providing wholegroup, small-group, and individualized instruction to help them succeed. We encourage you to check in with your child about what they are learning and celebrate their progress together.
- **Reflection:** We will take some time to reflect on the holiday season and discuss the importance of setting goals for the upcoming months. We encourage families to have these conversations at home as well.
- Winter Weather: Please remember that we go outside for recess as long as the temperature is above 20 degrees with the windchill. Be sure your child is dressed warmly for outdoor activities.

We are looking forward to the growth and achievements that will come in the next few months. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in making this year a success.

Sincerely, Dennis Reed Principal

KILLINGWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January 2025					BREAKFAST
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Breakfast \$2.75 Reduced \$0.00 Milk \$0.65			2. Breakfast Break Cereal Pack, Craisins, Milk	3. Breakfast Variety, Applesauce, Juice, Milk	
6. Breakfast Break Cereal Pack, Craisins, Milk	7. Breakfast Muffin Strawberries, . Juice, Milk	8. Breakfast Breads Pineapple Juice Milk	9 Cinnamon Bun Peaches, Juice, Milk	10. Breakfast Variety, Applesauce, Juice, Milk	
13. Breakfast Break Cereal Pack, Craisins, Milk	14. Breakfast Muffin Strawberries, Juice, Milk	15. Breakfast Breads Pineapple Juice Milk	16. Cinnamon Bun Peaches, Juice, Milk	17. Breakfast Variety, Applesauce, Juice, Milk	
20. Martin Luther King Day-No School	21. Breakfast Muffin Strawberries, Juice, Milk	22 Breakfast Breads Pineapple Juice Milk	23. Cinnamon Bun Peaches, Juice, Milk	24. Breakfast Variety, Applesauce, Juice, Milk	SCHOO BREAKFA
27. Breakfast Break Cereal Pack, Craisins, Milk	28 Breakfast Muffin Strawberries, Juice, Milk	29. Breakfast Breads Pineapple Juice Milk	30. Cinnamon Bun Peaches, Juice, Milk	31. Breakfast Variety, Applesauce, Juice, Milk	HEALTHY FOC HUNGRY MI



FUEL YOUR BODY WITH SCHOOL BREAKFAST!

HEALTHY FOOD FOR HUNGRY MINDS!





TUESDAY







MONDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch Prices- Full Pay-\$4.00 Reduced- \$0.00 Milk- \$0.65	ि भ Student Approved		2. Chicken Tenders, Vegetable Medley, Fruit of the Day, Milk	3. Cheese Pizza Chef Choice Vegetable Fruit of the Day, Milk
6. Mozzarella Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Side Salad, Fruit of the Day, Milk	7. Hot Diggity Beef Hotdog, Baked Beans, Fruit of the Day, Milk Milk	8. Ham, Egg and Cheese Sandwich, Breakfast Potatoes Chocolate Strawberry Smoothie, Milk	9. Chicken Patty Sandwich, Potato Wedges Fruit of the Day, Milk	10. Bosco Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Chef Choice Vegetable Fruit of the Day, Milk
13. H Turkey Burger, Onion Rings, 24 Fruit of the Day, Milk	14. Pasta w/Meat Sauce, Caesar Salad, Garlic Knot, Fruit of the Day, Milk	15. Waffles/ w/ Strawberries, Sausage, Tater Tots, Milk	16 Chicken Teriyaki, Broccoli, H Lo Mein Noodles, Fortune Cookie Fruit of the Day, Milk	17. Pizza Chef Choice Vegetable Fruit of the Day, Milk
20.	21 Turkey and Cheese Sandwich, Tomato Soup, Fruit of the Day, Milk	22. Pancake, Scrambled Eggs, Hash Brown, Fruit and Milk	23. Pesto Pasta w/ Chicken, Roll, Side Salad, Fruit of the Day, Milk	24. Wild Mikes Cheese Bites, Marinara Sauce Chef Choice Vegetable Fruit of the Day, Milk
27. Chicken Parm, Garlie Breadstick, Steamed Broccoli Fruit of the Day, Milk	28. Mini Corn Dogs, Steamed Carrots, Fruit of the Day, Milk	29. WG French Toast Sticks, Sausage Patty, Hash Browns Fruit of the Day, Milk	30. Cheeseburger Sweet Potato Fries, Fruit of the Day, Milk	31. Pizza Chef Choice Vegetable Fruit of the Day, Milk

WEDNESDAY

KES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL January Lunch 2025



Lunch Prices-Full Pay-\$4.00 Reduced- \$0.00 Milk- \$0.65

MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A MEAL IS HOT ENTRÉE LISTED ON LEFT

B MEAL IS A CHICKEN GARDEN SALAD, ROLL FRUIT OF THE DAY AND MILK

JANUARY 2025

KILLINGWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



On Tuesday, December 3, Killingworth Elementary School celebrated GivingTuesday with *Dress Up Like Your Favorite Book Character* storytime from the Killingworth Women's Organization (KWO), and donations to buy books for KES. The event was a hit with every classroom, having a special reader share a story and raising \$300 for the KES library to purchase books. KWO members loved reading to the children and look forward to this event every year.



Paws-itively Awesome Students











Treehouse Players visited KES. With the help of many student actors, the story *One* by Katheryn Otoshi was brought to life. This simple story is about bullying, its effects, and

how we can stand up and say something. Thank you PTO!





Our first group of food ambassadors were hard at work again in December. Our ambassadors tested a turkey burger, a chocolate strawberry

smoothie, pesto pasta and lomein noodles. Our ambassadors did a great job testing these new food items. Watch for the chef's hat next to these items on the January menus!





From the Health Office

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable holiday recess with family and friends. As we return back to school, there will likely occur a surge of respiratory illness similar to the trends after Thanksgiving break. Be advised ~ atypical, or "walking" pneumonia has been diagnosed more frequently this school year. If your child's illness is lingering, be sure to have them assessed at their pediatrician's office.

Maintaining a regular sleep schedule, promoting good hand hygiene and nutrition, and getting fresh air and exercise all help to keep students better equipped to fend off pesky viruses. *If your child will be absent, please remember to report the reason before school begins*. I am available to help with management of symptoms and to troubleshoot the course of illness; please do not hesitate to reach out with any concerns that you may have.

There have been cases of head lice in school this year, more prevalently than last year. Regular scalp checks at home can aid in early detection, and students may return to school once they are treated with medicated shampoo. I am available to help you troubleshoot treatment and cleaning precautions for the home if lice is detected. Individual classes will be notified via email to be extra vigilant if a case is reported. Reiterate to your child that they should avoid sharing hats, brushes, or hair accessories, and make a plan with fellow parents to do a scalp check before sleepovers. While pediculosis is a disruptive nuisance, it does not denote lack of cleanliness in the home or improper hygiene. Lice are equal-opportunity pests, so any stigma around having it in the home is unnecessary.

Lastly, with winter's dry air upon us, it is a good time to remind your child about the importance of drinking plenty of water. Applying lotion to the skin after bathing helps keep the skin integrity intact, and some lip balm applied to the lips before sleep helps to heal chapped skin overnight.

Make sure to pack an extra pair of leggings/pants and socks for school, as the conditions for recess may be wet or slippery. An extra hat or pair of mittens is a good idea, too. The cold is upon us!

Here's to a healthy and happy new year for all!

~ Liza Griswold, RN, AD, BA









We are ringing in the new year with empathy and kindness in Second Step! All students are beginning Unit 3, where they will learn how showing kindness through actions and words can help build stronger friendships and create a more supportive, respectful community. Students will practice giving compliments, offering help, and working together to solve problems. They will also discover that small acts of kindness–like sharing, listening, or offering support–can make a big difference. The goal is for students to understand that kindness is not just about how we

feel but how we treat others and contribute to a caring and inclusive community. By the end of this unit, students will have developed the tools to foster stronger friendships and further contribute to a school culture where empathy and kindness are at the heart of every interaction. We are excited to see how our students will practice these skills in and out of the classroom.

~ Ms. Hyman, Social Worker

KILLINGWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TheARTRoom

Happy New Year to all of you from the art room. I hope everyone has an enjoyable vacation week. As we roll into January, the students will continue to create art projects using the elements of art and the principles of design. Kindergarten

classes will continue to focus on line, shape, and texture this month while creating a painting of a fuzzy teddy bear. First grade students are in the middle of working on a tropical fish watercolor painting. The students are mixing colors and learning watercolor painting techniques. Second grade students are starting on their still-life paintings. They will be looking at various artists and comparing different compositions and styles. The students will draw, watercolor, and acrylic paint in the next few weeks. Third grade students will be starting a landscape. They will be observing various artists and comparing and analyzing paintings. They will also create a drawing of a rural farm landscape adding houses and barns. They will focus on drawing foreground, middle ground, and background techniques.

~ Mrs. Kelsey











It will be 2025 soon! Welcome to a new year in the library! But first, a December recap. Morning preschool students read books about snowmen (*Snowmen at Night, Snowmen at Work*, and *Snowmen at Christmas*) and contemplated what our frozen friends might be doing while we are asleep.

Afternoon preschool students followed some mischievous cookies through *Gingerbread Friends*, and some mischievous potato pancakes through *The Runaway Latkes*. Kindergarten continued to work on identifying which book in a given pair was fiction and which was nonfiction using books about giraffes (*Giraffe and a Half* was the fiction story) and lobsters (*There Might Be Lobsters*). First graders continued to work on nonfiction with two books starring robots: *Facts vs. Opinions vs. Robots* and *Wants vs. Needs vs. Robots*. Second graders continued to explore narrative nonfiction with *Magic Ramen* and *Miracle Mud*. Third graders took a deep dive into the life of Sonia Sotomayor and completed their own paragraph-long biographies of her. Our third session of Book Club wrapped up just before break. A fourth session for third grade will start soon; keep an eye out for the first second-grade Book Club in February. Not sure when your child has library? Check out the table on the library website, which can be accessed from KES's website. While you are there, click the link to our Goodreads page to find out more information on the books each grade has been reading. Until next month, happy reading!

~ Mrs. Hosking & Mrs. Murphy



News from the KES Gym

During the first week of December, we learned how to hold and throw a football. We had a fun time hitting targets all over the gym and playing catch with our friends. We practiced how to hula hoop and

jump rope. We played a classic PE game called Wax Museum practicing our body control. We played a brand new team building game called Battleship. Students were on blue mats (ships) all over the gym working together to knock over other teams' bowling pins. We finished off December with a fun holiday game trying to knock down snowmen (bowling pins) and snow globes (hula hoop towers).

During the month of January, we will continue to change up the warm-up routine with new and fun exercises. We will continue to play fun tag games to work on our cardio vascular endurance and agility. We will continue the progress of learning how to use a jump rope and a hula hoop. We will also play a fun team-building game called Cross the River and Giant Jump Rope Challenge.

I wish you all a safe and exciting holiday break with family and friends!

Remember, GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY!

~ Mr. Weeks



In the month of December, all grade levels have been working on the beautiful Nutcracker. We talked about the ballet, different music from the Nutcracker, and some interesting facts about the wonderful composer,

Peter Tchaikovsky. Third graders had a wonderful experience on their field trip to see the Nutcracker live at Garde Arts Center in New London. Please take a moment to ask your child to share some great things he/she has learned with you.

In January, third graders will continue to work on their recorder skills and build up their repertoire including some new notes such as C and D.

All grades will start our winter unit full of winter-related songs, games and dances.

Have a happy and healthy holiday season.

~ Mrs. Rubalsky



Happy New Year! Our preschool students have enjoyed exploring the winter season and learning a little more about the arctic and animals who live in that type of habitat. We have also had a lot of holiday fun over the past month. We learned about various Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas traditions. We ended the final week of December, before our winter break, with some gingerbread fun! We read various

gingerbread men stories and decorated gingerbread houses together with our families in cozy pajamas. Looking ahead, our focus in January will be around the study of pets. We will have discussions around our personal pets, learn about types of animals that would make good pets, and learn how to take care of these animals. We will continue working on learning the letters of the alphabet and their sounds as well as introducing how to form the letters. Please continue to work with your child on putting on their coat and zipping it up. We will also be practicing in class.

~ Mrs. Golas & Mrs. Treubig



KINDERGARTEN Kindergartners will start the new year off beginning our next math unit. This unit which explore's numbers 5-10 and adds to their knowledge of shapes. During Wit & Wisdom lessons, we will continue to study life on a farm and notice what happens

on Maple Hill Farm each season. During writing, kindergartners will begin to learn about writing sentences, experimenting with starting with a capital letter, leaving spaces between words, and finishing with punctuation.

~ Mrs. Isleib, Mrs. Jacobs, & Mrs. Pommer



Happy New Year first grade families and friends! January is a busy month for first graders. First graders will finish their Creature Features Wit & Wisdom module and start their Powerful Forces module. In this module, students will explore the powerful force of the wind as well as the force of our

emotions. In spelling, first graders will spell words with the blends as well as continuing practice with the suffix -s and welded sounds (-unk, -ing, onk, -ang, etc). In math, students will be starting Unit 3 focusing on collecting & organizing data as well as determining if equations are true or false. Students will continue to practice strategies to build their math calculation fluency within 10. In social studies, first graders will be learning about role models in their communities and how historical figures have left a positive impact on our world. In science, students will start their PLTW Animal Adaptations unit and learn how animals adapt to their environment for survival. For social emotional learning, first graders will be focusing on building empathy and problem solving.



Happy holidays from second grade!

With a new year comes even more new learning!

In math, we are moving into our third unit this January called Numbers Within 1,000. In this unit, students will continue to develop their skills in understanding the value of a digit in a number depending on its place in the number. This knowledge will help students to determine the total value of a number and will help them read, write, and compare numbers. Students will also learn how to build three-digit numbers in different ways, as well as add and subtract three-digit numbers using multiple strategies.

In Wit & Wisdom, our Module 2 exploration continues! We will focus our next lessons on two mentor texts: The Legend of the Blue Bonnet by Tomie Depaola and The Story of Johnny Appleseed by Aliki. We will use these two texts to help us determine life lessons we can learn through these characters' journeys. Please keep an eye out for further information on this module from our grade-level Wit & Wisdom newsletters!

~ Mrs. Esposito, Mrs. Heil & Mrs. Munz





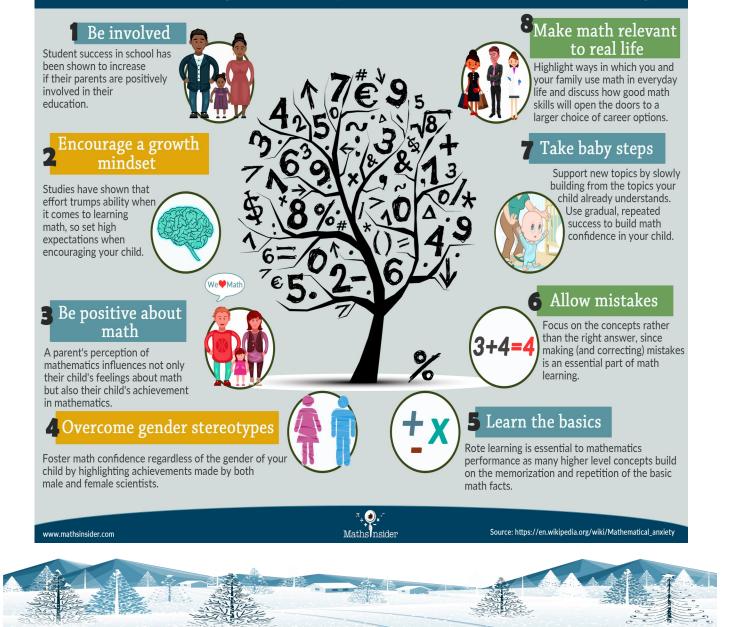
Happy New Year! We hope everyone has a relaxing and Wit ϕ Wisdom module focused on outer space. The

essential question is: How do people learn about space? Students will begin to answer this question as they learn about how Galileo learned about space. In math, students will be learning to use multiplication to find the area of rectangles and squares. Students will be learning how to find the area of combined rectangles and solve one-step word problems using multiplication and division. Daily practice of the multiplication and division facts continues to be important for mastery. Our next unit in science will be Variation of Traits. Students will be learning about inherited traits and traits influenced by the environment. Additionally, students will learn how to use a Punnett Square to predict traits. Thank you for your continued support.

~ Mrs. Brustman, Mr. Cusson & Ms. Rich

MATH CORNER

8 Practical Ways to Conquer Your Child's Math Anxiety



KES will hold a food drive during the month of January for our local food pantry. Please watch for the flyer that will detail the items that are needed the most.

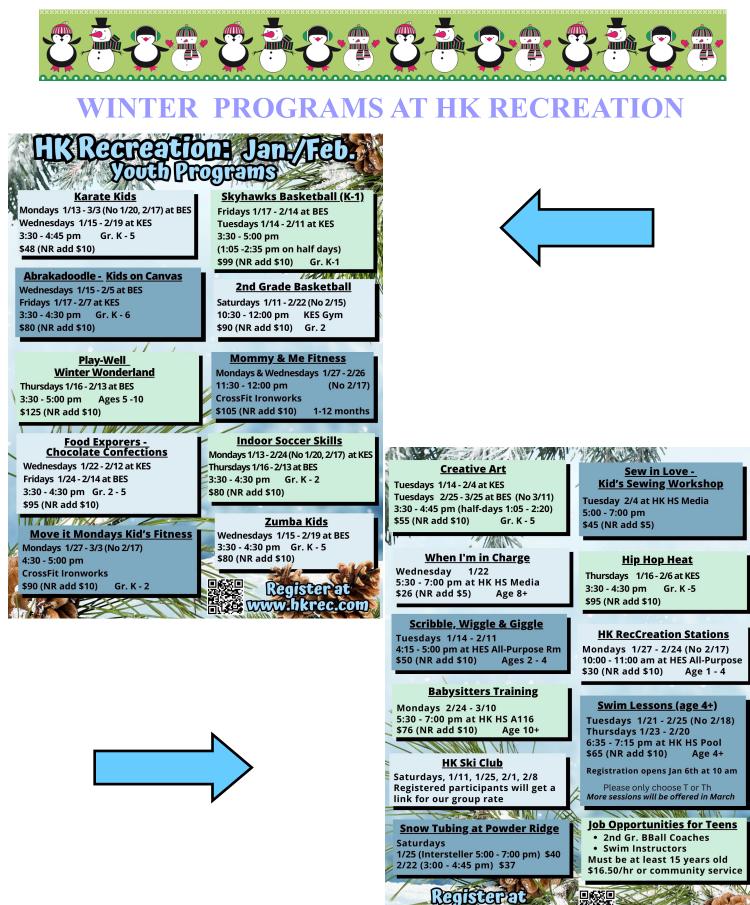


Registration for students who will be entering kindergarten in RSD #17 schools in 2025 will be held on Wednesday, January 8th from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm and Thursday, January 9th from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Children eligible to enter kindergarten in 2025 must reach their fifth birthday before September 1, 2025.

Original birth certificates (with a raised seal) should be shown at the time of registration. Original birth certificates must be presented before students can start school. Two proofs of residency are also required. Please bring them at the time of registration if possible. Acceptable forms of proof of residence include deed or current mortgage bill; in addition to one of the following: homeowners policy, rental agreement, bank statement, current paystub - we have a complete list in the office. Parent orientation and school visitation dates will be provided at registration.



KILLINGWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



www.hkrec.com



ADULT PROGRAMS AT HK RECREATION

HKRecreations Jan/Feb. Adult Programs

<u>Fitness Yoga</u> Tuesdays (in-person at HK IMS Caf) Thursdays (via zoom) 1/14 - 3/4 (No 2/18, 2/20, 2/25) 7:00 - 8:15 pm \$120 (12 classes) / \$66 (6 classes) \$12 drop-in NR add \$10 (in-person)

Sewing Workshop

Thursday, 1/23 5:30 - 8:30 pm at HK HS Lower Media \$60 (NR add \$5)

Beginner Crochet - 9 Block Square

Mondays, 1/27 - 4/7 (No 2/17) 6:00 - 7:00 pm at HK HS Media \$67 (NR add \$10)

Nuts to Bolts - Cars for Everyone

Thursdays, 2/20 - 3/6 6:30 - 8:30 pm at HK HS A124 \$102 (NR add \$10)

<u> Adult / Child CPR, AED, 1st Aid</u>

Monday & Wednesday 3/24 & 3/26 5:30 - 7:00 pm at HK HS \$68 (NR add \$10)

REGISTEPET

WWWWIDKREG-CO

Aqua Aerobics

Mondays & Wednesdays 2/3 - 2/24 (No 2/17) 6:30 - 7:30 pm at HK HS Pool \$48 (6 classes) / \$24 (3 classes) (NR add \$10)

Adult Coed Volleyball

Wednesdays 1/15 - 3/5 (No 1/29) 7:00 - 9:00 pm at HK HS Fieldhouse \$35 (NR add \$10)

<u>Pickleball (Int. & Adv)</u>

Mondays 1/6 - 2/24 (Int/Adv) Tuesdays 1/7 - 2/25 (Adv) Wednesdays 1/8 - 2/26 (Int/Adv) 6:30 - 8:30 pm at HES \$48 (NR add \$10) each session

<u>Men's Winter Basketball</u>

Tuesdays & Thursdays 1/7 - 3/6 8:30 - 10 pm (7:00 - 8:30 pm on 2/11 & 2/18) at HK Old MS Gym \$55 (1x week) / \$90 (2x week) (NR add \$10)



SNOW CANCELLATION PROCEDURES

The decision to cancel/delay school is made between 5-5:30 a.m.

- 1. Transportation gets the report from the State Police and Public Works.
- 2. RSD #17 Superintendent consults with various agencies and individuals.
- 3. Weather conditions are reviewed using local and area media services.
- 4. A decision is made by the Superintendent using all available information.
- 5. School Messenger alert system is initiated.

If school is delayed, the start time will be at 10:40.

If school is dismissed early, the dismissal time will be at 1:05.

A decision to dismiss early will only be used when the threat of weather is predictable and probable. The logic here is as follows:

In some cases, we would be dismissing students during the height of road crews completing the treatment of the roads. It is always best to wait until treatments are completed to a certain level.

In some cases, we would be sending students home without anyone home and without advance notice. We respect the fact that many people work away from their homes.





PJ Day to benefit Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) was a huge success! Thanks to your generous donations, CCMC received about \$340 from KES.



KES Spirit Week was a funfilled week with children showing their creativity on each of our themed days. Through your generosity, \$455 was raised by both students and staff and presented at the HKHS Holiday Show.



Jleana Alfonso, Michele Allen, Bonnie Amenta, Sue Anziano, Jhayleen Aquiles, Daryl Baird, Angela Bartelli, Jenn Beermuender, Kellie, Belledonne, Chris Bloomfield, Colleen Boothroyd, Kim Brustman, Denise Buckley, Joyce Callahan, Natalia Chanko, Deb Conway, Colleen Corniello, Craig Cusson,

Julia DeVivo, Michael Esposito,Tiffany Gonzalez, Kim Grass, Liza Hartman, Kelsie Lon Hosking, Erin Royse Jsleib, Megan Jenkins, Kelsey, Jen



Natalie Diaz, Eastman, Jen Golas, Aubrey Goodison, Mandy Griswold, Jennifer Hanser, Eliza Heil, Hull, Nicole Hyman, Bethany Jacobs, Donna Jones, Alexis Komanetsky, Robin

Konrad, Lee Kozlowski, Randi LaPierre, Dorothy Lomazzo, Jen Maio, McKenna Malcarne, Courtney Mariita, Alanna Marroney, Lindsey Meyer, Don Michaud, Josh Morehouse, Georganna Munz, Liz Murphy, Dayleen Nelson, Jordyn Nelson, Jaci Paulsen, Kali Penders, Torrey Pommer, Dennis Reed, Pam Rich, Lauren Roby, Jrina Rubalsky, Jeanette Schuster, Sallie Schwartz, Brenda Smith, Emily Smith, Lecy Spence, Katy Steinhilber, Becky Templeton, Jen Trenbig, Becky Viens, Carrie Walden, Desiree Walker, Teddy Weeks, Megan Williams, Randi Wilson, Beth Yaglowski, & Jerry Zarger