

School Calendar

Colby Public Schools
Monday, March 29 - Orange Day.
Tuesday, March 30 - Black Day. FFA Livestock Invitational at 8:30 a.m. at Oakley. FFA Northwest District Horse CDE at 1 p.m. at Oakley. Middle school scholars bowl at 4 p.m. at Oberlin.
Wednesday, March 31 - Orange Day. NKESC Legislative for grades 6-12 at 8:15 a.m. NWKL Art Show at St. Francis High School from 6-8 p.m.
Thursday, April 1 - Black Day. Lunch money due. First grade music program 1:30 and 7 p.m. at grade school auditorium. Forensics at 3:30 p.m. at Oakley.
Friday, April 2 - Orange Day. NWKL Art Show at St. Francis High School 8 a.m. to noon. **Saturday, April 3** - ACT test for high school students at 8 a.m. at Colby Community College. FFA Livestock Invitational at 9 a.m. at Phillipsburg. Breakfast, Monday - French toast with syrup, apple juice, milk and cereal choice. Tuesday - breakfast pizza, orange juice, milk and cereal choice. Wednesday - pancakes with syrup, applesauce, milk and cereal choice. Thursday - French toast sticks with syrup, apple juice, milk and cereal choice. Friday - pancake and sausage on a stick, apple slices, milk and cereal choice. Lunch, Monday - chicken patty on a bun, French fries, veggies, fruit, dessert, milk. Tuesday - korndog/beef and noodles, whipped potatoes with gravy, veggies, fruit, dessert, milk. Wednesday - baked potato bar with chili, broccoli, cheese, grated cheese, green beans, hot roll, strawberries with bananas and pear slices, milk. Thursday - chicken fajitas or chalupa, rice with cinnamon, corn, fruit, dessert, milk. Friday - Rib'a'Que or tuna sandwich/Pizza Hut (high school), French fries, veggies, dessert, milk.

Sacred Heart School
Lunch - Monday, turkey. Tuesday, beef and noodles. Wednesday, smothered hamburger steak.

Golden Plains Public Schools
Monday, March 29 - Middle school academic bowl at 4 p.m. at Grinnell. **Wednesday, March 31** - Grades 6-12 to Oakley. Breakfast, Rexford/Selden - Monday - grilled ham and cheese/biscuits and gravy. Tuesday - bagels/ham and toast. Wednesday - breakfast pizza/breakfast burrito. Lunch, Rexford/Selden - Monday - chicken fried steak/pizza. Tuesday - Frito pie/chili burger. Wednesday - surprise pizza/spaghetti.

Brewster Public Schools
Friday, April 2 - Regional 4-H Day 3-11 p.m. No school, QPA in-service. Breakfast, Monday - cereal or English muffin with ham and cheese, toast, juice, milk. Tuesday - cereal or cinnamon roll, toast, juice, milk. Wednesday - cereal or sausage biscuit, toast, juice, milk. Thursday - cereal or French toast sticks, toast, juice, milk. Friday - NO SCHOOL, QPA in-service. Lunch, Monday - chicken patty, mashed potatoes with white gravy, cheesy broccoli, apple crisp, apple half, wheat rolls, salad bar, milk. Tuesday - ham and cheese potato bake, green beans, Mandarin oranges, pineapple, rolls, salad bar, milk. Wednesday - pork fritter, mashed potatoes with white gravy, coleslaw, peas, peaches, pears, rolls, salad bar, milk. Thursday - nacho beef and cheese, chips, salsa, orange and apple halves, rolls, salad bar, milk.

Both chambers okay proposed budget

TOPEKA (AP) — Both legislative chambers have approved proposed budgets that slightly reduce overall spending for state government.

The House and Senate followed many of Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' recommendations for individual agencies and programs in drafting bills to appropriate about \$10.2 billion for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Approved on a 116-9 vote Thursday, the House version would cut overall spending next year by two-tenths of 1 percent. The Senate's version, passed 28-11, would drop the budget by three-tenths of 1 percent.

Both chambers endorsed Sebelius' proposal to give state workers a 3 percent pay raise. The House budget would leave the state with \$108 million in cash reserves at the end of June 2005, while the Senate version would provide for \$111 million in reserves.

Differences in the two chambers' spending recommendations will be resolved in negotiations, expected to start next week. Both chambers must adopt the same final version before it can go to Sebelius.

Abuse prevention month planned

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and local officials are wanting others to be reminded about the seriousness connected with abuse.

As a salute to this special month (and every month in the year) the Northwest Kansas Regional Prevention Center is dedicated to raising awareness about child abuse and neglect and what each one of us can do to help keep children safe, said Vicki Beiser, with the office in Colby.

"Each day, an average of three children die as a result of child maltreatment," she said.

For information or how to make a difference, call Beiser at (785) 462-8152.

But legislative leaders expect the biggest budget issues of the year, education and transportation spending, to remain unresolved until near the end of the session in early May.

The Senate devoted part of its 90-minute budget debate Thursday to spending for children's programs.

Sebelius wanted to put an additional \$6.8 million into Smart Start programs, which now spends \$3.2 million helping families with young children in 19 counties with services such as day care and parent education.

The Senate's budget would increase spending for Smart Start by \$6.3 million.

Some senators wanted to divert \$2 million of those funds to another program operated through school districts that provides parenting skills to families with young children. But the Senate rejected an amendment making the change on a voice vote.

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