



MAYWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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2025 Positive Graduation Memories

The Class of 2025 is anxious for graduation and all the changes that will occur beginning on Saturday, May 17, 2025. This school year has seen considerable success in volleyball, basketball, speech, FBLA, E-Sports and FFA. The 2025 senior class is racing with thoughts of graduating and moving on to new life experiences at MPCC, SCC, UNL Wayne State, work or the Armed Services. The number one comment I get when asking what they are most excited about is “Getting out of Maywood and moving forward.” That’s not too surprising a statement when you consider that almost all of us made similar statements some years ago ourselves!

Amidst this exciting time, I get a bit hesitant as a school leader, parent, and friend with all the celebratory activities. As parents, we have survived lots of growing hurdles with your son/daughter and now we are going to experience graduation and all the fun graduation celebrations bring. You have worked to prepare and protect your child from life experiences that have the potential to seriously harm or hurt them. We also realize that, as they become older adolescents that we cannot protect them from all potential harmful situations. I am however, concerned about all the upcoming graduation celebrations and the risks our children are going to be exposed to during this time from alcohol and automobiles.

According to the State of Nebraska, FY 2020 teen drivers involved in alcohol related crashes represents 11% of all teen crashes across the state. The highest hours of teen crashes are between 7:00 pm – and midnight, which is a dangerous time for teens and typically is when they are out celebrating and driving. Nebraska data reveals that teenage deaths increased by two to five deaths in 2020 that were alcohol related. Examining all vehicle crashes 17.9% of all fatal crashes involved alcohol for teens. Alcohol related fatalities as a percent of all fatalities is 23%. As a community we have worked too hard to get our sons/daughters to graduation and losing even one student to an alcohol related accident is one too high.

According to the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE), During 2009, an estimated 16 traffic fatalities and 667 nonfatal traffic injuries were attributable to driving after (under 21 years) drinking in Nebraska. Underage Nebraska children in 2009 account for 25.6% of all alcohol sales. The monetary costs of underage drinking in Nebraska, including the cost of medical care, work loss, and pain and suffering totaled more than an estimated \$423 million dollars. This represents a cost of \$2,309 per year for each youth in our state or an additional cost of \$2.92 per drink!

As a parent, we all have worked hard to raise our adolescents to this point in life and invested considerable time, sweat, effort, and money. Adults realize that trusting our students is not the issue; the issue is a lack of life’s experiences to correctly choose the right decisions. I am asking parents to help your graduate and their friends have a wonderful graduation celebration on May 17, 2025 by preventing drinking and driving. Help create only positive memories for all our graduates and Maywood students. Please visit with your son/daughter and share your expectations and concerns about drinking and driving or riding with someone who may be driving impaired. Parental views are the top influencer of behavior in this area with your son/daughter.

My hope for the Class of 2025 is to create positive graduation memories and not have a tragic experience associated with alcohol related accidents. I am looking forward to celebrating with the class of 2025 on May 17, 2025. Let’s all work together to create positive graduation memories for all!

Mark Bejot

May 2025



May Menu

Breakfast every day offers the choice of 3 different cold cereals. All grains offered at breakfast and lunch are whole grain rich. A variety of low fat and fat free milks are offered with breakfast and lunch. The Garden bar is offered to K-12 Students daily. Which includes a variety of fresh vegetables and fruit for the students to choose from.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1% White or flavored milk served daily This institution is an equal opportunity provider			1 Breakfast Pizza Mini Corndogs Mac & Cheese Peas Fruit	2 Pancake on a Stick Fried Chicken Legs Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Biscuit Fruit
5 Blueberry Bagels BBQ Rib Sandwich Fries Fruit	6 Biscuits & Gravy Sweet & Sour Chicken Fried Rice Egg Roll Fruit	7 Scrambled Eggs & Bacon Ham Sliders Peas Fruit	8 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Beef Tacos Refried Beans Fruit	9 Breakfast Burrito Sloppy Joes Fries Fruit
12 Waffles Chicken Fajitas with Peppers & Onions Refried Beans Fruit	13 Eggs, Hashbrowns, & Bacon Cooks Choice	14 Cherry Turnovers Cooks Choice	15 Breakfast Tacos Cooks Choice	16 Pancakes & Sausage Hot Dogs & Hamburgers Chips Carrots Celery
19 Chocolate Chip Muffins Cooks Choice	20 Oatmeal Snack Lunch Uncrustables Baby Carrots Cheese Sticks Juice	21 Frudel No Lunch Last Day of School	22	23
26	27	28	29	20

Maywood Public Schools is an equal opportunity provider. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.



May 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 - RPAC Golf Tourney @ Arrowhead Meadows In Curtis @ 10:00am - RPAC Track meet @ Cambridge @ 10:30	2 - MHC Track (RPAC Meet) @ Sutherland @ 10:30	3
4	5 - JH Track @ Wauneta -Palisade @ 10:30	6 - Golf @ Heritage Hills in McCook @ 10:00 - Track @ Best of the Midwest in Sutherland @ 3:00	7 - MHC Sports Banquet @ Hayes Center	8 - Golf @ River's Edge GC in North Platte @ 10:00	9 - Track @ DCS Twilight @ 1:30 - Honors/Awards Ceremony	10
11 - Mother's Day	12 - RPAC West JH Track @ DCS @ 10:00	13 - Golf @ Arrowhead Meadows in Curtis @10:00 -Preschool Graduation @ 10:00 -5-12 Spring Concert @ 6:30	14 - Districts Track (Class D) @ TBA	15 - 6-11th Grade School Physicals - Preschool Spring Program	16 - Elm. Field Day	17 - Maywood Graduation @ 10:00 - JH Track @ Gothenburg State Championships @ 11:00
18	19 - Districts Golf @ TBA	20 - Elem. Field Trips	21 - Last Day of School (11:30am Dismissal) No Lunch Served - Teacher In-Service	22 - Teacher In-Service	23 State Track Meet @ Omaha Burke Stadium	24
25	26 - Memorial Day 	27	28 NSAA State Golf @ Lake Maloney in North Platte @ TBA	29	30	31

Title 1 Tidbit

Hello All! Some of you are already aware of Title 1 opportunities at Maywood Public School but some of you may not be. I want to take a moment to explain Title 1 and invite you to contact me for more information! Title 1 is a Federal Program that provides opportunities for children to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to meet challenging state content standards. Title 1 resources are distributed to schools where needs are the greatest and Maywood is one of those schools. Part of my job as the Special Education and Title 1 Teacher at Maywood is to help all students, with various levels of ability, succeed! If you would like more information on Title 1, or if you'd like to learn about how Title 1 can benefit your child or children, please contact me! Let's talk about the opportunities and solutions available at Maywood!

Emily Lenz

K-12 Special Education and Title 1 Teacher

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308-362-4223

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION!

The MPS Lead4Change, MACC, the MPS Alumni Committee, and the Maywood Community invite you to an event-filled weekend promising fun for everyone. The events begin Friday evening, May 30, 2025, with a Team Sorting event. Registration for the Team Sorting competition, which features first-place buckles and “Top 3” pay outs, begins at 5:30 p.m. at Baker’s Lot east of the elevator with the Calcutta for Team Sorting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. (**Pre-registration required!** Vern Norgaard 308 737-1301) Bunkhouse Creations Food Truck will be onsite.

Saturday’s events begin with the Old Glory Days “Proud to be an American” themed parade (Charla Werkmeister 308 362-7426) and Classic Car Show (Casey Vogt 402 309-4451) registrations beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the circle drive in front of the school. The parade, featuring area veterans as the Grand Marshalls, begins at 10:00 a.m. with the Car Show scheduled from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the school. Attendees will have an opportunity “to judge” with trophies awarded in various categories and chances “to win” with trivia, a 50/50 cash raffle, and door prizes. Kids’ “Coins in the Sand” sponsored by the Maywood branch of the Henderson State Bank will be held at the sand volleyball court by the hall. Noon lunch will be served in the park by the MPS Class of 2027.

Tournament events begin at 2:00 p.m. in the park. Contact persons are as follows: Cornhole Tournament (Cody Hildebrandt 308 362-9033); Horseshoe Tournament (Rod Walker 308 650-9013); Sand Volleyball Tournament (Jaxson Anders 308 362-7828). The Keith White Memorial Pitch Tournament will be held at Tidy’s Sip and Seed. The Sheep Chip Bingo, Fun and Games in the Park: Bouncy House, Water Slide, Jousting Pit, Carnival Rides, Double Dips Ice Cream, Snow Cones, Food Trucks, and Vendor displays are scheduled from 12:00 – 4:00.

Activities planned specifically for MPS alumni include the school buildings being open from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. for those who would like to tour and reminisce. The banquet activities begin with a cash bar “Happy Hour” held at Tidy’s Sip and Seed at 5:00 p.m. A Windsor Chop Dinner (by reservation only; limited to 250) will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Hall. A short program will follow. To support its mission of providing quality educational programs and opportunities for MPS students, providing scholarship awards to graduates, and hosting the five-year all-school reunion celebrations, the Alumni Association will be conducting a silent auction, a live auction, and two raffles. Food trucks will be available for the public’s evening meal. At the conclusion of the Alumni’s activities, the hall and cash bar will be opened to the public for the musical entertainment and dance music furnished by Brady Nichols & the High Plains Drifters sponsored by Tidy’s Sip and Seed.

The MPS Alumni Association has combined efforts with other community organizations to ensure that The Old Glory Days celebration and all-school reunion weekend will offer activities for visiting alumni as well as the general public. Make plans now to attend!

E-sports

This was the inaugural year that Maywood had an Esports team, adding an activity that would help to capture more of our students who may have a greater interest in video games than sports and other activities. Throughout this school year we had a total of three games that students practiced and competed in.

During the first semester, students had the opportunity to play the Nintendo title Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, which pits teams of two against each other in an effort to knock both of their opponents off the battle stage three times before the same was done to them. We were able to field two varsity teams who improved as the season progressed and both made it to the first round of playoffs. Despite their best efforts, both teams were knocked out of the playoffs at this point. While initially disappointed, the participants noted how much they enjoyed the season and began planning for next year almost immediately. Students who participated in this season were Rowan Fletcher, Daniel Stewart, Alianah Del Carlo, Joseph Small, Aiden Bryant, Ben Rubio-Najera, and Zach Denton.

Following the conclusion of Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, students began practicing for the upcoming season of Mario Kart 8. This game allows players to select a character and use a variety of parts to create a vehicle that best meets their needs for a series of races that took place following Christmas break. Four students competed at a time against four members from another team, with points awarded based on placement in each race. We were able to field one Mario Kart team this year and they were a highly competitive group in both practices and competition. Due to unforeseen circumstances, (i.e. unexpected winter storms and illness) we were unable to play one of our matches which lead to forfeit by both teams, dropping our seeding for the playoffs. Once playoffs came around, we scheduled our match and competed until the final race, when our opponents narrowly edged past us in total points. Just like that, our Mario Kart season ended and students seemingly dedicated themselves to doing everything they could to improve and surpass this first season. Students who participated in this season were Rowan Fletcher, Daniel Stewart, Graci Peterka, Joseph Small, and Emma Peterka.

On March 29th, just a few hours before prom, the Maywood Fortnite Esports team competed in the state tournament for Division 4 (nearly identical to Class D in other sports and activities) against 17 other teams all vying for a state championship. The core of this team remained intact throughout practices and statewide competitions with minor changes to personnel as the season progressed. Through a total of 4 matches in the state tournament our team managed to place 6th against stiff competition, earning them a medal for their efforts. The determination shown by these students demonstrated the progress they had all made in working together as a team in an otherwise unorthodox school activity. All three groups of students (some in multiple seasons) showed tremendous work ethic and desire to improve their abilities. Students who participated in this season were Daniel Stewart, Joseph Small, Nathan Cuellar, Elliott Oakman, Alonso Palma-Morales, and Robert Carter.

I am certainly excited for next year now that we have a better understanding of what we need to do to continue improving and build upon the successes of this year and I know our students are as well. We will spend all summer looking forward to next year, and look forward to competing once again. We hope to be able to offer a way for community members to watch our competitions, but we always welcome observers for practice throughout the year, so we hope to see you next year!

-Coach Cameron Sonnenfeld



Local Student Headed to American Legion Auxiliary Boys State

The American Legion Post is pleased to announce that the Maywood Lions Club generously sponsored Sawyer Dibbern of Maywood, who will join nearly 340 other high school juniors from across Nebraska participating in the American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State Program, June 1-7, 2025, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln downtown campus. The annual citizenship program, sponsored by the Nebraska American Legion, is designed to provide youths with a better understanding of how city, county, and state governments operate.

American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State is set up as a "51st State," and each boy learns how government subdivisions operate by actually doing the job. As part of the citizenship training program, participants will campaign for offices, hold elections, compete in athletics, and be involved in other varied activities.

Special lectures and addresses will be delivered by experienced public officials and professional leaders throughout Nebraska. Invitations have been sent to the offices of the Governor and Secretary of State for special appearances at this year's program. Nationally acclaimed motivational speakers are also scheduled to address the entire group.

The American Legion is dedicated to the motto of "Veterans Strengthening America." Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth and sponsoring wholesome community programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security, and continued devotion to service members and veterans. Legionnaires in more than 12,500 posts across the nation and regions overseas serve their communities with a devotion to mutual helpfulness.



Local Student Headed to American Legion Auxiliary Girls State

Blayklee Farr of Maywood, Nebraska, has been selected to attend American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Girls State. The nonpartisan political program teaches students about local, county, and state government.

ALA Girls State attendees, known as "citizens," receive special instruction in parliamentary procedure and organize themselves into two mock political parties. The students then campaign, hold rallies, debate, and ultimately vote to elect city, county, and state officials. Once elected to office, delegates are sworn in and perform their prescribed duties. Attendees not elected to office are given appointments and visit the offices of those elected to share their view points as citizens.

Blayklee, a rising junior at Maywood, was selected to attend ALA Girls State based on her academic achievements and involvement in her school and community.

ALA Girls State programs are hosted throughout the United States. Two outstanding citizens from each ALA Girls State program are selected to represent their respective states at ALA Girls Nation. The students will gather in Washington, D.C. in July as senators. At ALA Girls Nation, the students will learn about the federal government by participating in mock senate sessions, visit our nation's monuments and Arlington National Cemetery, learn about how the ALA serves veterans, military, and their families, and much more.

The American Legion Auxiliary, founded in 1919, is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. ALA members assist veterans in hospitals, advocate for veteran issues, support therapeutic creative arts festivals, distribute poppies for remembrance, and much more. In addition to serving the military community, the American Legion Auxiliary hosts

ALA Girls Nation and the ALA Girls State programs that teach future leaders about government and civic responsibility. Learn more at www.ALAforVeterans.org and @ALAforVeterans on Instagram and Facebook.



Have a Great Summer and Avoid the “Summer Slide”

It’s hard to believe the end of the school year is approaching! Studies consistently show that students, on average, lose a portion of their school-year learning gains over summer break. In an effort to curb the “summer slide”, Title 1 has a few suggestions for you and your family this summer. The following suggestions have been beneficial to many parents:

- Provide a good role model by reading to yourself and by reading often to your child.
- Provide varied reading material - some for reading enjoyment and some with information about hobbies and interests. For example, if you’re going on a trip this summer, encourage your kids to read about the location you’ll be visiting. If you’re going fishing this summer, encourage your kids to read about fish breeds at that location.
- Encourage activities that require reading. For example, if you are cooking together, read a recipe together. If you are constructing a kite or rocket, read the directions together. If you’ve got wildlife in your yard or see it while you’re camping, identify the species of bird or animal, or identify the tracks or nest by reading a reference book about it.
- Check out the Klyte Burt Memorial Library in Curtis for their summer reading program schedule and their hours of operation at their website: <https://www.curtis-ne.gov/library>
- Check out the North Platte Public Library for their ongoing events! Visit their website at: <https://www.northplattene.gov/251/Library>
- Check out the McCook Public Library for their summer events! Visit their website at: <https://libraries.ne.gov/mccook/>

According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! Wow!

Enjoy your summer break!

Emily Lenz

Title 1 Coordinator

Maywood Public School

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Learning about Animals Inside and Out

Maywood Public Schools Third graders had an awesome time at the fourth annual Animals Inside and Out hosted by the Lincoln County Extension Office. Thank you to everyone that helped make this day so much fun for our Students!



FBLA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AWARDS

Eighteen high school students and three junior high students attended the Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Conference (SLC) held in Kearney April 10 - 12. This event gives students a great opportunity to participate in a competitive events program among the best in the state. SLC also includes state officer elections and a series of informative leadership workshops for FLA students and advisers.

Junior High Awards

Taylor Bryant

1st Place Exploring Technology

3rd Place Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure

5th Place Exploring Computer Science

6th Place Exploring Leadership

6th Place Business Etiquette

Gavon Schurr

5th Place Exploring Public Speaking

High School Awards

Sweepstakes Award

5th Place - Broadcast Journalism - Dallas Grunden and Maddie Merritt

Honorable Mention (top 4%)

Jillian Johnson - Accounting I, Introduction to Business Communication, Introduction to Financial Math

Maysen Merritt - Introduction to FBLA

Rowan Fletcher - Organizational Leadership

Kassidy Hatfield and Ashley Smith - Partnership with Business Project

Business Achievement Awards

Advocate Award - Alonso Palma

Contributor Award - Amelia DeVaughn, Ashley Smith, Brady Dempcy, Brooklynn Tidyman, Dallas Grunden, Jaxson Anders, Jaylee Sellers, Jillian Johnson, Kassidy Hatfield, Madison Merritt, Maysen Merritt, Oliver Anders, Rowan Fletcher, Sawyer Dibbern, Taren Sailor

Leader Award - Jillian Johnson, Reagan Stengel

Chapter Awards - Ribbon Projects

Sweepstakes Award

Feed Nebraska

FBLA Foundation

March of Dimes

Connect with Business

Go Green

StepUp2Tech

NSBEA/NBEA Membership Ribbon

Gothenburg Track Classic

The following MHC track athletes qualified and participated in the Midwest Nebraska Track Classic in Gothenburg on Tuesday, April 22nd. Here are the results:

Long Jump

Blayklee Farr (Girls) - Placed 4th, Sawyer Dibbern (Boys) - Placed 3rd

100m Dash

Rubiel Lopez - Placed 8th

400m Dash

Blayklee Farr - Placed 3rd and season personal record of 1:03.85 improved by 1.41sec

800m Run

Addison Richards - Placed 1st and career personal record of 2:26 improved by 4sec

Caylie Softley - Placed 2nd and career personal record of 2:27 improved by 3 sec

Reagan Stengel - Placed 4th

Boys 4x1 relay- Placed 5th, personal record and **NEW MHC RECORD of 46.15 improved by .75sec**

Sawyer Dibbern, Steven Werkmeister, Ryan Werkmeister, Rubiel Lopez

Girls 4x4 relay - Placed 1st and a personal record of 4:15 improved by 4sec

Blayklee Farr, Addison Richards, Caylie Softley, Reagan Stengel

Girls 4x8 relay -1st and season personal record of 10:13 improved by 1sec

Reagan Stengel, Karissa Stengel, Caylie Softley, Addison Richards

Congratulations to all of the athletes that participated! Way to work hard, keep up the great work!



Maywood Ag Ed And FFA News

What a ride this spring has been! Members participated in the 97th Nebraska FFA Convention and we had a great convention! The Ag Demo Team of Blaylee Farr, Dallas Grunden, Maddie Merritt, & Taren Sailor placed 4th with a gold ranking! Kassidy Hatfield also earned a gold medal in cooperative speaking. The Ag Mechanics team finished in 18th place with a red ribbon and Steven Werkmeister earned top team honors with a 22nd purple ribbon. Officer interviews took place April 16th and we are excited for the 2025-2026 officer team! Our school year will finish off with our chapter's annual FFA Banquet on April 28th and the annual Pork Loin Dinner on Thursday, May 8th. We would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the Maywood FFA Chapter!

2025-2026 Maywood FFA Officer Team

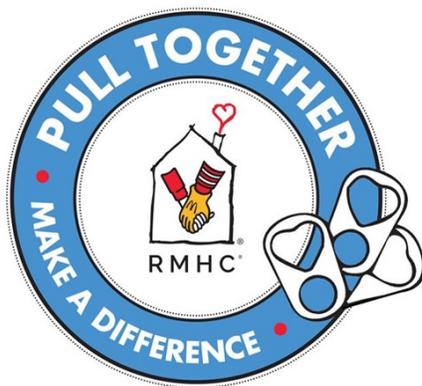
President: Dallas Grunden
Vice President: Taren Sailor
Secretary: Blaylee Farr
Treasurer: Jillian Johnson
Reporter: Adalyn Schurr
Sentinel: Gwen Rutherford
Historian: Karlee Hatfield
Student Advisor: Steven Werkmeister
Student Advisor: Clayton Mahanes
Student Advisor: Lucas Mahanes
Advisor: JR Clark



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WHO: Maywood Public Schools 2nd Grade Class

WHAT: We are collecting pop tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Omaha

WHEN: October – May 20th

WHERE: Maywood Community

WHY: In our first science unit we learned about material properties. We learned that metal has the property of melting and can be reshaped. We learned metal can be recycled. As part of our final unit assessment, we are collecting pop tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Omaha. The Ronald McDonald House Charities Organization recycles the pop tabs and uses the money to pay their electric bill each month.