

Jim Knott - High School Principal
Board Report

Douglas County West High School
April 14, 2025

As we approach the end of the school year, many important events are either happening or are on the horizon at the high school. We recently finished administering the state-required Nebraska ACT on March 25. Sixty-five out of sixty-seven juniors arrived on time and ready to test that morning - an accomplishment in itself. The two students that were absent made up the test on April 8. Thanks go out to our ACT team of Dr. Dawn Marten, Katie Richards, Nikki Billedeaux, Trey Baker, Lindsey Boardman, Matt Caldwell, Chip Daehling, Kim LaChapelle, Dalton Tremayne, Randy Donner, Garrett Hoffman, Peggy Cooper, Kristen Phillips, Rachel Smith, and Shawna Younghans. The amount of time this group spent organizing and administering the test according to strict ACT standards is definitely appreciated. We should receive preliminary ACT results before the end of the school year.

We recently interviewed and hired three teaching positions for next year. They are listed below.

- 1) **MS/HS Assistant Band & Choir – Hired Ms. Morgan Thompson** – Ms. Thompson is originally from Blair and is currently finishing her undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska, Omaha. She is student-teaching at Omaha Central High School in the Instrumental Music Department. At DC West, she will assist Mrs. Guinn and Mrs. Beyl in the middle and high school band and choir programs.
- 2) **HS Math – Hired Karmen Koch** – Ms. Koch is originally from Crofton, NE, student taught math at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, and is currently in her first year teaching high school math at Crofton High School. Her undergraduate degree is from Wayne State College. Ms. Koch will teach Geometry, Honors Geometry, and Geometry Support at DC West.
- 3) **HS Special Education – Hired Kim Loofe** – Mrs. Loofe has worked as a special education teacher at several schools over the last twenty-five years, but her most recent stop was at Kearney High School from 2018-2025. She earned her undergraduate degree from UNO and her masters degree from Concordia University.

The **third quarter honor roll** is attached to the second page of this report.

