



W.I.T. (*Whatever It Takes*) Coalition

Sabrina Harmon, Director * PO Box 163, Newell, SD 57760 * 605-381-9136 * sabrina.harmon@k12.sd.us

FOR THE JANUARY 2017 NEWELL CITY & SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Things that come about for the community/school because WIT exists.

Tobacco Prevention: The WIT Coalition designed a Winter Sports 2016-2017 Brochure which pictured the Boys and Girl's Basketball Team and Wrestling Team along with their schedules. Mr. Schoenfish added a welcome message about sportsmanship, etc. The back of the brochure listed Tobacco Prevention information along with the Newell School Tobacco Policy so students, staff, parents and visitors are aware that we are a 24/7 Tobacco Free Campus.

Lifeskills Classes: In December the Lifeskills classes learned about different types of communications again. We had each student send a Christmas card to someone in their life that they appreciate and would like to say Thank you for your support. These cards were mailed out the old fashion way through the US Post Office so each person would get something nice in the mail. Several of the students heard back from those they sent it to with appreciation.

Partnerships: Sabrina attended the ABC Coalition Annual Meeting in Sturgis, SD on 12-8-16; Sabrina and Pat Lee attended the quarterly Badland Headstart Health meeting in Belle Fourche, SD on 12-20-16. These are great connections to keep so we can partner on other events and programs. Kara Graveman with the ABC Coalition did one of the morning sessions during our Leadership Day Event at no charge.

Leadership Day: WIT held their 5th Annual Leadership Day event on 1-3-2017. This was the first day back from Christmas break. We had the Game, Fish & Parks, SD National Guard, Kristi "Cricket" Palmer, Rachel Astleford, Kara Graveman, the SD Highway Patrol Drug Dog squad and the Butte County Sheriff's Office do presentations in the morning. Kati Seymour was our speaker for the afternoon and she talked about being Resilient, that 11 seconds is all it took to change her life—please do not text and drive. She ended her presentation with a diversity circle. All of the students who had dealt with something in their life stepped forward. It was quite interesting to see you are not the only one dealing with certain situations. Cricket opened the days events by challenging the students to be involved in the day. "You get out of the day what you put into it" and she also ended the days event by talking to the students about setting goals and making sure that you do not hinder yourself by adding challenging obstacles that you will have to deal with to meet your goals.

NOYS: National Organization for Youth Safety: The Freshman Class has made it to the next round in the Buckle Up Seat Belt Challenge Campaign—we will hear in February if they will win any money. Either way they have learned a lot and had fun doing it. We are thankful for the Butte County Sheriff's Office personnel and the SD Highway Patrol for their help pulling this all together.

Dental Mobile: Dental Mobile is here this week. January 9th-13th, 2017. We are doing eye screening through the Newell Lions/Leo Club. Delta Dental got two new Dental Buses. Newell is the first place for one of the new buses to come to. We are blessed to have Dr. Dennis Mills, Val Kavanaugh—the Hygienist, Charlene Connelly-Pravicek—the coordinator who have been coming to Newell several years in a row. The students appreciate seeing the same dentist and staff each year. Dr. Mills likes to come to Newell because we are a well ran group and the students are so respectful and appreciative. Assistants joining them this year are Macee & Cari, Vrunda. A HUGE thank you goes out to Pat Lee and Betty Baker-Kozur for keeping things running smooth all week and to Mr. Wince for giving up his room for the week so we can set up shop. Mrs. Erk also let Mr. Wince hold class in her room along with letting the Lions/Leo Club set up shop in her closet for the Eye Screening. We work well as a team and they appreciate it. We usually see more students then normal because things are ran so efficiently.

Junior and Senior Class to Pierre: Sabrina will help chaperone the Jr/Sr Class when they go to Pierre, SD on Tuesday, 1-17-17. The WIT Coalition host a luncheon for the Jr/Sr. Class at the visitor center. We also invite our local Representatives, the Public Utility Commissioners, etc. to attend the luncheon and tell the students about their jobs and/or what is going on in Pierre. We will leave Newell early in the morning to get to Pierre in time to sit in on morning meetings and, tour the capitol, host the luncheon, and sit in on afternoon sessions, etc.

Sabrina won a trip to **Washington, DC to the CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America) Conference.** This is quite an honor and the WIT Coalition will be showcased at the conference for all we do with the youth and the community. This conference runs from February 5th-9th, 2017.

Legislative Cracker Barrel: We will host a Cracker Barrel at the Newell City Hall on Saturday, 2-11-17 at 10:00 am.

Newell Youth Risk Survey and Leadership Day Evaluation data will be shared next month. Please let me know if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted, *Sabrina Harmon*