

Chase County Hospital and Clinic provide support for new helmets at Wauneta-Palisade Schools

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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Ronda Sargent, Chase County Clinic Manager, presents Wauneta-Palisade Co-Athletic Director Joseph Frecks with a donation. W-P plans to use the donation to purchase new helmets for the junior high football team. (Sheri Hink-Wagner | The Wauneta Breeze)

By Randy Vlasin

Chase County Community Hospital Foundation

Each year, the Chase County Clinic provides physicals for student athletes from Wauneta-Palisade Schools and Chase County Schools in Imperial. This year, the clinic decided to donate the fees for these physicals back to each school. The amount each school received was based on the number of physicals provided for athletes from the respective schools.

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“We wanted to show our support for the youth and schools in Chase County and felt this is one way we could accomplish that,” said Ronda Sargent, Chase County Clinic Manager.

Wauneta-Palisade Schools used these funds to help purchase eight new Schutt Recruit Hybrid Helmets for the Jr. High Football program. Cost of the helmets was \$782.33. The total amount received for physicals provided to Wauneta-Palisade athletes totaled \$500.00. A check for that amount was presented to Coach Joe Frecks.

“In athletics, student safety is a primary concern and particularly with preventing concussions in football. Helmets have a 10 year limit and then are required to be replaced. Many of our helmets were approaching this and were in need of replacement,” explained Coach Frecks.

He went on to say, “The funds received from Chase County Community Hospital and Clinic will pay for half of the needed replacements which is a big help. We plan on replacing two to three helmets each year from this point on so we can maintain quality equipment for our athletes.”

Chase County Clinic also donated funds to help with the purchase of a Cybex 770AT Total Body ARC Trainer that has been put into use in the weight room at Chase County Schools in Imperial. Both students and the public are able to utilize this new piece of equipment at the school in Imperial.