

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

It is Chase County Schools' turn to host the SPVA music contest, scheduled for March 25. The member schools rotate the event, so the next time CCS will be a host is in six years.

Music contests have been a regular offering at CCS recently. The last two years CCS hosted the district music contest.

There will be no school March 25, as many of the rooms will be in use for the contest. Teachers, however, will run the rooms, act as judge assistants, guard doors and be homeroom monitors, so they will have a work day.

Band Director Agnes Strand said, "It is terrific that our administration supports us by making these adults available. Many schools don't and it can really gum up the works on contest day."

Vocal contests will be held in the band and vocal music rooms, the auditorium and the board room.

Instrumental contests will be held in the Shorthorn gym, the elementary music room and kindergarten rooms.

Contests begin at 8 a.m. and will conclude by about 3:30 p.m.

There will be CCS 14 vocal solos and 11 small ensembles participating under the direction of vocal teacher Randy Hayes, while Strand will have eight instrumental solos and nine small ensembles, she said.

She's glad to have students participating in the contest.

"For me it's exciting because the individual student has to step up and perform. I love watching the students. Their sound becomes so much better when they're working on small ensembles," she said.

Schools involved, besides CCS, are Perkins County, North Platte St. Pat's, Kimball, Hershey, Sutherland and Maxwell High Schools.

The public may attend the individual performances. The jazz bands will perform in the Shorthorn gym from 11:30 a.m. until about 1 p.m. Show choirs will start at 1 p.m. in the auditorium, running until about 3:30 p.m.

In addition, Tim Strand has built a google doc for the public's use.

Various student groups will be selling food items during the day, with proceeds benefiting their organizations.