COUNTRY CRAFTS: In JH Social Studies 7, **Reed Reeves (7)** paints a pizza box to look like the flag of Poland. The annual pizza box project is a favorite activity among seventh graders. "My favorite thing about the pizza box project is the part where we have to make the map out of dough and paint it," Reeves said.

"AS A DEFENSE ATTORNEY, PROVING SOME OF MY CLIENTS INNOCENT WHEN THEY WERE CLEARLY GUILTY WAS KIND OF FUN."

-Jenna Benjamin (12)

FINAL TOUCHES: During Intro to FCS class, **Liam Maloy (10)** ices cookies he made. Intro to FCS has a total of 30 students from freshmen through seniors. "One of my favorite things to make were apple cinnamon crumb muffins," Maloy said.

TIME for Trials

Every year, a favorite project for the seniors is the mock trial done as part of American Government.

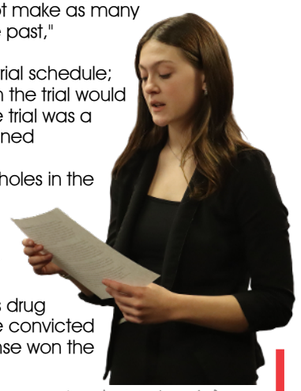
"The mock trial teaches the students about how the criminal justice system works and how the Bill of Rights applies to real-life situations," history teacher Dan Krajicek said.

The seniors take on different roles from lawyers to cops to "drug" dealers, though this year Krajicek involved PE teacher Jesse Gardner in one of these roles.

"We had our first teacher have the role of drug kingpin. This made it difficult because Mr. Gardner did not make as many mistakes as students had made in the past," Krajicek said.

The other main change was in the trial schedule; two new finals days were added when the trial would normally take place, which meant the trial was a little rushed, but the experience remained meaningful.

"I learned that there are many loopholes in the law systems, and you might not think you can use certain things, but if you try it from another angle, it's exactly what you need," senior Nicole Wacker said. "My goal was to make sure my clients weren't tried and sentenced as drug dealers. In the end, two of the six were convicted as drug dealers! Safe to say the defense won the case."



Nicole Wacker (12)

NEW CREATIONS: While in Interpersonal Relationships, **Molly Besch (12)**, **Ruby Ochoa (12)** and **Addi Smith (12)** build a gingerbread bridge with graham crackers. This activity served as a final project for the students to practice skills they learned in class. "I really liked the gingerbread/graham cracker house, but it wasn't staying up, so we turned it into a bridge," Smith said.

CLEAN UP: **Capri Woster (9)** stacks and carries pans to put them away. Freshmen have the highest number of students in Intro to FCS with 14 students. "My favorite thing to make was sugar cookies because it was fun to frost them and decorate them the way I wanted to," Woster said.

Prepping for the FUTURE

STUDENTS LEARN LIFE SKILLS THROUGH NEW FCS OFFERINGS

In a small school, it's not often that students see new class offerings, but this year, due to the addition of a new staff member, Yutan students have four new options in the family and consumer sciences (FCS) department.

"New classes that I'm teaching include Introduction to Family and Consumer Sciences, Nutrition and Interpersonal Relationships, which will turn into Independent Living at the semester," new FCS teacher Harleigh Claussen said.

Introduction to Family and Consumer Sciences is a full-year class that provides an overview of all areas of FCS, including topics such as goal setting, child development, nutrition, basic cooking skills and childcare.

"It's designed to give students the foundational knowledge of FCS and offer them a lot of different topics," Claussen said.

Students in this class work on projects and discussions that relate to real life.

"It's fun because we actually get to do hands-on activities instead of just reading the whole time," freshman Liliana Hancock said.

Another added class is Nutrition, where students will learn healthy eating skills, food science and how nutrition impacts overall wellness.

"In Nutrition, we go a lot deeper into healthy eating and how food fuels the body. We also look at the science behind food and how nutrition affects overall wellness," Claussen said.

One of the most popular parts of the class is that it's hands-on. Students spend time in the kitchen learning how to cook and about food safety.

"I have learned so many skills, including knife skills and how to work in a kitchen safely," senior Maddie Wilson said.

The last new classes are semester classes. If students choose to take the class Interpersonal Relationships, students focus on communication, developing strong personal and professional relationships and learning how to overcome conflict.

"In Interpersonal Relationships and Independent Living, we focus on all things every student will need to know for their future, teaching skills that students are going to use for the rest of their lives, whether it's managing their finances, maintaining healthy relationships, cooking nutritious meals or living independently," Claussen said.

Students learn skills they can apply to all sorts of relationships in their lives.

"I've learned how to break up with someone and how to treat women with respect," senior Gionni Conti said.

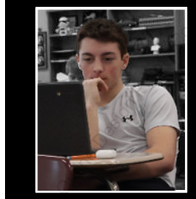
At the end of the semester, Interpersonal Relationships will transition into Independent Living, where students learn essential life skills.

"Students will learn things like personal finance, housing and preparing for life after high school," Claussen said.

Despite the classes being new, Claussen is hopeful that students will gain many life skills from these offerings.

"I hope students walk away from these classes with the confidence to take care of themselves and others," Claussen said. "In order to support your family, you have to take care of yourself first."

Teachable MOMENTS



"The Civil War was important because that was a time that could've changed how the United States is today."

-Carson Hollst (11)

"Making salsa was kind of fun because I didn't cry when I was cutting the onions."

-Cayleen Behnenkamp (10)

"I liked learning about the Oregon Trail because we learned how difficult it was to travel in those times."

-Conley Bonnicksen (8)