

We will do everything possible to ensure that everyone in the OABCIG Community becomes the best that they can be. ... We will do everything possible to ensure that everyone in the OABCIG Community becomes the best that they can be. ...

O A B C I G

The Newsletter of the Odebolt-Arthur & Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School Districts

October 2011

Volume III Number 2



While it seems the school year just started, by the time you receive this newsletter the first quarter will be

nearly over. The school year seems to pass quicker every year. It has been great to watch all our students compete in their various activities.

One special project going on at the high school right now is the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP). SSEP is a recent initiative launched to allow student ownership in space exploration. It provides schools an opportunity to implement a systematic, high caliber Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education program tailored directly to student interests.

Our students will devise and test specific experiments that may be performed on the next Russian Shuttle launch. We currently have a number of students meeting daily. They are brainstorming ideas; then checking to see if those ideas have already been tested in space. Each team that has a project selected will have the opportunity to present their project, and the results, in Washington D.C. in the summer of 2012.

We applaud our student's efforts, and thank Jim Christensen and Rita Frahm in helping our students in this real life application of STEM education.

Notes from the Nurse

Angie Kastner - BSN RN

Asthma

Asthma is the leading cause of chronic illness in children. It affects as many as 10%-12% of children in the United States and, for unknown reasons, is steadily increasing. Asthma can begin at any age, but most children have their first symptoms by age 5.

What is Asthma? Asthma is an inflammatory disease of the lungs that causes reduced airflow in and out of the lungs. Inflammation or swelling of the lining in the lungs, tightening of the airway muscles, and excess mucus all contribute to the decreased air flow in the lungs.

There are many risk factors for developing childhood asthma. These include:

- Nasal allergies like hay fever or eczema
- A family history of asthma or allergies
- Frequent respiratory infections
- Low birth weight
- Exposure to tobacco smoke before or after birth

Based on your child's history and severity of asthma you may develop and Asthma Action Plan together with your health care provider and school nurse. An Asthma Action Plan can explain a child's asthma severity, what triggers an attack and how to best control and treat your child's asthma, and or asthma attack.

Asthma is a disease that can be controlled but not cured.



Senior Information

The colors that the Class of 2012 has selected are: black and purple. The seniors will be measured for caps and gowns on Wednesday, October 19th.



One of our focuses for the year is to look at how we can incorporate some service learning into our curriculum. The state of Iowa has focused on being fit and so has our intermediate building. They are going to be hosting walk Wednesdays. The students will be walking around the pond or around the building each Wednesday from 8:25 to about 9:50. If you are available to join us at that time we would love to have you come. The state is also promoting a walk

to school day. On Wed. Oct. 5th. We are going to have students be dropped off by the park and walk to school that day as well. Oct. 7th is the Iowa Fitness Initiative. You may have seen an announcement about this on KTIV Channel 4 News. Students are going to do some walking over the lunch hour to help participate in this as well.

In the elementary our 3rd Grade is going to be working with the DNR at Moorehead Park. They will be helping restore and plant some wild flowers and building some bird houses. This all ties into their seeds and plants unit in Science.

Our 1st Grade is going to look at different ways of helping our community since they study communities. They will be collect-

Book Fair

BCIG Elementary and Intermediate buildings will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair, October 24-27 in conjunction with Parent Teacher Conferences. New this year is an online book fair that will run October 24-November 4. Watch the school webpage for more details. Information will also be sent home with students on October 13. Everyone is welcome to attend the book fair. All proceeds go towards the purchase of library books.



Getting to the Good Stuff

There are so many areas that need to be addressed in schools – budgets, facilities, schedules, activities, bussing, maintenance – and they are all very important. But did you notice what I left out? We focus on the things we can see. We have opinions on what we believe things should look like and how they should run. There's nothing wrong with that. But sometimes we let these things overshadow our purpose.

While Iowa has much to be proud of historically in the area of education, it's time to engage in real conversations about the future. Our student achievement is not necessarily slipping, our students are not achieving more poorly than in the past, it's just that others in the U.S. and around the world are accelerating and achieving at higher levels while we stay the same. And it's not just Iowa that needs to be studying this trend, it's right here at OABCIG.

Our school boards and staff have been engaging in important conversations about how education is evolving and how the changing landscape is impacting our local system. While we have rich histories of educational excellence to be proud of, we cannot be content to rest on our laurels. Author and advocate Jamie Vollmer, once a harsh critic of the public school

system, has a fantastic book titled *Schools Cannot Do It Alone* that we are using to guide some of our discussions. If you would like to check out a copy from the school, please contact either central office.

I would also highly encourage you to visit <http://www.iowa-future.org/> for a glimpse into these conversations. At the very least, please check out this short video at <http://www.iowafuture.org/2011/08/04/iowa-did-you-know/>

A Positive Chain Reaction

Early in September, we had the privilege of hosting a program called Rachel's Challenge. Throughout the day, students in every building accepted the challenge posed by Rachel Scott, the first person killed in the Columbine High School shooting in 1999. Rachel's Challenge is to respond to adversity with positive words, attitudes, and actions. Our event culminated with a community presentation at the high school. Throughout the year, our students will help each other to promote an atmosphere of kindness and service to others. We sincerely hope you will join us as we strive to create and maintain a positive chain reaction.




Geothermal Conversion

From time to time I get asked how we like the geothermal units that have been installed in the Odebolt building. They work wonderful! Not only do they operate at a cost savings to the general fund, but they provide a great deal of control for heating and cooling in comparison to the boiler system. We estimate that we are just short of 50% conversion for the building. We also have geothermal units in the high school in Ida Grove.

The second question that I get is – why have we stopped the project in the Odebolt building? We haven't! Projects like this are a huge expense. After beginning the first few stages, we learned of a grant opportunity through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Project. We have the potential to be awarded up to 35% of the project cost if awarded this grant. Over the course of the remaining phases, this could amount to about \$170,000. Our application has been submitted. If it turns out that we are not fortunate enough to be awarded the grant, we will begin working on the remaining three phases.



BREAKFAST & LUNCH MENUS FOR OCTOBER 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>3 OA B: Donut OA L: Cook's Choice BCIG B: Breakfast Wrap BCIG L: Tavern/bun, mozzarella sticks, green beans, & peaches</p>	<p>4 OA B: Breakfast Pizza OA L: Chicken Pattie/bun, lettuce salad, peas, fresh veggies, & peach crisp BCIG B: Bagel w/ cream cheese & yogurt BCIG L: Mandarin orange chicken, rice, carrots, & pears</p>	<p>5 OA B: Cinnamon roll OA L: Hot dog/bun, sun chips, banana, cukes, & baby carrots BCIG B: Cheese omelet & toast BCIG L: Chef Salad AND Ham & Cheese sandwich, applesauce cups</p>	<p>6 OA B: Strawberry strudel stick OA L: Popcorn chicken, corn, broccoli, lettuce, pears & SMB BCIG B: Cereal & cinnamon bun BCIG L: Sausage pizza AND assorted salads</p>	<p>7 OA B: Egg omelet & toast OA L: Mac & cheese, green beans, applesauce, & SMB BCIG B: Egg patty, ham, & toast BCIG L: Chicken patty/bun, tator tots, peas, & fresh grapes</p>
<p>10 OA B: Long John OA L: Beef Chimichanga, lettuce/cheese/tomatoes/salsa, Spanish rice, peaches, & apple crisp BCIG B: French toast & sausage BCIG L: Scalloped potatoes/ham, corn, & mixed fruit</p>	<p>11 OA B: Triple berry muffin OA L: Orange chicken, green beans, pineapple cup, rice & SMB BCIG B: Cereal & toast BCIG L: Fish sticks, cole slaw, French fries, pineapple & strawberry shortcake</p>	<p>12 OA B: Cinnamon roll OA L: Cheese stick max, cooked carrots, cucumbers/lettuce/grapes & pudding cup BCIG B: Breakfast taco BCIG L: Chef Salad OR Mostaccioli, green beans, & apricots</p>	<p>13 OA B: French toast OA L: Hamburger/bun, pretzel cup, peppers/onions/tomatoes, pickles, & tropical fruit BCIG B: Cereal & donut ring BCIG L: Southwestern pizza AND assorted salads</p>	<p>14 No School - Teacher Workday</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p>17 OA B: Donut OA L: Ham/cheese sub sandwich, lettuce/onion/tomatoes, cukes/peppers, Mandarin oranges BCIG B: Breakfast bites & egg patty BCIG L: Chicken nuggets, twister fries, fresh broccoli w/ranch, & Mandarin oranges</p>	<p>18 OA B: Blueberry waffles OA L: Corndog, baked chips, pineapple, & birthday cake BCIG B: Cereal bar & yogurt BCIG L: Burrito w/ fixings, Spanish rice, & mixed melon</p>	<p>19 OA B: Cinnamon roll OA L: Turkey burger/bun, corn, broccoli, strawberry cup & ice cream BCIG B: Cheese omelet & toast BCIG L: Chef Salad OR Mac & cheese, green beans & peaches</p>	<p>20 OA B: Breakfast burrito OA L: Breaded pork patty, mashed potatoes, peas, banana, & SMB BCIG B: Cereal & coffee cake BCIG L: Pepperoni pizza AND assorted salads</p>	<p>21 OA B: Breakfast wrap OA L: Pizza burger, baby carrots, radishes, & apple BCIG B: Egg patty, bacon, & English muffin BCIG L: Turkey burger/bun, potato salad, baked beans, & pears</p>
<p>24 OA B: Long John OA L: Chicken nuggets, green beans, cherries, jello, & SMB BCIG B: Breakfast pizza BCIG L: BBQ chicken breast/bun, smiley fries, lettuce salad, & pineapple</p>	<p>25 OA B: Sausage pancake stick OA L: Big daddy cheese pizza, lettuce salad, broccoli, pears, apricots, & cookie BCIG B: Cereal & toast BCIG L: Chili, cinnamon roll, carrot/celery sticks, & applesauce</p>	<p>26 OA B: Cinnamon roll OA L: Chicken fajita/soft shell, lettuce/tomatoes/cheese, baby carrots, apple, & rice BCIG B: Cheese omelet & toast BCIG L: Chef Salad OR Ravioli, peas, & mixed fruit</p>	<p>27 OA B: Cinnamon bun OA L: Hot ham slice, mashed potatoes, corn, pineapple cup & SMB BCIG B: Cereal & Long John BCIG L: Cheese pizza AND assorted salads</p>	<p>28 No School</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p>31 OA B: Black coffin Long John OA L: Bandage ribs, crunch teeth, slimy sauce, & tombstones BCIG B: Biscuit, country gravy & sausage links BCIG L: Hot dog/bun, sweet potato fries, spinach salad, & applesauce cups</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>			<p><i>Milk, fresh fruit & bread is served daily with each meal. Odebolt has a salad bar everyday. S.M.B. School Made Buns</i></p>

Activity Calendar for October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 •JH/HS Rodeo @ Waterloo •Driver's Ed Class 8:00
2 •JH/HS Rodeo @ Waterloo	3 •Fr/JV VB vs. Ridge View 6:00 •JV FB vs MVAO 6:00	4 •MS FB @ Logan 4:00 •MS VB vs Lawton-Bronson 4:00 •Greenhand Fire-up @ Orange City •CC @ Cherokee 4:30 •VB @ Kingsley 6:00	5 •1:00 Dismissal - Professional Development	6 •MS VB 7th@Sgt. Bluff, 8th@Odebolt •VB @ Moville 6:00 •JVR FB @ Manning 6:00	7 •FB vs Kuemper Catholic 7:00	8 •Fr/So VB @ Mapleton 9:00 •JV VB @ Schaller 9:00
9 	10 •School Board Meeting •MS FB vs East Sac @ Odebolt 4:00 •MS VB 7th@Odebolt, 8th @ Sac City 4:00 •CC OABCIG Invite 4:30 •VB vs River Valley 6:00 •JVR FB @ Alta 6:00	11 •Jrs @ MVAO Career Fair 1:15 •8th VB @ Schleswig 4:00 •HS Music Concert 7:00 	12 •Jrs PSAT Test •Athletic Booster Meeting 6:00	13 •End of 1st Quarter •Picture Retake Day •MS FB @ Kuemper 4:00 •MS VB 7th@Odebolt, 8th@ Anthon 4:00 •VB @ Schaller (Ridge View) 6:00	14 •No School - Teacher Workday •Driver Ed Class 12:00 •FB @ Wall Lake (East Sac) 7:00	15 •NWIA Honor Band Auditions •JV VB @ Mapleton 9:00 •CC WVC Meet @ Moville 9:00
16 	17 •JVR FB @ Storm Lake 5:00 •JV FB @ Storm Lake 6:30	18 •VB Regionals begin 	19 •HS Blood Drive •FFA National Convention •MS Quarter Holiday (afternoon)	20 •FFA National Convention •CC Regional/District Meet 4:00	21 •FFA National Convention •FB vs JSPC (Senior Night) 7:00	22 •All-State Music Auditions •ACT Testing •Drivers Ed Class 8:00
	24 •PT Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 •2:30 Dismissal •Red Ribbon Week •FFA Fruit Sales Begin •BCIG Elem & IS Book Fair	25 •VB 2nd Round Regionals •Red Ribbon Week 	26 •1st Round FB Playoffs •Red Ribbon Week	27 •PT Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 •2:30 Dismissal •Red Ribbon Week •Men/Women in Song	28 •No School •VB Regionals •Drivers Ed Class 8:00	29 •State Cross Country Meet
30	31 •Jr College Planning 6:30 •Sr Financial Aid 7:45 					