



January 2014
Volume V Number 6

OA-BCIG INSIGHT

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE ODEBOLT-ARTHUR
AND BATTLE CREEK-
IDA GROVE COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Dr. Nick Ouellette,
nouellette@oabcig.org
Superintendent

Mr. Patrick Miller,
pmiller@oabcig.org
OA-BCIG HS Principal

Mr. Alan Henderson,
ahenderson@oabcig.org
BCIG Elementary Principal

Mr. Doug Mogensen,
dmogensen@oabcig.org
OA K-8 Principal

*We will do everything possible to ensure everyone in the
BCIG Community becomes the best that he or she can be!*

*As an agent of the community and society, the OA School's purpose is to provide
an environment where all persons shall develop life skills by learning to learn.*

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

I would like to explain what happened in Odebolt the weekend of December 7th and 8th when we had to shut off the water in town. On Friday, December 6th, I received a call informing me that the school was without water. We started to research what may have happened and nothing showed up that we could see.

Around 7:00 pm on Friday evening, Bill, Odebolt City employee, reported to us that there was a hole in the school's 4" service line to the building. The reason we had not seen it was because the water was running directly into a sewer manhole just a couple feet from the water service line. Bill and Dan from the City of Odebolt lined up Gary Roth and Greg Neville to come in Saturday morning to cut the concrete and dig up the water service line. After a lot of digging and pumping water from the ditch we were able to find the leak. Bill put a repair clamp on the leak; we filled the hole back in and thought that we had taken care of the problem.

On Sunday morning around 1:30 am Bill received a call letting him know that the line was leaking once again. At 10:30 Sunday morning we all got back together to dig the hole again and try to find the new problem. Once again, after a lot of digging and pumping water we were able to find the problem. This time it was a 3" hole in the top of the water line about 8 feet from the repair that was made the day before.

At that point, in order to prevent repeat occurrences, we replaced an 8 ft. section of pipe. Bill and Dan cut out the damaged pipe and replaced it with new. I

would like to say that Bill and Dan from the City of Odebolt did all that they could to keep the water on for most of the town; however, in the end the only alternative was to shut the town down so the repairs could be made.

I would like to thank everyone in Odebolt for putting up with the inconvenience of not having water two days in a row, on a weekend no less. I would also like to thank Odebolt City crew members, Bill and Dan, for all they did for the school. They didn't have to help at all; but they did so we were able to have school Monday morning. Thank you to Gary and Greg for all they did for us also.

I apologize to Brody Veit and the Mat Rats for having to postpone their wrestling tournament set for Saturday, December 7th. Thank you for being so understanding. I assure you that we always have the best interests of our students/your children in mind.

Roger Walter
Head of Building and Grounds Maintenance
OA and BCIG Community School Districts



Breakfast & Lunch Menus for January 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><i>In accordance with Federal Law and USDA policy, this institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</i></p> <p><i>Skim & 1% Milk, Fruit and Juice served daily</i></p> <p><i>All breads are whole grain</i></p> <p><i>*Available only at the high school</i></p>		<p>1 <i>New Year's Day</i> NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>2 BCIG B: Cereal Bar WG Toast BCIG L: BBQ Chicken Breast, WG Bun, Smiley Fries, Corn, Pears Fresh Apple OA B: Maple Waffles OA L: Chicken Patty, Bun, Green Beans, Romaine Lettuce, Ranch, Cinn. Applesauce</p>	<p>3 BCIG B: Breakfast Wrap, Salsa BCIG L: Tomato Soup, Crilled Cheese, Celery / Carrot Sticks, Cucumbers, PB Cup, Applesauce Cup, Fresh Apple OA B: Omelet, Toast OA L: Filled Breadstix, Sauce, Baby Carrots, Romaine, Ranch, Pears</p>
<p>6 BCIG B: Breakfast Pizza BCIG L: Hamburger, WG Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Peach Cups, Fresh Apple OA B: Poptart, Yogurt OA L: Orange Chicken, Br. Rice, Broccoli, Romaine, Pineapple</p>	<p>7 BCIG B: Cereal, Toast BCIG L: Orange Chicken, Brown Rice, Cooked Carrots, Broc-Cauli Salad, Animal Crackers, Pineapple, Fresh Orange OA B: Muffin, Cheesestix OA L: Weiner Winks, Baby Carrots, Corn, Tropical Fruit, Pretzels</p>	<p>8 BCIG B: Cheese Omelet, WG Toast BCIG L: Chicken Strips, Crackers, Fresh Veggie Bar, PB Sandwich, Mixed Fruit, Fresh Apple OA B: Cinnamon Roll OA L: Chicken Nuggets, Cooked Carrots, Red Pepper Strips, Banana, WG SMB, Animal Crackers</p>	<p>9 BCIG B: Long John BCIG L: Beef Tips, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread & Butter, Plums, Banana OA B: B'fast Pizza OA L: Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Romaine, Ranch, Orange, Apricots</p>	<p>10 BCIG B: Ham, Egg, Cheese Bar BCIG L: BBQ Pork Rib, WG Bun, Spinach Salad w/ tomatoes, Corn, Mand. Oranges, Apple OA B: Sausage Bagel OA L: Fish, Bun, Peas, Coleslaw, Pears, Rice Krispy Bar</p>
<p>13 BCIG B: Pancakes, Sausage BCIG L: Chicken Alfredo, Steamed Broccoli, Peas, Dinner Roll, Peaches, Apple OA B: Straw. Pancakes OA L: Strip Steak, Corn, Tomato, Onion, Pickle, Mixed Fruit, Choc. Pudding</p>	<p>14 BCIG B: Oatmeal To Go, Yogurt BCIG L: Chili, Cinnamon Roll, Carrots, Celery, Cucumbers, Saltines, Straw-Applesauce Cup, Orange OA B: Cereal Bar, Yogurt OA L: Taco In A Bag, Rice, Salsa, Lettuce, Tomato, Orange</p>	<p>15 BCIG B: Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast BCIG L: Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Fresh Veggie Bar, Pears, Apple OA B: Long John OA L: BBQ Chicken, Bun, Broccoli, Cucumbers, Peas, Romaine, Ranch, Apple</p>	<p>16 BCIG B: Blueberry Muffin, Cereal BCIG L: Cheese Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Italian Bean Pasta Salad, Corn, Pineapple, Fresh Banana OA B: French Toast OA L: Beef Stew, Romaine, Ranch, Red Pepper Strips, Peaches, SMB, Butter</p>	<p>17 BCIG B: Egg Patty, Bacon, WG Toast BCIG L: Hot Dog on Bun, Potato Wedges, Green Beans, Uncrustables, Applesauce, Orange OA B: Cereal, Toast OA L: Pizza Pockets, Carrots, Romaine, Ranch, Broccoli-Cauliflower Salad, Blueberry Pon Applesauce</p>
<p>20 BCIG B: Breakfast Pizza BCIG L: French Toast Sticks, Sausage, Has Browns, Broc-Cauli Salad, Mixed Fruit, Apple OA B: B'fast Pizza OA L: Rib Patty, Bun, Cooked Carrots, Romaine, Ranch, 3 Bean Salad, Pears</p>	<p>21 BCIG B: Cereal, Toast BCIG L: Tavern, Bun, Marinated Fresh Veggie Salad, Corn, Peaches, Fresh Orange OA B: Cookie/Cheesestix OA L: Sausage Pizza, Romaine, Ranch, Red Pepper Strips, Apple slices, Brownie</p>	<p>22 BCIG B: Cheese Omelet, WG Toast BCIG L: Cheeseburger Macaroni, *Peas, Fresh Veggie Bar, Crackers, Butter Sandwich, Plums, Fresh Apple OA B: Cinnamon Roll OA L: Chicken Patty, Bun, Green Beans, Cucumbers, Romaine, Ranch, Banana</p>	<p>23 BCIG B: Cinnamon Tasterie *Assted. Cereal BCIG L: BBQ Shredded Pork, Bun, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, *Cooked Carrots, Applesauce, Grapes OA B: Poptarts/Yogurt OA L: Grilled Cheese, Tom. Soup, Carrots, Celery, Clementines, Cheese Stick</p>	<p>24 BCIG B: Ham, Egg, Cheese Bar BCIG L: Crispito, Spanish Rice, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese, Salsa, Mixed Veggies, Pineapple, Orange OA B: Egg Wrap OA L: Hot Dog, Bun, Gaked Beans, Radishes, Romaine, Ranch, Cinn. Applesauce</p>
<p>27 BCIG B: Sausage Pancake Wrap BCIG L: Chicken Patty, Bun, Mixed Potato Fries, Broc-Bean Salad, Mandarin Oranges, Apple OA B: Blueberry Waffle OA L: Chili, Crispito, Refried Beans, Salsa, Lettuce, Br. Rice, Peach</p>	<p>28 BCIG B: Cereal, Nutri Grain Bar BCIG L: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Apple Crisp, Mixed Fruit, Orange OA B: Muffin, HB Egg OA L: Hamburger, Bun, Potato Wedges, Apple, Pickle, Onion, Tomato, Baby Carrots, Strawberries</p>	<p>29 BCIG B: B'fast Wrap, Salsa BCIG L: Chicken Nuggets, Kidney Beans, Fresh Veggie Bar, *PB Sand., Apricots, Apple OA B: Long John OA L: Spaghetti w Meat, Romaine, Ranch, Cherry Tomatoes, Cauliflower, Trop. Fruit, Garlic Bread</p>	<p>30 BCIG B: Bagel, Cream Cheese, Yogurt BCIG L: Pepperoni Pizza, Spinach Salad w/ tomatoes, Corn, Strawberries & Banans OA B: B'fast Pizza OA L: Corn Dog, Baked Chips, Broccoli, Applesauce, Sherbert</p>	<p>31 BCIG B: Egg Patty, Bacon, WG Toast BCIG L: Chicken Noodle Soup, Grilled Cheese, Carrot, Celery, Cherry Tomatoes, Blueberry-Applesauce Cup, Orange OA B: Cereal, Toast OA L: Chicken Quesadilla, Spanish Rice, Cucumbers, Carrots, Mixed Fruit</p>



HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS PATRICK MILLER, PRINCIPAL

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

We will begin registration for driver's education on January 7th, 2014. Registration can be done in either the high school or the middle school office. The total fee for 2013-14 is \$350.00. A deposit of any amount must be made at the time of registration. The total amount will be due 3 weeks prior to the start of class. If student currently has a waiver for school fees, this would reduce the total amount due. Students must have their driver's permit before registering. A COPY OF STUDENT'S PERMIT must accompany the registration form.

Please be aware that this course does take a big time commitment for students to successfully complete. Unexcused absences or missing more than one class may require the student to repeat the class the following year. All requirements must be met in one year. CLASSROOM TIME: 30 hours required. DRIVING TIME: 12 hours (6 hours driving, 6 hours riding) An outside of class driving log is also required. These requirements will be detailed by the instructor.

At this time we are not sure of the times, dates or number of sessions that will be offered. The first 35 students registered will be in the first session.

YEARBOOKS

Have you ordered your 2013-2014 OABCIG yearbook? Yearbooks feature school portraits of all students in the district from preschool-seniors, faculty, extracurricular groups/teams, and high school events/activities throughout the school year. Books can be ordered through April 15th and the cost is \$50.

Order online and pay using a credit card by going to www.jostensyearbooks.com or click the link on the school website www.oabcig.org. To purchase using cash or check, send payment to the high school attention Heidi Beck. Questions . . . call 364-3371 or email hbeck@oabcig.org.

FFA UPDATES BY RACHEL STOBERL

Wow, the FFA has been very busy lately with multiple activities. At the end of October, Mrs. Stoberl, Jaden Uhl, and Erin Hallenbeck packed their bags and headed to Louisville, Kentucky for the National FFA Convention. While in Louisville those three ladies stayed very busy with: FFA Career Show, FFA Trade Show, Louisville Zoo, Churchill Downs, a rodeo, Cheesecake Factory, and General Sessions. What an opportunity it was for Jaden and Erin to see the sights while learning more about the FFA and what it can do for youth of America.

The FFA also held their annual fruit sales from November 7th through the 21st. This is their largest annual fundraiser, selling everything from fruit to pickled herring! The FFA also held their annual soup supper, December 20th during the basketball game vs. Ridgeview. We hope you all came for some delicious soup!

In case you hadn't heard the OA-BCIG FFA has a twitter and Facebook page! Please like and follow us to see what we are up to. There you can find pictures of all of our events as well as important dates coming up!



HERB IRGENS CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

Wrestling season is here and that means the Herb Irgens Classic Wrestling Invitational is right around the corner. The former OA-BCIG Wrestling Invite is slated for Friday, January 24th and Saturday, January 25th. This is the single largest invitational held in the state of Iowa and the OA-BCIG Athletic Boosters are busy preparing for it!

In order for this tournament to stay as successful as it has, the Boosters need your help and support. During the second week of January, the Booster Club will be mailing a letter to the parents of all high school and middle school athletes. These letters will be asking for a small monetary contribution, food related items, or a small work commitment in which we ask you to help in either the kitchen or concession stand. PLEASE do not ignore these letters, but rather mark your calendars and plan to help us! It is imperative if you cannot work during the time assigned, that you find a replacement. Likewise, if you are unable to supply the items asked for, that you let either Cindy Wilcke at the high school or Dee Boger at the middle school, know in advance.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in a certain area, please call Cindy at 364-3371 or Dee at 668-2827. We need your help to keep everything running smoothly. We hope you will support our high school wrestlers as well as the Athletic Boosters and help us continue to keep this tournament one of the top tourneys in the state.



LARGE GROUP SPEECH BY KARIANN JURGENSEN

District Large Group speech contest will be held on January 25 at Woodbury Central High School in Merville, Iowa. OA-BCIG will be competing in One Act Play, Choral Reading, Group Improvisation, Radio Broadcasting, and Solo Mime. Student participants are Haley Westphal, Angela Veit, Paige Whitney, Kaylea Killian, Seth Wheeler, Levi Nunemaker, Dalton Clausen, Amanda Nelson, Samantha Prussing, Cheyanne Marron, Anthony Sanchez, Anna Dewey, Olivia Freese, Thomas Mace, Jacob Henderson, Leah Lierman, Gable Sohm, Blake Netherton, Caleb Carlson, Dallas Hare, Autumn Rohlk, and Marzia Shivers.

CURRICULUM CLIPS ALICIA NELSON, DIRECTOR



“FROM COMMON CORE STANDARDS TO CURRICULUM: FIVE BIG IDEAS”

Jay McTighe and Grant Wiggins, in their paper “From Common Core Standards to Curriculum: Five Big Ideas”, explore five key understandings about translating the Core Standards into curriculum. All staff, parents, and community members for effective implementation of curriculum can support these “big ideas” as we move.

Big Idea #1:

The Common Core Standards have new emphases and require a careful reading.

It is a misconception to assume that these standards merely require minor “tweaks” to our curriculum and instructional practice. McTighe and Wiggins suggest NOT zeroing in on the grade-level standards before a careful examination of the goals and structure of the overall documents. We’ll start instead with the “blueprint” - with an overall vision of the “end in mind,” together teachers can create learning that fits together across the grade-level and throughout the building and district.

Big Idea #2:

Standards are NOT curriculum.

The standards define what all students are expected to know and be able to do, not how teachers should teach. Educators must translate the standards into engaging and effective curriculum. The curriculum should work with the standards to frame optimal learning experiences.

Big Idea #3:

Standards need to be “unpacked.”

Consider “unpacking” the standards into four broad categories - 1) long-term transfer goals, 2) overarching understanding, 3) overarching essential questions, and 4) a set of recurring cornerstone tasks. Transfer goals identify the effective uses of content understanding, knowledge and skill sought in the long run - *what kids can do when they confront new challenges, in and outside of school.*

Big Idea #4:

A coherent curriculum is mapped backwards from desired performances.

The key to avoiding an overly discrete and fragmented curriculum is to design backward from complex performances that require content. The key and initial question for curriculum development is NOT “What will we teach and when should we teach it?” Rather, THE question for curriculum development must be goal focused. “Having learned key content, what will students be able to do with it?”

Big Idea #5:

The standards come to life through the assessments.

The standards refer to the desired qualities of student work and the degree of rigor that must be addressed and achieved. The performance-based conception of standards lies at the heart of what is needed to translate the Core into a successfully working curriculum-assessment system.



GUIDANCE NOTES LIZ DENT, HS COUNSELOR



FAFSA

As we enter 2014, seniors will begin filling out financial aid information for their post-secondary plans. A major part of applying for financial aid is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). While a PIN can be applied for at any time, the actual application can only be filled out after January 1st. If you haven’t filled out the FAFSA before, or the thought is intimidating for you, the Iowa College Access Network will be coming to our school on February 6th from 5:00 - 7:30 to assist students and their families in filling out the FAFSA. Please mark your calendars for this evening if you are filling out the FAFSA this year – we hope the Iowa College Access Network’s assistance will help you and your student understand the FAFSA more completely!

SCHEDULING FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

At the end of December, students worked on choosing classes for next school year. This month the master schedule will be finalized and students will be registered for classes through JMC. Parents, please speak with your students about taking appropriate and challenging classes. Taking classes that expand their perception is a great way to help them prepare not only for college, but also help prepare them for leaving the world of high school behind and entering into their new reality. We know that life is challenging, and helping motivate our students not to hide from adversity but to fight through it is a fundamental life skill important for them to learn. Please contact Mrs. Dent with questions about classes.

IOWA ASSESSMENTS

The Iowa Assessments are standardized tests taken by our students that help show how prepared students are for post-secondary education, and how close our school is to meeting the common core standards of the state of Iowa. This year, our testing will take place the first full week of February, which is February 3-7. The schedule will be:

- +Monday February 3rd
 - 8:35-9:20 Reading
 - 9:25-9:45 Vocabulary
- +Tuesday February 4th
 - 8:30-9:15 Written Expression
- +Wednesday February 5th
 - 8:30-9:15 Science
- +Thursday February 6th
 - 8:30-9:15 Mathematics (calculators allowed)
- +Friday February 7th
 - 8:30-9:15 Social Studies
 - 9:20-9:35 Computation

Seniors do not have to report to school until the end of Iowa Assessments each day. The only exception will be that one day that week, seniors will come in at regular time to fill out I Have A Plan Iowa requirements. Students will be given a schedule of what day they will need to come in to complete this state requirement.



CHRISTENSEN RECEIVES DON TAFT AWARD

The Iowa Football Coaches Association award the Don Taft Coaching Award based on longevity, the body of work a coach has done with kids and the nomination of the district's head football coach.

The selection committee chose three middle school coaches to receive the award this year. This is the second time (2003) that Roger Christensen has received this from the Iowa Football Coaches Association.

The award is named for Don Taft, who coached in Mount Pleasant for a number of years and was credited with helping many young men to grow up. This was Christensen's 32nd season coaching football at the middle school level.

FALCON PRIDE!



SCHOOL-TO-CAREER STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATES

Fifteen School-to-Career students and two alternative high school students recently completed the National Career Readiness testing administered by the Iowa Workforce Development November 18-22. Based on their test results, students could earn 1 of 4 certificates: Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze. Platinum signifies the recipient has skills for 99% of the jobs in ACT's extensive database of occupational profiles. Gold signifies skills for 90%, Silver for 65% , and Bronze for 35% of the jobs in ACT's database.

The testing is composed of three WorkKeys® assessments that measure skills critical to on-the-job success. The three areas covered are applied mathematics, reading for information, and locating information. Many employers use this as a pre-employment test. The certificate earned is a work-related skills credential that provides objective evidence of employees' skills that can be accepted nationwide. There are a number of local employers that accept these certificates. One OABCIG student earned a Gold certificate, 12 earned Silver and 4 earned Bronze.

To find out more information about the NCRC as well as employers that honor them, you can visit <http://www.act.org/products/workforce-act-national-career-readiness-certificate/> or <http://www.skillediowa.org/job-seekers>.



**MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSES
DOUG MOGENSEN,
PRINCIPAL**



The new year is here, and it is time to make those resolutions to make things better in our lives. I know I have started past years out great, committed to stick to my resolution, only to lose track as the days go by and motivation begins to wane. Each school year, begins with school staff resolving to do a better job at teaching and helping students learn. Unlike the personal resolutions I have wavered on, the commitment that educators make to help students remains unbroken. I continue to see the elementary and middle school staff at OA-BCIG stay the course which began at the beginning of the school year. Teachers are involved in professional development by continuing their own education in masters programs, learning during school professional days, collaborating during PLC time and creating learning that is meaningful to students. I appreciate the commitment that the staff has made to make learning a top priority throughout the year.



THIRD GRADE BY MRS. WUNSCHEL AND MS. CARLSON

During the month of December we completed a unit called Christmas around the world. The students discovered what country or countries their ancestors originated from, and they also had to complete a family tree. They had to write a five-sentence paragraph about their heritage country, draw and color the country's flag, and they could bring a food or an artifact from their country.

Along with these assignments we discussed how other countries celebrate Christmas and what traditions did our ancestors' bring with them when they came to United States. We discussed Mexico, Germany, Greece, Ireland, England, and some of the Scandinavian countries: Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Finland. Each country that we discuss each child has to locate it on the map, as well as write 2 facts about that country.

Another great thing about this unit is we involve community members. This year we had Naomi Lozier, Marilyn Buehler, Irene Thayer, Mary Schroeder, Morris Hurd, and Jodi Peters come into the classroom. Some of them helped with making a heritage treat or giving us presentation about a specific country. This unit gave the third graders knowledge and understanding about other countries in a fun and enjoyable way.

GOOD LUCK FALCONS!



MIDDLE SCHOOL TAG BY MRS. JENSEN

On November 13th, the OA-BCIG 6th grade and OA 5th grade TAG students participated in the "Iowa 5th/6th Grade Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl" competition. The students were challenged while doing a scholastic, online team competition. The test was self-scoring and consisted of 100 multiple-choice questions. Areas covered included math, geography, sports, spelling, science, literature, English, and general information. This was a team activity with all participants around one computer. Two chances were given to answer correctly. Points were awarded based on how fast they answered as well as on accuracy. The TAG teacher, Mrs. Jensen, was the monitor but no adult help could be given. The Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl is open to all 5th and 6th grades in Iowa. Congratulations to the participants!

The 6th grade Purple Team finished with 91% and placed 12th. Members were: Sam Devitt, Carson Godbersen, Abby Bender, Kylee Weber, Corin Bower, Leighton Barnum, Nicole Lozier & Josie Wulf.

The 6th grade Silver Team finished with 89% and placed 19th. Members were: Evan Veltri, Jennifer Godbersen, Sarah Petersen, Justice Graham, Hunter Maass, Cora Hansen, Danielle Lozier & Lexi Neville.

The 5th grade team finished with 84% and placed 18th against other 5th grade teams. Members of the OA 5th grade team were: Kelton Bendixen, Elle Schroeder, Eric Sibenaller & Christopher Mace.





ACTIVITY DIRECTOR REPORT BY LARRY ALLEN

OA-BCIG Middle School students sold Pizza Hut Punch cards recently. These cards sell for \$10, and have about \$265 worth of savings on each one. If you did not get the opportunity to buy one, please contact any middle school student, or contact Larry Allen at 712-668-4820.

The annual Herb Irgens Wrestling Invitational is fast approaching on January 24th and 25th. This is a huge event for our athletic department and school. If you are asked to help out, please consider donating time to this event.

The 7th graders are using their Chromebooks to create Websites using a program called Weebly. Look for those to be published in the coming weeks. This will provide them an opportunity to learn about website design and all the different things that must be taken into consideration when creating pages.

Remember that you can sign up to receive email or text changes to the athletic schedules of your choice, by going to www.westernvalleyconference.org and selecting OA-BCIG, then click "Notify Me" and follow the directions.



FALCON PRIDE-CATCH IT!

INTERDISCIPLINARY UNITS BY DEE BOGER

On January 2 and 3rd the OA-BCIG Middle School students will be participating in interdisciplinary units. An interdisciplinary unit is a method used to teach a unit across different curricular disciplines. The middle school teachers have created grade level interdisciplinary units organized around a particular theme. Sixth graders will be learning more about the Middle Ages. Some of these activities will include making castles, building catapults, playing nine-man Morris, and jousting. The theme for the 7th graders will be Survivor with students learning some basic first aid and basics of CPR. Rube Goldberg is the theme for the eighth graders. Students will be collaboratively building machines capable of doing a very simple task in a very complex way to be judged by local engineers.

Benefits of interdisciplinary units include:

- Subject matter is reinforced and integrated
- Activities require higher order thinking
- Students are actively involved in drawing connections among subjects, making decisions, and solving problems
- Choices are available and collaboration is encouraged
- Students see the whole context of what they are learning

Feel free to stop by the middle school on these days to check out the students in action.



**HERB IRGENS
CLASSIC
WRESTLING
INVITATIONAL
JANUARY 24-25
WRESTLING BEGINS
FRIDAY AT 4:30PM
SATURDAY AT 10:00AM**

NURSES NOOK

ANGIE KASTNER, BSN RN



Exclusion, what does it mean?

In group settings, like school, there is always discussion on when an illness requires exclusion, or when a child should stay home or go home from school because of illness. As we all know, children will get sick, but how does one decide if they should be in school or not?

Two things to think about are; what is best for the child, and what is best for all of the other children in school. Common colds, runny noses, headaches, or stomachaches would not require exclusion unless the child had other additional symptoms of illness. These symptoms may include: fever, uncontrolled diarrhea, change in behavior, difficulty breathing, sore throat, pain, or a decrease in responsiveness. Below are examples of when a child should be kept home or may be sent home from school:

- The illness prevents the child from comfortably participating in the daily activities
- The illness creates a greater need for care, and would compromise the ability of staff to care for the other children.
- The illness creates a health threat to other students.
- A child that is clearly ill.

As a reminder effective handwashing both at home and at school will prevent the spread of most common illnesses and can keep our children healthy.



Online safety is important! The OA 5th grade students learned about Avoiding Online Predators and the 5th grade from both buildings learned about Stopping Cyberbullying. We used the Cybersmart ebooks to develop our classroom discussions and drew in related news items to make these lessons more relevant.

In January, the 4th grade classes will be studying Protecting Your Online Privacy and the 3rd grade classes will be working through Avoiding Online Predators.

Please remember that parents are one of the best tools for keeping children safe when online. Encourage your child to talk to you about what they are doing online and remind them to report to you if they ever receive a threatening or uncomfortable message. Almost every lesson included this reminder.



OA-BCIG MENTORING PARTIES



GO FALCONS!



LINES FROM THE LIBRARY
MARY ROHLK,
HEAD LIBRARIAN

The OA-BCIG high school library staff would like to thank Jeff and Beth Buehler for their generous donation to the library. After seeking student input, an order will be placed to increase the library collection.

Did you know that Northwest AEA and Prairie Lakes AEA offer additional online resources beyond the Iowa AEA Online resources?

For students attending BCIG Elementary or the OA-BCIG high school, go to www.nwaea.k12.is.us and click on the Online Resources button on the right side of the page. Products available are Cybersmarts and Teen Cybersmarts: ebooks addressing online safety, Mackin Via: online ebooks, Visual Thesaurus, and Freedom Flix: Social Studies ebooks. The username and password are the same as Iowa AEA Online.

For students at the Odebolt building, go to www.aea8.k12.ia.us The additional online resources are located on the bottom left of the AEA homepage. Mackin Via is available as well as the Iowa AEA Pinterest page. Currently there are thirty six boards that you may choose to follow. Once again, the username and password are the same as Iowa AEA Online.



**ELEMENTARY EDICTS
ALAN HENDERSON
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL**

K FOR A DAY (ROUND UP)

Please mark your calendars for February 12th in the AM as both the Odebolt Arthur Elementary and the Ida Grove Elementary we will be hosting "K for a Day". Students that turn 5 before Sept. 16th will come to school between 8:30 and 11:15 for this event. Any students not attending our preschool, please call the school: Odebolt Elementary at 712-668-2289 and the Ida Grove Elementary at 712-364-2360, to get you signed up to attend.

Necessary paperwork will be sent home in January for parents to return to the school. Teachers will work with students to get to know them and to get an opportunity to visit next years Kindergarten classrooms. Both Preschool and Kindergarten teachers will meet to help reach a recommendation for the following year to attend Kindergarten or Alternate Kindergarten.

Alternate Kindergarten is an opportunity for students to grow academically and socially. It does not mean a student is being held back. Students all grow and mature and at different rates. We want to see students, especially at an early age to be ready to learn and have the most success. Sometimes giving a child an extra year before going to kindergarten will help them be more prepared and the leader of their class. Often this extra year gives a child the boost they need to be successful for the rest of their time in school.

IOWA ASSESSMENT DATES AT BCIG ELEMENTARY

The Iowa Assessment tests will be given at BCIG Elementary the week of Feb. 10-14, 2014. Tests will be given in grades 2-5. Please mark those days on your calendar. It is important that students are well rested, have proper nutrition, and adequate exercise in order to do their best on the tests.



OA-BCIG High School Student Council adopted families this past December for the Angel Tree program. Over 50 presents were purchased and donated to help the less fortunate in the county. Shown above is student council advisor, Cindy Wilcke and senior, Colton Skirvin.

**VISIT THE
FALCON BOX
FOR ALL YOUR
APPAREL
NEEDS!**



Open before
every home
basketball game!

*all proceeds go directly back to
the athletes

**WISHING YOU ALL
A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR!**




**CANDID
PAGE**



Activity Calendar for January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 No classes Winter break 	2 2nd semester classes begin	3 6:00pm JV/V Girls BB vs Manson Northwest Webster @ Ida Grove	4 7:00 - 10:00pm High School Winter Semi-Formal Dance
5	6 	7 6:00pm Wrestling @ Ida Grove 4:30pm JVR/JV/V Boys BB vs Sioux City West @ Ida Grove	8 5:30pm Music Boosters meeting in the HS Cafeteria 6:00pm Athletic Boosters meeting	9 *4:00pm MS BB Boys vs Ridge View @ Early *4:00pm MS BB Girls vs Ridge View @ Odebolt *6:00pm Wrestling @ Merville *6:00pm JVR/JV Girls BBvs IKM-Manning @ IG *6:00pm JVR/JV Boys BB @ Manning	10 4:00 pm Bowling @ Cherokee 6:00pm BB @ Whiting 4:00pm JV G/B @ Whiting	11 *HS Honor Band Concert *9:00am Wrestling @ Ames *9:30am JV Wrestling LoMa Tourney @ Logan *1:00pm BB vs IKM-Manning @ Manning
12	13 6:30pm School Board Meeting 	14 *4:00pm MS BB Boys vs. Alta-Aurelia @ Aurelia *4:00pm MS BB Girls vs A-A @ Odebolt *4:00pm JV BB G/B @ Holstein *6:00pm BB vs Ridge View @ Holstein	15 1:00 Dismissal <i>Professional Development</i>	16 4:00pm MS BB 7th Girls @ Storm Lake Public 4:00pm MS BB 8th Girls vs Storm Lake Public @ Odebolt	17 *4:00pm Bowling vs Harlan @ IG *4:00pm MS BB 7th Girls @ Dension *4:00pm MS BB 8th Girls @ Odebolt *4:00pm JV G/B BB @ Lawton *6:00pm BB vs Lawton Bronson @ Lawton	18 9:00am JV G/B BB @ Alta 10:00 WVC Wrestling Tourney @ Mapleton
19 	20 NWIDCA Honor Choir @ Sioux Center 5:00pm Wrestling Storm Lake JV Tourney	21 Dance Team Performance *4:00pm MS Boys BB vs. East Sac Co. @ Odebolt *4:00pm MS Girls BB vs. East Sac Co. @ Lake View *6:00pm BB vs MVAO @ IG	22 6:30pm Herb Irgens Wrestling Tournament Seeding Meeting @ IG	23 Odebolt Invent Iowa Dance Team Performance 6:00pm BB vs. Siouxland Christian @ IG 	24 4:30pm Herb Irgens Wrestling Invitational @ IG	25 District Speech Large Group Contests TBD 10:00am Herb Irgens Wrestling Invitational @ IG
26 	27 *4:00pm MS BB Girls vs. Kuemper Catholic @ Carroll Kuemper *6:00pm Girls BB vs. So. O'Brien @ Paulina *6:00pm JVR/JV Boys BB vs Kuemper @ IG	28 Parent Ed Night @ HS 6:00pm Wrestling vs. Heelan @ IG	29 	30 *4:00pm Bowling vs MMC-RU @ Remsen BB WVC Tourney Girls JV/Varsity TBD	31 BB WVC Tourney Boys JV/Varsity TBD	

Odebolt-Arthur Community School District
600 S. Maple Street
Odebolt, IA 51468

Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School District
900 John Montgomery Drive
Ida Grove, IA 51445

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To Postal Patron

HERB IRGENS CLASSIC WRESTLING INVITATIONAL

JANUARY 24TH & 25TH



WRESTLING BEGINS:
FRIDAY AT 4:30pm
SATURDAY AT 10:00am

OA Central Office

712-668-2289

BCIG Central Office

712-364-3687

OABCIG High School

712-364-3371

OABCIG Middle School

712-668-2827

OA Elementary School

712-668-2827

BCIG Elementary School

712-364-2360



It is the policy of the Odebolt-Arthur and the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School Districts not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the districts' Equity Coordinator, Alan Henderson, BCIG Elementary Principal, 403 Barnes Street, Ida Grove, Iowa 51445, phone number: 712-364-2360 and email address: ahenderson@oabcig.org.