

OA-BCIG INSIGHTS

The newsletter of the Odebolt-Arthur and Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School Districts



PPEL Vote in the BCIG District on February 3rd Dr. Nick Ouellette, Superintendent

Reminder there is a vote for the **Physical Plant and Equipment Levy** for the **BCIG District** coming up **Tuesday, February 3rd**. This levy provides funds for maintaining the building and purchasing equipment in the district. The district has used this levy to purchase buses, remodel classrooms, and purchase technology. This levy cannot be used for salaries or benefits for employees of the district. If you have questions about the levy please feel free to contact Dr. Nick Ouellette, Superintendent of Schools at 712-364-2255 or email nouvellette@oabcig.org.

Illness At School

Mrs. Angie Kastner, School Nurse

As influenza season is upon us I would like to remind parents that school is a place for learning, and here at school we strive to create a healthy environment for learning. In the event that your child is ill, the exclusion policy states that the child may return to school once they have been fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medications like Tylenol or Ibuprofen. If a child returns too soon or has been medicated with fever reducing medications, it creates a health risk for the other students and doesn't allow the ill child to fully recover.

Another point is that children do and will get sick, it happens. I encourage parents to communicate this with the school or the classroom teacher. This communication between parents and school is important not only for the ill child, but for the health of all of

the other children in school. On occasion if the school has identified a specific illness, as a reference, the school may send home a note or letter informing parents of specific symptoms to watch for. This may be a specific grade or an entire building, but please note, the school does not send home notes every time a child is ill.

I often hear this phrase, "My child is sick, they must have picked something up from school." While it is easy to assume that when a child is sick, that they got it at school, that is not always the case. Children are just as likely to pick up an illness other places like home, friends' homes, stores, outside school activities, church, and any other places kids spend time. Parents at home should promote good hygiene practices like hand washing and covering a cough to help keep kids healthy and reduce the spread of infectious illnesses.

Iowa Assessment Schedule (tentative schedule)

OA Elementary:

*Assessment times may vary between classrooms

Mon., Feb. 9 - Kick-Off
Tues., Feb. 10 - Reading Part 1
Wed., Feb. 11 - Reading Part 2
Thurs., Feb. 12 - Math Part 1
Fri., Feb. 13 - Math Part 2
Tues. Feb. 17 - Computation
Wed., Feb. 18 - Science
Thurs., Feb. 19 - Social Studies
Fri., Feb. 20 - Vocab & Spelling
Mon., Feb. 23 - Capitalization & Punctuation
Tues., Feb. 24 - Written Expression

OA-BCIG Middle School:

*Assessments will take place during normal class times

Mon., Feb. 9 - Kick-Off
Tues., Feb. 10 - Reading Part 1
Wed., Feb. 11 - Reading Part 2
Thurs., Feb. 12 - Math Part 1

Fri., Feb. 13 - Math Part 2
Tues., Feb. 17 - Computation
Wed., Feb. 18 - Science
Thurs., Feb. 19 - Social Studies
Fri. Feb. 20 - Vocab & Spelling
Mon., Feb. 23 - Capitalization & Punctuation
Tues., Feb. 24 - Written Expression

OA-BCIG High School:

*Assessments will take place during normal class times

Monday, February 9
8:25-8:35 Take Attendance, Distribute Materials
8:35 - 9:20 Reading (40 min.)
Short break in room
9:25 - 9:45 Vocab (15 min.)
Tuesday, February 10
8:25 - 8:30 Take Attendance, Distribute Materials
8:30 - 9:15 Written Expression (40 min.)

Wednesday, February 11

8:25 - 8:30 Take attendance, Distribute Materials
8:30 - 9:15 Science (40 min.)

Thursday, February 12

8:25 - 8:30 Take attendance, Distribute Materials
8:30 - 9:15 Math (40 min.)

Friday, February 13

8:25 - 8:30 Take attendance, Distribute Materials
8:30 - 9:15 Social Studies (40 min.)

BCIG Elementary School:

Monday February 9
8:45-9:15 Reading (30 min.)
9:15-9:35 drink/snack break
9:40-10:10 Math (30 min.)
Tuesday February 10
8:45-9:15 Reading (30 min.)
9:15-9:35 drink/snack break
9:40-10:10 Math (30 min.)

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ADMINISTRATION

- Dr. Nick Ouellette
nouvellette@oabcig.org
Superintendent
- Mr. Patrick Miller
pmiller@oabcig.org
OA-BCIG HS Principal
- Mr. Alan Henderson
ahenderson@oabcig.org
BCIG Elem. Principal
- Mr. Doug Mogensen
dmogensen@oabcig.org
OA K-5 & OA-BCIG 6-8 Principal

Wednesday February 11

8:45-9:20 Science (35 min.)
9:20-9:35 drink/snack break
9:40-9:55 Vocab (15 min.)
10:00-10:10 Capitals (10 min.)

Thursday February 12

8:45-9:05 Math Computation (20 min.)
9:05-9:25 drink/snack break
9:25-10:05 Written Expression (40 min.)

Friday February 13

8:45-9:20 Social Studies (35 min.)
9:20-9:40 drink/snack break
9:40-9:50 Spelling (10 min.)
9:55-10:05 Punctuation (10 min.)

High School Happenings

Mr. Patrick Miller, Principal

Between February 9 and February 13 OA-BCIG High School students will be taking the Iowa Assessments (formerly known as the ITBS or ITED).

Measuring academic achievement with the Iowa Assessments provides information to help our students succeed. The Iowa Assessments make this possible by providing detailed information about achievement in content areas including reading, mathematics, and science. Scores on these tests will also determine if

students are eligible to take college courses while still in high school. To be eligible they must score in the proficient range.

The Iowa Assessments measure student growth and progress from year to year. In addition, they provide information about students' academic performance relative to their school, the district, and the nation.

Information gained from the Iowa Assessments helps teachers identify

students' strengths and areas that may need additional emphasis. The assessment data enable sound decision-making and provide a focus for teachers to review and improve their instruction. The results of the assessment will help prepare our students for the next steps on their educational paths. And you can help prepare them for the assessment by supporting them at home in striking a healthy, effective balance between homework, extra-curricular interests and activities, nutrition and rest.

OA Elementary & OA-BCIG Middle School Happenings

Mr. Doug Mogensen, Principal

My third grade son recently told me that his resolution for the year is to do a better job focusing. What a great resolution. When he shared this with my wife and me, we were impressed, as our resolution is working on losing a few pounds. We could never meet our goals without focusing. I can agree that improving my focus is a good goal as I can be easily distracted by a number of things throughout the day. I need to focus on helping my kids get better at doing what they need to do and not be distracted by television programs, tablets, and other such things.

Here are a couple of ways to get kids focused on doing those things you want them to do. First, allow your child input as you develop the plan. By giving them input, the plan becomes the child's plan as well as yours. The plan should include a to-do list for the day or week. Let the child cross off items on the list when finished with a task. The plan should include shutting off the distraction (television/tablet). Children need to concentrate on the task at hand whether it be loading the dishwasher or doing homework. Planning

a little to help children focus can be rewarding for you and the child.

I want to congratulate Mrs. Liechti's third grade class for winning the traveling Falcon Feathers trophy for the month of January. This trophy represents the three R's of respect, responsibility, and readiness of the students. The class or the individual students can be given a Falcon Feather for showing good behavior. Mrs. Liechti's class won as they collected over 200 Falcon Feathers.

Iowa Assessments

The elementary and middle school teachers and students are beginning to get ready for Iowa Assessments. Teachers will be sharing with students test taking tips and ideas of how to do their best on the tests. Plans are now in place for the Iowa Assessments which will be spread over 2 weeks in February for grades 2-11. I ask parents to remind students to get good rest and to eat a good breakfast during the testing time and all the time. I expect students to do their best on these assessments, showing what they know and following the test taking strategies. When

students give their best effort, then the data collected is an accurate portrayal of what our students are learning.

February Dates to Remember

NAEP testing for the **4th grade** is scheduled for **February 4**. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. Assessments are conducted periodically in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, U.S. history, and beginning in 2014, in Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL). The Odebolt-Arthur 4th grade students will be taking one test in either math, reading, or science. Iowa Assessments will begin **February 9**. The tests will take place over a two-week period. The Parent Teacher Community Partnership will help out and provide snacks during this time. **February 13** will be the **Valentine party** for the elementary. **February 24-Hoagie sales** begin. **February 26** is the middle school **pops concert**. All Wednesdays in February are 2:00 early out days for teacher professional development.

Library Listings

Mrs. Mary Rohlk, K-12 Librarian

Just a reminder to continue sending those box tops, labels for education (soup labels), and Our Family UPC labels to the school of your choice. This is a great way to support your school. BCIG received a check for \$1934.30 in December.

You may also send pop tabs to support the Ronald McDonald Houses. School personnel will make sure the pop tabs reach a Ronald McDonald House.

A special thanks goes out to the PTP volunteers for helping sort and count box tops. Also a big thanks to Mrs. Ruth Bennett and her helpers for cutting and processing all of these materials for BCIG.

Library classes have been studying a wide variety of things. Kindergarten and first grade students have been working on naming the main characters and the setting of various stories. Second grade learned some tips about staying safe while online. They learned that they should ask a parent's permission, only communicate with people that they know, and only go on sites that are at their level. Third grade studied the author, Patricia Polacco. They finished their unit by creating the statements "I notice" and "I wonder" about her books. Mrs. Rohlk sent the summary of these statements to the author. They are awaiting a reply. Fourth grade explored various online resources that they could use for their homework, especially for social studies. They compared Britannica Online, CultureGrams, and nonfiction books in Mackin Via. Fifth grade learned a variety of search techniques for the Google search engine. They noticed how the number of hits changed according to their technique.

Thank You to Our Volunteers Mr. Larry Allen, Activities Director

As the school year moves into the second semester, I feel we need to take a little time to pass along a huge Thank You to many deserving people.

With a limited number of resources available to schools, it is of such great importance to have community patrons who are willing to help out at a moments notice. OA-BCIG hosts a plethora of events and activities throughout the school year, there are just not enough school personnel to get all the activities covered throughout the year.

We have many individuals that have given timeless hours working countless events, whether it be parking cars at a FB game, playing the piano, building sets, helping out at the largest individual wrestling tournament in the state, or keeping score at a game, or even just helping move chairs after an event, it does not go without notice. This THANK YOU goes out to not only our adults, but also to our students, most of our students are more than willing to pitch in to help when asked. Other districts' school personnel have noticed this type of volunteerism and have mentioned and commended the students when they have witnesses these acts.

You're an important part of the successes we have at our schools and we thank you for sharing your time and talents with the staff and students.

Guidance Notes Mrs. Angela Lensch, High School Counselor

Iowa Assessments: February 9-13

As students take the Iowa Assessments the first week of this month, please remember there are a few key ways your student can be as prepared as possible:

- Get at least 8 hours of sleep each night
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Don't rush through the test
- Use all of the given time reviewing and double-checking answers
- Take deep, calming breaths if nervous

We want to help your student(s) be as successful as possible! Please contact me with questions you have about the tests.

Scholarships, Scholarships, Scholarships!

As we begin our spring semester, many scholarship deadlines will be coming soon. Please have conversations with your student about applying for scholarships that are made available.

In addition to the monthly scholarships sent out to students, **the OABCIG Dollars for Scholars application** is now available. Please visit my website for the link to begin the application.

Also note, when signing up for the application, it is important for students to use a permanent e-mail address (**not** their OA-BCIG school e-mail address) so that the Dollars for Scholars board can reach them after graduating).

Scholarship Page- <https://sites.google.com/a/oabcig.org/mrs-lensch-oa-bcig-professional-school-counseling/scholarships>

ACT Testing Dates and Deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
Feb. 7, 2015	Jan. 9, 2015	Jan. 10–16, 2015
April 18, 2015	March 13, 2015	March 14–27, 2015
June 13, 2015	May 8, 2015	May 9–22, 2015

The testing site is Denison Community High School.

Academic Programming

As we begin planning for the 2015-2016 school year, scheduling is one of our first tasks. In January/February, students began making their class selections. Online classes through Western Iowa Technical Community College will also be available for students. The deadline for registering for those online courses will be shared soon so beginning this process early will give students a chance to look at all of their options.

Please be in conversation with your student(s) regarding making wise decisions about courses for next school year. E-mail me at alensch@oabcig.org with questions regarding registration.

Fill out the FAFSA Night

Iowa College Access Network will be at OA-BCIG High School on **February 18 at 6:00 pm** to host an evening dedicated to assisting students and parents in filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This would be a helpful event for anyone who feels a bit unsure of how to fill out the FAFSA.

Contacts and Important information

Mrs. Lensch's School Email Address-alensch@oabcig.org

Mrs. Lensch's PSC Webpage-<https://sites.google.com/a/oabcig.org/mrs-lensch-oa-bcig-professional-school-counseling/>

OA-BCIG Service Club

<https://sites.google.com/a/oabcig.org/mrs-lensch-oa-bcig-professional-school-counseling/oa-bcig-social-service-club>

IMPORTANT DATES

Get them on your Calendars

January 27th: 2:15 pm ICAN Life Store

January 27th: 6:00 pm ICAN College Planning

January 27th: 7:00 pm ICAN Financial Aid

February 18th: 6:00 pm FAFSA Day

How can I get the most points on my Dollars for Scholars application?

Be Thorough. Think of everything you've been involved in during your 4 years of high school and make sure you've included it in your profile. Students usually remember their school activities and work experience, but tend to forget the times they've volunteered for their school and community. Community involvement can be many things – church functions, 4H, donating blood, helping coach little league teams, and so much more . . . any activity that you've volunteered your time. It also includes Dollars for Scholars involvement which is participating and/or helping in Hike Bike, the pancake breakfast, can cages, evening for education, and the talent show.

Be Specific. When listing your activities and involvement, be sure to list the number of years and number of hours you've contributed. For example, if someone lists "church – 4 years" that doesn't tell us much. It could mean that you've belonged to a church for 4 years without attending, or it could mean that you've been involved in youth group, choir, lecturing, fundraisers, servant events, and mission trips. Be specific to make sure you get points for the time that you've volunteered.

Describe your Involvement. Instead of just listing an event, provide a simple sentence or two describing your involvement in the event. Example: Instead of listing, "church fundraisers", describe your involvement with the fundraiser by saying, "I was a waitress at the spaghetti supper and washed dishes at the Easter breakfast". Remember, we do not see your name when we score the information, so it is important to represent yourself well.

Expect the Profile to Take Time. Yes, it takes more time to be specific and describe your involvement, however it is time well spent. This profile is your opportunity to earn a Dollars for Scholars scholarship which last year ranged from \$2,775 to \$3,825. Also, by completing the Dollars for Scholars profile, you are also applying for several other local scholarships.

OABCIG Dollars for Scholars: www.oabcig.dollarsforscholars.org

Deadline to Submit Profile: March 15, 2015



FFA News

Mrs. Rachel Stoberl, FFA Adviser

With the colder temperatures, the OA-BCIG FFA chapter hasn't slowed down one bit. We started January with the Ida and Sac County beef weigh-ins. We are so excited that more and more members are showing FFA project in both counties. If any members are interested in showing other animals through FFA, please let Mrs. Stoberl know soon!

The winter months bring with them different career development events that our students participate in. Career development events are competitive events which help promote and develop career skills learned through agricultural education and can include but are not limited to the following: public speaking, job interview, creed speaking, agriculture sales, etc. Students will first compete at the sub-district level at East Sac on February 19. If students are in the top for their particular contest, they can advance on to the district contests.

In the coming months we will have many contests to participate in, mobile food pantries to help with, and so much more. We are in the planning stages of our annual banquet, so be sure to check back next month for more details! In the next few months, we will also elect our officers for the 2015-2016 school year! As always, please check out our Twitter and Facebook pages to stay up-to-date with our happenings.

Third Grade Studies Force & Motion

Ms. Chelsea Steil, BCIG 3rd Grade Teacher

BCIG third graders recently took a trip to Ida Bowl as a collaboration activity to end their force and motion unit. Students had the chance to experience force and motion first hand by bowling. They also were able to create an electromagnet and light a light bulb. It was an afternoon of learning and fun.



Interdisciplinary Units

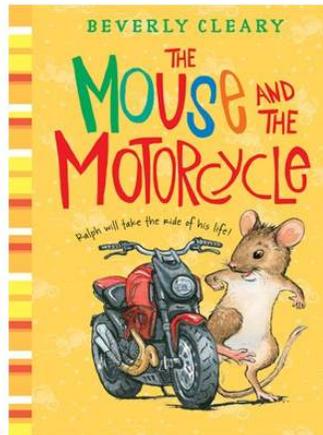
Mrs. Dee Boger, Language Arts Instructor

Middle school students participated in Interdisciplinary Units the end of January. The 8th grade students studied Rube Goldberg. Teams created their own incredible machine and were judged by local engineers. The 7th grade students' unit was SURVIVOR. Students participated in various activities including learning CPR. The Middle Ages was the theme for the 6th graders. Students enjoyed building catapults and the game Nine-Man-Morris.

BCIG ELEMENTARY FAMILY FUN NIGHT Tuesday, February 17th: 5:30-8PM

All BCIG Elementary students and their parents are invited for an evening of fun to help celebrate reading *The Mouse and The Motorcycle* book!

- Complimentary dinner includes cheeseburger, chips, lemonade and a variety of homemade desserts.
- Free childcare will be available at the Rec Center for younger siblings. The Rec Center kids play room and gym will be open.
- Passport book stations include *Reading & Book Mural*, *Healthy Snacks for kids by Iowa Extension Office*, *Science by Conservation Center*, *Exercise with Zumba*, *Mouse Arts & Crafts*, *Technology/Computer Lab*, *Musical Mouse Chairs*, and a *Mouse Maze*.
- Themed photo booth for group & family pictures.
- Students who complete their passport will receive a prize.
- Don't forget to wear your BCIG Elementary mouse t-shirt!



Iowa Assessment Tests

Mrs. Julie Staley, BCIG Elementary Counselor

The Iowa Assessment tests will be given in grades 2-5 at BCIG Elementary Monday through Friday, February 9-13, 2015. Testing will take place first thing in the morning so it is important that students be on time. Please make sure your child is well rested and has had a nutritious breakfast each morning. Let your child know the tests are important and that the child's best effort should be given. Students will have the opportunity to earn some rewards each day by trying their best on each tests. They can earn these tickets daily.

Iowa Assessment Tests

Mrs. Jo Lyons, OA Elem. & OA-BCIG MS Counselor

OA Elementary and OA-BCIG Elementary will begin our kick-off for the *Iowa Assessments* on February 9, 2015. The *Iowa Assessments* help determine how our students are performing on the state curriculum and measure student growth from year to year.

We encourage students to have a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast to ensure the best success.

Quiz Bowl Advances to Televised Round

Mrs. Janet Christensen, Quiz Bowl Coach

Congratulations to the Quiz Bowl Team on finishing in the top 16 teams of the Morningside Tournament on Saturday, January 10 with a 3-2 record. They will now advance to the televised rounds. Team members are Alex Rohlk, Thomas Mace, Gable Sohm, Ryan Dunker, Claire Sohm, and Trey Rohlk. We will tape for television on January 27 in a game against Lutheran Northeast.



SENIORS

Start bringing in candid group photos from elementary, middle school, and high school to use in the senior video which will be shown at senior awards night. Photos can be given to Mrs. Hadden or emailed to her at khadden@oabcig.org as the Multimedia class will be creating the video this year.

OA-BCIG Talented & Gifted News

Mrs. Staci Rohlk, TAG Instructor

In January, TAG students had the opportunity to learn about 3D printers at the Northwest Area Education Association in Sioux City, as well as tour WITCC and educate themselves about programs offered including Mechanical Engineering and Robotics & Animation; Computer Security, Networking and Cyber Crime Investigation, and Game Design. We were also fortunate to tour HiWay Products and Hawkeye Fabrication in Ida Grove to learn about their business.



Robotics Advances to State Competition

Mrs. Susie Maass, Robotics Coach

On Saturday, January 10 the two robotics teams participated in a league match in Fort Dodge. Team Short Circuit (Ethan Tromp, Jessica Gunderson, Nick Endrulat) finished in 1st place and Team Overload (Amanda Gunderson, Trey Rohlk) finished in 7th place. Overall league placing is based on an accumulation of points, so after three regular season meets, **Team Short Circuit** are the **Lime League champions**. This is similar to any athletic team winning the conference championship.

Both teams competed Saturday, January 17 in Humboldt. After 34 qualifying matches, Team Overload (Gabe Malcom, Anne Hao, Amanda Gunderson) placed second and Team Short Circuit (Ethan Tromp, Jessica Gunderson, Toby Mason, and Nick Endrulat) placed third out of 19 teams. **Team Short Circuit** made it to the semi-finals and then went on to win the championship bracket and have earned a chance to **compete at the State Championship** March 6-7 in Coralville, Iowa.



What is At-Risk, Part II

Mrs. April Wells, At-Risk Coordinator

One of the four areas schools focus on when assessing at risk is the Individual Domain. These are factors related to the individual student. While each school district may streamline identification factors to suit their needs, the general guidelines are as follows:

High-risk demographic characteristics (race/ethnicity, gender, immigration status, limited English proficiency, having limited cognitive abilities, some other type of disability, whether it is physical, emotional, or behavioral-seriously emotionally disturbed or who have learning disabilities are particularly vulnerable to dropping out)

Early adult responsibilities (becoming a teen parent, taking a job to help family, taking care of siblings, working more than 20 hours a week and enrolled in school)

High-risk attitudes, values, and behaviors (early antisocial behavior, such as violence, substance abuse, or trouble with the law, early sexual involvement, spends no time reading for fun, having close friends who are involved in antisocial behavior or who

have dropped, low occupational aspirations, having low self-esteem and self-confidence)

Poor school performance (poor academic performance-tests, grades, failing courses-as early as 1st grade continuing throughout elementary school, into middle and high school, being retained/having to repeat a grade, students with disabilities have been found to have multiple school performance risk factors)

Disengagement from school (are alienated and disengaged from school academically, socially, behaviorally, and psychologically)

- **Academic:** absenteeism, having trouble catching up, cutting classes, truancy, incomplete homework, and coming to class unprepared.
- **Behavior:** acting up in school, particularly if these behaviors result in repeated suspensions/expulsion, discipline problems, trouble with police).
- **Social:** trouble getting along with peers at school or have problems

with social skills, lack of involvement in extracurricular activities at school.

- **Psychological:** having low educational expectations, uncertain about high school graduation or lacking plans for education beyond high school, trouble getting along with their teachers or just a general dislike of school).

Education stability (educational mobility through changing schools, particularly when it means attending multiple schools)

It is important to remember that these factors alone do not necessarily mean a student is going to fail. Basically, the more risk factors, the greater the risk of failing. The next few months will follow up with other domains and then address what we are doing and what we can do as individuals, families, schools and communities.

Source: Iowa Department of Education website

Free and Reduced-Price Eligibility for School Meal Accounts

Children need healthy meals to learn. It is the policy of the OA and BCIG Community School Districts to offer a healthy breakfast and lunch to all students registered and attending a district attendance center. The OA and BCIG Food Service Departments are federally funded; therefore, not authorized to extend credit for unpaid school meals. If you are having financial difficulties – We Want to Help You! The OA and BCIG School Districts encourage families to complete an Iowa Eligibility Application for free or reduced-price school meals. One application will cover all of your children attending any of the OA and/or BCIG Community School District buildings. If you qualify, your child(ren) may eat free or reduced-price school meals. Reduced price breakfasts cost \$.30 and reduced price lunches cost \$.40. A la carte items, second entrees, second meals, juice and extra milks are not included in the free or reduced-price school meal offerings and can only be purchased from a school meal account carrying a positive balance or with cash at the point of service.

Foster children, homeless, runaway and migrant children, children who receive food assistance or FIP and children enrolled in Head Start all qualify for free school meals. Your children can get free or reduced-price school meals if your household income is within the free or reduced-price limits on the Federal Income Guidelines when you complete your Iowa Eligibility Application. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced-price school meals.

We cannot approve an application that is not complete and signed, so be sure to complete all required information. One completed Iowa Eligibility Application per family listing all of the people living in the household, related or not, that share income and expenses is required. College students, who still use your home address as their permanent address, are considered a part of the household. You may apply for free or reduced-price school meals any time during the school year, especially if your income goes down, household size increases, you lose your job or you become eligible for Food Assistance, FIP or other benefits. At Verification time you may be asked to provide written proof of your income information; however, do NOT provide proof at the time you complete your application. If you disagree with the school's decision concerning the eligibility determination of your application, you may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Superintendent Dr. Nick Ouellette, 900 John Montgomery Drive, Ida Grove, IA 51445, 712-364-3687 OR 600 S Maple Street, Odebolt, IA 51458, 712-668-2289.**

Not everyone has to complete an Iowa Eligibility Application to receive free school meal benefits for their children. School enrollment records are compared to DHS records to identify children who are members of households receiving Food Assistance or FIP benefits. If ANY of your children are identified during this process ALL of your children will be directly certified to receive free school meal benefits. If you are notified by the school of your children's eligibility, parents need to do nothing further for their children to receive free school meals. Some eligible children may not be identified by this process and those households should receive a letter of direct certification from DHS. Children on these letters will receive free school meal benefits only if parents provide this letter to the school.

Because all preschool children are now offered school meals, there is no Special Milk Program in either district.

If you have any questions relating to free or reduced-price school meals or would like help completing the Iowa Eligibility Application, contact Wanda Schiernbeck at the BCIG Central Office, 900 John Montgomery Drive in Ida Grove or call 712-364-3687 or email wschiernbeck@oabcig.org

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. OA and BCIG Community School Districts are an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Tobacco-Free Environment

Code No. 905.2

School district facilities and grounds, including school vehicles, are off limits for tobacco use. This requirement extends to students, employees and visitors. This policy applies at all times, including school-sponsored and nonschool-sponsored events. Persons failing to abide by this request are required to dispose of the tobacco product or leave the school district premises immediately. It is the responsibility of the administration to enforce this policy.

OA AND BCIG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Health Education

Code No. 603.5

Students in grade levels one through twelve will receive, as part of their health education, instruction about personal health, food and nutrition, environmental health, safety and survival skills, consumer health, family life, human growth and development, substance abuse and non-use, including the effects of alcohol, tobacco, drugs and poisons on the human body, human sexuality, self esteem, stress management, interpersonal relationships, emotional and social health, health resources, prevention and control of diseases, communicable diseases, including acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The purpose of the health education program is to help each student protect, improve and maintain physical, emotional and social well-being.

The areas stated above shall be included in health education and the instruction shall be adapted at each grade level to aid understanding by the students.

Parents who object to health education instruction in human growth and development may file a written request that the pupil be excused from the instruction. The written request shall include a proposed alternate activity or study acceptable to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall have the final authority to determine the alternate activity or study.

OA AND BCIG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Smoking-Drinking-Drugs Code No. 502.7

The board prohibits the distribution, dispensing, manufacture, possession, use or being under the influence of beer, wine, tobacco or other controlled substance, or “look alike” substances that appear to be tobacco, beer, wine, alcohol or controlled substances by students while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

The board believes such illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials generally cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors.

Violation of this policy by students will result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Use, purchase or being in possession of cigarettes, tobacco or tobacco products for those under the age of eighteen, may be reported to the local law enforcement authorities. Possession, use or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol and/or of a controlled substance may also be reported to the local law enforcement authorities.

Students who violate the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily complete a substance abuse assistant or rehabilitation program approved by the school board. If such student fails to satisfactorily complete such a program, the student may be subject to discipline including suspension or expulsion.

The board believes the substance abuse prevention program will include:

- Age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through twelve, which address the legal, social and health consequences of tobacco, drug and alcohol use and which provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use tobacco, drugs or alcohol;
- A statement to students that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful;
- Standards of conduct for students that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, being under the influence of or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of any of its activities;
- A clear statement that disciplinary sanctions, up to and including suspensions or expulsions and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate this policy and a description of those sanctions;
- A statement that students may be required to successfully complete an appropriate rehabilitation program;
- Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs available to students;
- A requirement that parents and students be given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions required; and
- Notification to parents and students that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

OA AND BCIG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Asbestos Containing Materials Code No. 804.4

Friable and non-friable asbestos-containing materials will be maintained in good condition and appropriate precautions will be followed when the material is disturbed for any reason. If there is a need to replace asbestos, it will be replaced with nonasbestos-containing materials. Each school building will maintain a copy of the asbestos management plan.

The school districts will annually notify, appoint and train appropriate employees as necessary.

OA AND BCIG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS



**Environmental Science
Tip of the Month**

Class of 2015 Information

Senior Song: “Give Me Back My Hometown” by Eric Church

Senior Flower: White Rose

Senior Motto: “Our lives are before us, our past behind us, but our memories are forever within us.”

Senior Service Day: Friday, May 1, 2015

Senior Awards Night: Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Last Day for Seniors: Thursday, May 14, 2015

Graduation: Sunday, May 17, 2015

Wooden Falcon Door Signs



1. Paint Design: Please Circle One
Colors Available: Purple, Black and White

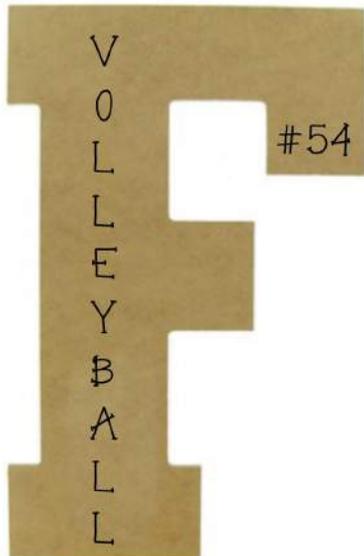
- Chevron: _____ (Up to three colors)
(color) (color) (color)

- Polk-a-dot: _____ (Up to three colors)
(background) (color) (color)

- Stripe: _____ (Up to three colors)
(color) (color) (color)

- Solid Purple

- Solid Black



3. Ribbons:
Assorted
Falcon Colors

2. Sport or Activity or Name: Please Circle One

Falcons Trap Shooting

Football Band

Cross Country Speech

Softball Jazz Choir

Volleyball Cheerleading

Basketball Drill Team

Wrestling Spanish Club

Golf NHS

Bowling Art Club

Track and Field Student Council

Rodeo Soccer

Baseball Drama

Choir FFA

Name/Other: _____

4. Number: _____
(Optional)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Payment: _____

Make Checks
Payable to: **\$ 15**
OA-BCIG ART
CLUB

Order Forms Due February 27th to High School Office

Activity Calendar for February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 FFA Nat. Scholarship deadline	2 3:30 Bowling @ LeMars 4:45 JV Wrestling @ MOC-FV Tourney 6:00 V B BB WVC Tourney @ TBD	3 6:00 V G BB WVC Tourney @ TBD 	4 2:00 Dismissal	5 HS Morningside Jazz Festival 3:45 Bowling @ Harlan 4:00 MS Wrestling @ Denison 4:00 7th G BB vs. Cherokee @ Odebolt 4:15 8th G BB @ Cherokee 6:00 JV/V B BB WVC Tourney @ TBD	6 4:15 MS Wrestling @ LeMars 6:00 JV/V G BB WVC Tourney @ TBD	7 ACT Testing @ Denison State Lg. Group Speech @ SC East 8:00 Future Stars BB Tourney @ Odebolt 12:00 Wrestling Sectionals @ IG
8 	9 4:00 Bowling vs. Cherokee @ IG 4:00 MS Wrestling @ Rockwell City 4:30 JV G BB vs. Spencer @ IG 4:30 JV B BB vs. Spencer @ Odebolt 6:00 V BB vs. Spencer @ IG 6:30 OA & BCIG Joint Board Mtg. @ IG 8:00 Dance Team performs	10 4:00 JVR/JV/V B BB @ SC West 4:00 7th G BB vs. Denison @ Odebolt 4:00 8th G BB @ Denison	11 2:00 Dismissal NW ICDA Choral Clinic @ Sloan	12 4:00 Bowling vs. Sioux Rapids @ IG	13 OA Elem. Valentine's party	14 8:00 Booster Club 6-8th Girls BB tourney @ Odebolt 12:00 Wrestling Districts @ Underwood 7:00 G BB Regionals @ TBD 
15 	16 HS G/B track practice begins 6:30 BCIG Special Board Mtg. 7:00 B BB Districts @ TBD	17 Bowling Regionals @ TBD 4:00 MS Wrestling @ Cleghorn 5:30 BCIG Elem. Family Fun Night	18 2:00 Dismissal	19 7:00 HS Vocal Pops Concert @ IG	20 State Wrestling Tournament	21 Natl. FFA Week
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
National FFA Week						
	State Bowling @ DM	MS/HS Hoagie Sales KickOff 4:00 MS Wrestling @ Sgt. Bluff	2:00 Dismissal	7:00 MS Pops Concert @ Odebolt		BVU Honor Band District Indv. Speech Contest 7:00 HS Winter Ball

Breakfast & Lunch Menus for February 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2 BCIG B: pancakes w/syrup, *sausage BCIG L: meatball sub/WG bun, green beans, marinated fresh veggie salad, *PB sandwich, applesauce cup, orange OA B: pop tart, yogurt, OJ OA L: breaded chicken patty w/bun, green beans, cucumbers, radishes, lettuce, pears</p>	<p>3 BCIG B: Nutrigrain bar, yogurt BCIG L: crispito, lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa, Spanish rice, 3 bean salsa w/chips, pineapple, apple OA B: blueberry muffin, HB egg OA L: chili crispito, salsa, refried beans, lettuce, carrots, peaches</p>	<p>4 BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: chicken nuggets, Elem-fresh veggies w/ranch, *fresh veggie bar, mixed fruit, orange OA B: cinn. roll, string cheese OA L: pork patty, mashed potatoes, cherries, broccoli, lettuce, dinner roll</p>	<p>5 BCIG B: ultimate breakfast round, *cereal BCIG L: pepper oni pizza, corn, broc-cauli salad, jello, *fresh veggie bar, mixed fruit, orange OA B: ultimate breakfast round OA L: WG turkey corn dog, baked chips, lettuce, carrots, red peppers, clementines</p>	<p>6 BCIG B: breakfast wrap, salsa BCIG L: turkey fritter w/WG bun, smiley fries, peas, peaches, apple OA B: egg patty, WG toast OA L: maidrites w/WG bun, corn, lettuce, pineapple, chocolate pudding</p>
<p>9 BCIG B: breakfast pizza BCIG L: hot ham & cheese, green beans, broccoli salad, pears, orange OA B: WG long john, HB egg OA L: strip steak, bun, cooked carrots, apple, lettuce, baby carrots, celery</p>	<p>10 BCIG B: cereal, WG toast BCIG L: shredded turkey-in-gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, butter sandwich, pineapple, apple OA B: strawberry pancake, string cheese OA L: BBQ pork w/WG bun, baked beans, apricots, lettuce, cucumbers, broccoli</p>	<p>11 BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: chicken patty w/WG bun, Elem-mixed green salad, mixed veggies, *fresh veggie bar, sidekicks, apple OA B: WG cinn. roll, yogurt OA L: chicken fajita, WG tortilla shell, tomatoes, cheese, salsa, lettuce, grapes</p>	<p>12 BCIG B: long john, *cereal BCIG L: chili, cinn. roll, carrot-celery sticks, cucumbers, crackers, applesauce, orange OA B: breakfast pizza OA L: egg sausage, cheese, bun, OJ, apple slices, mandarin oranges</p>	<p>13 BCIG B: egg patty, bacon, WG toast BCIG L: BBQ chicken breast w/WG bun, tator tots, spinach salad w/tomatoes, cookie, strawberry cup, apple OA B: egg wrap OA L: spaghetti w/meat sauce, cauliflower, lettuce, mixed fruit, garlic bread</p>
<p>16 BCIG B: sausage breakfast bagel, *Nutrigrain bar BCIG L: mini chicken drummies, corn, Tex-Mex pasta salad, PB sandwich, mixed fruit, apple OA B: WG long john, string cheese OA L: teriyaki chicken patty, bun, corn, cauliflower, lettuce, orange, apple crisp</p>	<p>17 BCIG B: cereal bar, WG toast BCIG L: hamburger w/WG bun, baked beans, potato salad, baby carrots, applesauce cup, orange OA B: breakfast sausage bagel OA L: Mr. Rib, bun, peas, broccoli, cucumbers, lettuce, applesauce</p>	<p>18 BCIG B: breakfast wrap, salsa BCIG L: tuna alfredo, Elem-fresh veggies w/ranch, *fresh veggie bar, butter sandwich, mandarin oranges, apple OA B: cinn. roll, HB egg OA L: grilled cheese, green beans, celery, carrots, lettuce, banana</p>	<p>19 BCIG B: blueberry muffin, yogurt BCIG L: French toast sticks, sausage, hash brown, celery-carrot sticks, *cucumbers, blueberries, banana OA B: Nutrigrain bar, yogurt OA L: pancake sausage stick, blueberry muffin, apple juice, pears</p>	<p>20 BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: cheesesticks, green beans, strawberry Romaine salad, cottage cheese, peaches, orange OA B: egg omelet, toast OA L: cheese pizza, carrots, cucumbers, peaches, pudding</p>
<p>23 BCIG B: breakfast pizza BCIG L: turkey burger w/WG bun, sweet potato tots, calico beans, pears, apple OA B: WG donut, yogurt OA L: hot dog w/WG bun, smiley fries, peaches, lettuce, red peppers, cauliflower</p>	<p>24 BCIG B: cereal, WG toast BCIG L: taco-in-a-bag, lettuce, cheese, tomato, salsa, corn, *rice crispy bar, pineapple, orange OA B: blueberry waffles, string cheese OA L: chicken quesadilla, Spanish rice, cucumbers, carrots, mixed fruit</p>	<p>25 BCIG B: egg patty, bacon, WG toast BCIG L: pork patty w/WG bun, Elem-mixed green salad, peas, *fresh veggie bar, apricots, apple OA B: cinn. roll, HB egg OA L: maidrite, bun, corn, pears, lettuce, broccoli</p>	<p>26 BCIG B: pumpkin choc chip coffeecake, *cereal BCIG L: mandarin orange chicken, br. rice, cooked carrots, broc-cauli salad, *butter sandwich, applesauce, banana OA B: biscuit, gravy, sausage patty OA L: taco-in-a-bag, black bean salad, tomatoes, cheese, salsa, lettuce, apple, animal crackers</p>	<p>27 BCIG B: scrambled eggs, English muffin BCIG L: catfish strips, potato wedges, coleslaw, uncrustable, mixed fruit, apple OA B: egg omelet, toast OA L: shrimp poppers, cucumbers, carrots, coleslaw, lettuce, mandarin oranges, dinner roll</p>

In accordance with Federal Law and USDA policy, this institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Milk choice, fruit and juice served daily.

All breads are whole grain.

**Available only at the high school.*



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

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.



Band Notes

Ms. Becky Maher, Instrumental Music Instructor

The band program is going strong and getting ready for the **pops concert** with the choir on **February 19**. The jazz band is attending two competitions in February: one at Morningside College and then the district jazz band competition for northwest Iowa. Erin Fineran and Jessica Gunderson attended the NWIBA Honor Band in January, spending the day playing and performing with talented students from all over Northwest Iowa. A handful of students will also be traveling to West Monona High School in March to participate in the Western Valley Conference Honor Band Festival. It should be a great learning opportunity for the students!

Honor Band

Mr. Neil Anders, Instrumental Music Instructor

On Monday, January 12, Sioux City West Middle School hosted its second annual Strong Foundations Honor Band. This honor band featured over 200 talented 6th grade students from 33 schools in northwest Iowa. The students were split into two equal bands which were conducted by John C. Smith of Clear Creek Amana and Mary Crandell of Waukee. This year thirteen OA-BCIG students were chosen to participate in the event.

Those students that participated were Amber Hoefling, Bella Raasch, Carli Ullrich, Emma Schirmacher, Trust Wells, Chris Mace, Cooper DeJean, Megan Brummer, Elle Schroeder, Adeline Hickey, Lillian Hoffman, Jersey Bender, and Garrett Nichols.



OA Central Office
712-668-2289

BCIG Central Office
712-364-3687

OA-BCIG High School
712-364-3371

OA-BCIG 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.