

OA-BCIG INSIGHTS

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



From the Superintendent Mr. Terry Kenealy, Superintendent

Public Hearing on Whole Grade Sharing Agreement

On Monday, December 12, 2016, during their joint regular board meeting the Odebolt-Arthur Board of Directors and the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Board of Directors held a public hearing as required by Iowa Code on the new Whole Grade Sharing Agreement. There were no patrons present at the meeting who spoke in favor of the new agreement, who spoke against the new agreement or who asked for any clarifications on the agreement.

Later in the meeting the board members gave final approval to the new whole grade sharing agreement and it will now be submitted to the Northwest AEA, the Prairie Lakes AEA and the Department of Education. A copy of the finalized whole grade sharing agreement and the finalized memorandum of understanding that is part of the agreement will be posted on the OA-BCIG Community School District Website for your review.

Petition for Reorganization

Patrons from each school district are in the process of collecting signatures to submit with the Petition for Reorganization to the Northwest AEA and the Prairie Lakes AEA. As of Monday, December 12, 2016, patrons from the Odebolt-Arthur Community School District had turned in 189 signatures and 284 valid signatures are needed to qualify the petition for submission to the AEA Board of Directors. Patrons from the Battle Creek-Ida Grove School District had turned in 367 signatures and 400 valid signatures are needed to qualify the petition for submission to

the AEA Board of Directors.

It is my understanding that there are additional petitions still being circulated in each district in an effort to gather enough signatures to qualify the petition for submission to the AEA Board of Directors in time for a June 27, 2017, special election. We will do our best to keep you informed about the Petition for Reorganization process over the next several months. Please don't hesitate to contact me or members of either school board if you have questions.

Joint Facilities Committee

A Joint Facilities Committee has been meeting this year as a follow up to the work that was done last school year. At the November 2016 regular board meeting, the school board members agreed to begin the process of selecting an architectural firm to assist the committee in finalizing a master facilities plan, support for a possible bond referendum, and architectural-engineering design services for each district as the two districts work to address facility needs especially for the building in Odebolt and the high school building in Ida Grove.

In order to properly address the architectural firm selection process, the two school districts entered into an agreement with Estes Construction - ICAT to provide facility planning assistance and architect selection services through a program offered by the Iowa Association of School Boards. Estes Construction - ICAT helped the school districts solicit proposals from a number of interested architectural firms and six of those firms submitted proposals regarding what they could

provide each school district. A committee of board members, administrators and district staff reviewed the proposals and then selected four firms to interview. At the conclusion of the interview process the committee recommended to the two school boards that they appoint Haila ASP Ltd from Ames as the architectural firm.

On Monday, December 12, the two school boards approved the appointment of Haila ASP Ltd out of Ames as the architectural firm that will serve the two districts moving forward along with Estes Construction - ICAT who will assist in facility evaluation and design development. The Joint Facility Committee, Estes Construction - ICAT and Haila ASP Ltd will work together over the next several months putting together detailed plans for the facilities in Odebolt and the high school building in Ida Grove that will include recommendations as to the best way to upgrade each building to meet the 21st Century learning needs of our students at all levels and for all programs.

We will do our best to keep you updated as to the progress this committee is making and will provide you with information on the ideas and recommendations they will eventually be focused on for each district. Please let me know if you have questions or need information.

Battle Creek-Ida Grove Elementary Addition Update

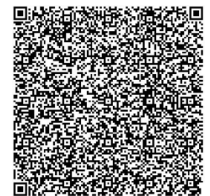
On Friday, December 9, 2016, the architect, engineers, and contractors worked to develop the final punch list of items that need to be finished or addressed in the new addition at Battle Creek-Ida Grove Elementary School. As

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Financial Aid Night	3
Nurse's Notes	5
Driver's Education	6
Activity Notifications	7
Senior Information	8
Menus	11
BCIG PTP Family Fun Night	12

ADMINISTRATION

- Mr. Terry Kenealy
tkenealy@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



Environmental Science
Tip of the Month

(Continued on next page)

of Monday, December 12, 2016, the district is in position to begin the process of moving into the new addition on Wednesday, December 21, 2016, just prior to the Christmas break.

To help facilitate the move into the new addition, kindergarten students and KEY students were given December 21 and December 22 off so the teachers could finish preparing to move their materials to the new classrooms. When classes resume after the Christmas break on Tuesday, January 3 the Kindergarten and Key classrooms will be ready for students in the new addition as will the Physical Education program in the new gym.

Also on January 3, the Title I program will be in the classroom that formerly was the KEY classroom and Mrs. Wunschel's former kindergarten classroom will become a special education

classroom. Finally when classes resume, the library and the technology classroom will no longer share their space with the kindergarten classes and the Talented and Gifted program will move to the classroom that used to be the stage off of the old gym allowing the music room to return to its normal routine.

We are excited and grateful to be able to move into the new addition. This additional space will make the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Elementary School a much better facility that is capable of helping to address student needs and academic program needs more appropriately at all levels.

In the near future, we will be scheduling an open house and dedication ceremony to provide the school community the opportunity to visit the new addition and the entire facility. When

the event gets scheduled we will post notices in the local newspaper, post a notice on the district website, and also send out a notice through JMC.

Finally, on behalf of the BCIG School District I want to thank the staff members and students at BCIG Elementary School for their patience, flexibility, and support while this project was underway. There were times this past year and a half when things were not very convenient, when your normal routine was disrupted on a regular basis and perhaps your teaching/work/learning space was displaced and you had to share space with others. Thank you for all of your efforts throughout this process to make things work. Enjoy the welcome new space!

Happy New Year!
May 2017 be the best year yet!

OA-BCIG STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST



Sunday, January 15, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Odebolt Community Center

Serving
pancakes, scrambled eggs,
sausages, coffee, juice, and milk

Free Will Donation. All proceeds go to help fund the OA-BCIG Dollars for Scholars scholarships.

A reminder that the **high school** will be administering **semester tests** on **January 11 and 12**. All students have **open campus unless the office is notified by parents** that they do not want their child leaving the building. Students who are not on time to a semester test will not be allowed to take the test at that and will need to reschedule the exam. Please call the office with any questions (364-3371).

Weapons Code No. 502.6

The board believes weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

School district facilities are not an appropriate place for weapons or dangerous objects and look-a-likes. Weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes shall be taken away from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents of students found to possess a weapon or dangerous object or look-a-like on school property shall be notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects shall be reported to the law enforcement officials, and the student will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students possessing firearms at school will be expelled for not less than twelve months. The superintendent shall have the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for a student on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term "firearm" includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials, weapons and other dangerous objects or look-a-likes of persons authorized by the principal for other educational purposes, and weapons that are lawfully stored in a locked vehicle on school property are exempt from this policy. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

BCIG Elementary School Happenings

Mr. Alan Henderson, Principal

We are in and excited to use the new space in our addition. In a couple of weeks we will have an open house to invite everyone in to come and look around at our new addition. Students are so excited to use our new gym. Reminder to please send extra shoes for students to use in P.E.

January is a big month for checking students' progress in reading and math. We will run our FAST testing and also our STAR math. This will help us as educators to check on student progress and arrange our groups to help students if they have areas of need.

We are glad to welcome Kendra Krager as an ESL teacher here at OA-BCIG. She will be working in each of our buildings with any students who come to our district that speak a second language. She is graduating from Morningside with an ESL endorsement.

Guidance Notes

Mrs. Megan Dooley, High School Counselor

College Panel

On December 19, we welcomed four former graduates of OA-BCIG, Class of 2016, that are currently enrolled in a university, community college, or private school. We invited these four graduates to speak with our senior class about what college is like and how they were able to transition from high school to college. Seniors were split into three different groups to allow for plenty of time for discussion between the graduates and our seniors.

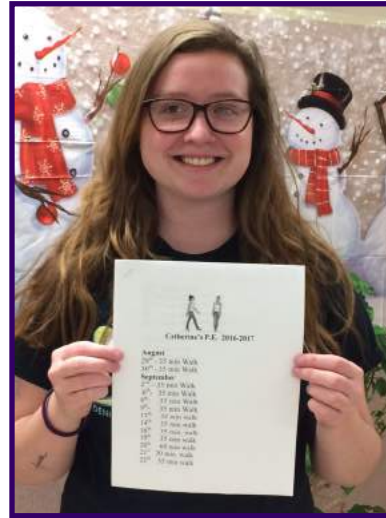
Financial Aid Night for Juniors & FAFSA

On **Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 pm** in the **high school cafeteria**, we will be hosting Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) for a Financial Aid Night for juniors and their parents. This will be the **ONLY** chance for the juniors and their parents to learn about filing the FAFSA for their senior year of high school. This Fall was the first year the FAFSA was available to be filed on October 1 instead of waiting until January 1. This recent change in the FAFSA has allowed for students to make better decisions about which college they are going to attend because their financial aid package is available to view at a much earlier date. I strongly encourage all juniors and their parents to make it to this presentation if they are planning on any type of post-secondary education.

Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 pm High School Cafeteria

Topics will include:

- Financial Aid Process
- FAFSA Application Review
- Understanding FAFSA Results



Flex ed student Catherine Kolpin walked 15,755 minutes for 1 PE credit this fall. She started walking in August almost everyday through part of November.

- Understanding Costs – College Comparisons
- Financial Aid Options
- Scholarships Process
- Where to Go for Help

Iowa Assessments

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be taking the Iowa Assessments the week of February 6-10 during the first few hours of the day. Seniors will not be required to be at the school during the times we will be testing the week of Iowa Assessments. The testing schedule will be posted on our high school announcements page this month.

Scheduling/Registration for 2017-18

We will begin scheduling for next year in February with all students. This is a great time for parents to have discussions with their high school student about what they plan to do post-graduation and think about what courses they would like to take prior to registration.

ASVAB

This Spring (March 14), all juniors will be taking the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Ability Battery). The ASVAB is a tool used to help students identify their aptitude or ability and connect each student's aptitude or ability to different types of career areas. This tool is also used to determine academic and occupational success in the military (although no requirement for military enlistment, this is a free resource provided to students).

ACT TEST DATES & DEADLINES

ACT OA-BCIG Code- 162129

ACT materials are available in the high school guidance office. Register on-line at: www.act.org. Our testing site is at Denison Community High School.

Test Date	Registration Deadline
February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017

OA Elementary & OA-BCIG Middle School Happenings

Mr. Doug Mogensen, Principal

Happy New Year! I hope everyone has recovered from the holidays and that you were able to cherish the gift of family-time-togetherness. Sometimes all that togetherness can seem like a burden, but quickly the time fades, and we are left with a little emptiness. The emptiness reminds us of the cherished moments we had together, and we look forward to the future visits. Another year is here and the clock keeps ticking. Soon, plans for more family time will begin to take shape, and before we know it, another new year will be upon us. Too quickly the good times tend to pass. We must make the most of the time we have because we are only given so much time to get the things done that are expected of us.

As I start the new year, I want to be able to do my best to cherish the moments that are given to me. Too often I find myself looking past the moment at hand, forgetting the importance of the moment, and focus too much attention on the next thing. The present time is what is important, and focused attention on the present task will help with my success.

This school year is about half over. The school has about 90 days left in the year to have teachers help students learn

the valuable curriculum that has been assigned for a grade level. Teachers have a difficult task of taking the curriculum, breaking it down into learning that students can digest, assessing students, and then reteaching or moving on to the next learning piece. A visit to our classrooms shows how our teachers do this and is a testament of focusing on the moment. When students are given small chunks of focused learning opportunities and teachers engage students with the curriculum, we witness the valuable power of teachers and schools. Each moment of learning is valuable and the opportunities that grow from the learning provides the student a future of success. In order for the learning moments to have impact, students need to be present. Please parents, do your best to make sure students are in school daily. Our time with them is really short, and we don't like the emptiness.

As I look at the plan for student success, I know that parents and guardians are the child's greatest leaders. Children do better in school when parents and guardians get involved. I suggest that parents and guardians attend school events, use our JMC program to keep up with grades and assignments, and talk to

teachers about your child's success. Also, contact the school for additional information about your children's academic progress and the tests they are taking at school. Let your children know how important their work at school is and how interested you are in what they are doing. Talk with them every day about what they did at school and what homework must be finished for the next day. Middle school parents please check the **assignment page** on our school website: www.oabcig.org to find the latest assignment for your child's class.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Jan. 16 and 17: Middle students will have their interdisciplinary units (themed units of study over different curricular areas). The 6th grade will learn more about the Middle Ages through various activities; the 7th grade will learn survival skills, and the 8th grade will participate in building Rube Goldberg machines.

January 16: Elementary students will be taking the FAST reading assessment.

January 18: 1:00 early dismissal.

February 6: Iowa Assessments will begin.



46th Annual Herb Irgens Wrestling Invitational

Friday, January 20 @ 4:30
Saturday, January 21 @ 10:00
OA-BCIG High School Gymnasium

This is one of the premiere individual tournaments in the state and is held in high regard by wrestling fans statewide.

Library Listings

Mrs. Mary Rohlk, K-12 Librarian

Have you ever thought about how you read a webpage as compared to how you read a book? Children are taught to read from left to right and from top to bottom, from the beginning to the end. When moving to the web, children want to read the same way. The third-fifth grade students have been practicing a different method of reading while exploring various reliable sources. When on the web, students are encouraged to skim and scan, to glance around the page, and to click on the links to find more information. We've also learned the vocabulary terms of browser (the computer program that allows you to view webpages) and links (the text or icons that take you to another page when you click on them.)

Second grade students have worked on fact and opinion, locating facts that are "right there" in their reading, and "thinking and searching" for answers. They also discovered that some answers come from their heads when they connect to what the author wrote. Ex: *The children quickly dressed to go play in the snow. Students from Iowa understand that means coat, boots, snow pants, hat, and gloves. We talked about why southern Florida children might not understand that inference.*

Kindergarten and first grade students at BCIG have been learning about our "creating centers." They have learned the rules and expectations so we can return to building, creating, and coloring centers as part of our library time once the kindergarten class moves out of the library space. The Odebolt Arthur kindergarten have been using a coloring/drawing center as part of their lesson. More activities will be introduced in the near future.

Remember to save and send those Box Tops to school! There are expiration dates on each box top! The schools cannot submit expired box tops.

Nurse's Notes

Mrs. Tiffany Lindberg, School Nurse

In the December newsletter I addressed frostbite. We have officially welcomed winter into the Midwest, and it is here to stay for a few months, so please prepare yourself and your children, in order to keep them safe. Some areas of concern include hypothermia and winter health.

HYPOTHERMIA

- Hypothermia develops when a child's temperature falls below normal due to exposure to cold temperatures. It often happens when playing outside in extremely cold weather without wearing proper clothing or when the clothing gets wet. It can occur more quickly in children than in adults.
- As hypothermia sets in, the child may shiver and become lethargic and clumsy. Speech may become slurred and body temperature will decline in more severe cases.
- If you suspect your child is hypothermic, call 911 at once. Until help arrives, take the child indoors, remove any wet clothing, and wrap him in blankets or warm clothes.

WINTER HEALTH

- If your child suffers from winter nosebleeds, try using a cold air humidifier in the child's room at night. Saline nose drops or petroleum jelly may help keep nasal tissues moist. If bleeding is severe or recurrent, consult your doctor.

Wax Museum

Mrs. Renae Remer, BCIG 5th Grade Teacher

On December 2, the 5th graders portrayed their heroes in the 16th annual Wax Museum of American Heroes. With the push of a button, they transformed from a "wax figure" to a live, talking version of their hero. To prepare for this big event, the 5th graders first read about their hero and wrote a biography about their hero's life and accomplishments. They then made a poster about their hero in art, created an online presentation in technology, and wrote a narrative to say during the Wax Museum. Parents also helped by finding costumes and props to make their child look like their hero.

- Cold weather does not cause colds or the flu. But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent handwashing and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the bend of her elbow may help reduce the spread of colds and flu.
- Children 6 months of age and up should get the influenza vaccine to reduce their risk of catching the flu. It's not too late to get the vaccine! Around 80% of all influenza illness generally occurs in January, February, and March.

For other winter related safety tips visit <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/news/Pages/Winter-Safety.aspx>

IMPORTANT DATES

January 9-11: I-smile will be doing dental screenings/sealants in Odebolt for 2nd graders. A consent form was sent home with the 2nd grade students the week of December 5. Please return them back to the school as soon as possible, if you would like your child to participate.

The week of January 16 the AEA will be doing hearing screenings for Ida Grove elementary students. If you DO NOT want your child to participate, please let me know.



TAG News

Mrs. Staci Rohlk, TAG Instructor

BCIG Elementary's computer science enrichment classes celebrated Computer Science Education Week with the 5th graders joining in on a conversation through Google Hangout with Kelsey Hrubes, an ISU junior from Cedar Rapids, Iowa majoring in computer science. Kelsey has interned as a software engineer at Workiva, Rockwell Collins (while studying abroad in Germany), Google, and Microsoft. She is also the founder of Iowa Girls Code.

With the assistance of OA-BCIG High School computer science students, all nine 3rd-5th classes enjoyed a full hour of pair programming and explored various coding activities: Minecraft, Star Wars, Disney's Moana, and Anna & Elsa. Pair programming encourages collaboration and teamwork to accomplish a goal with one student as a "driver" and the other a "navigator."

The goal of the annual global "Hour of Code" is to learn that computer science (CS) is fun and creative, that it

is accessible at all ages, for all students, regardless of background. The measure of success of this campaign is not in how much CS students learn - the success is that they can do this.



Middle School Mock Trial Competition

Mrs. Missy Jensen, OA Elem/MS TAG Teacher

OA-BCIG's Middle School mock trial teams did an excellent job of representing their school at the M.S. Mock Trial Competition in Council Bluffs on Tuesday, November 1, 2016. Each team competed in two rounds of competition. The 8th grade team finished with 226.75 points. The 7th grade team finished with 216.25 points. Fourteen teams competed in our region. Both OA-BCIG teams should be congratulated on outstanding performances against tough competition! The students were prepared and defended their case with confidence. Receiving Outstanding Performance Awards were witnesses: Jackson Godbersen and Eric Sibenaller and attorneys: Nick Larson, Emma Schirmacher and Trust Wells. Talented and Gifted Teacher, Missy Jensen and Attorney, Peter Goldsmith of Boerner & Goldsmith Law Firm coached the teams.



Outstanding Performance Awards



7th Grade Team



8th Grade Team

State Dance Competition

Mrs. Kelsie Nettles, Dance Team Coach

On December 1, the OA-BCIG dance team participated in the ISDTA state dance competition in Des Moines. There were approximately 270 schools in attendance. OA-BCIG received a Division I rating for their jazz routine in Class II and placed 4th overall. The team also received a Division I rating for their hip hop routine in Class IV and placed 4th overall. They received a Distinguished Academic Award which is an average GPA of 3.5-4.0.

Members of the dance team include Hannah Sorensen, Riley Snyder, Anna VanDusen, Madison Lansink, Alyssa Mason, Kirsten Dausel, Kelsey Dausel, Lizzie Williams, Cameron Webb, Ethan Ernst, Taylor DeVine, Kaitlyn Riessen, Josie Wulf, Liz Zobel, Peyton Miller, Abby Bender, and Taylor Beck.



Driver's Education Registration

We will begin registration for driver's education on January 3, 2017. Registration can be done in either the high school or the middle school office. The total fee for the course is **\$350**. 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 a 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 the 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. Instructors will be responsible for setting all other class requirements. These requirements will be detailed on the first day of class.

The first session will begin on March 3, 2017. The schedule is available on the school website or the high/middle school office. A second session will be available the summer of 2017 but definite times and dates have not been set yet. Sessions have a **limit of 32 students**.

Activity Scheduler/Notifications

We currently use the rSchoolToday™ online program as our Activity Scheduler for middle school and high school athletic activities, as it provides significant advantages to our school and community. Because it is web-based, we can provide you instant access to the most up-to-date information at all times. You can push schedules to your phone, tablet, or computer and they will automatically update with any changes. You can also sign up for instant notifications and reminders, via email or text message. When you sign up for this feature you can choose which activities you would like notifications from.

Go to: www.westernvalleyconference.org and click on the OA-BCIG link.

To sign up for notifications: Click “Notify Me” from the main calendar screen (upper right side of screen) and follow the instructions to subscribe to schedules and get text messages and/or email notifications for reminders before events and for schedule changes.

Teacher Leadership System

Mrs. Darla Ludvigson, BCIG Elem. Instructional Strategist

In the spring of 2015, OA-BCIG was approved to implement a local teacher leadership system. The statewide Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) System rewards effective teachers with leadership opportunities and fosters greater collaboration for all teachers to learn from each other. The overriding philosophy of the system is multi-pronged, but boils down to this: Improving student learning requires improving the instruction they receive each day. The goals of the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System are:

- Attract able and promising new teachers by offering competitive starting salaries and offering short-term and long-term professional development and leadership opportunities.
- Retain effective teachers by providing enhanced career opportunities.
- Promote collaboration by developing and supporting opportunities for teachers in schools and school districts statewide to learn from each other.
- Reward professional growth and effective teaching by providing pathways for career opportunities that come with increased leadership responsibilities and involve increased compensation.
- Improve student achievement by strengthening instruction.

The TLC plan of the OA & BCIG School Districts will provide all teachers professional growth opportunities, support, and collaborative structures to enhance teaching effectiveness. The district will measure the effectiveness of the TLC plan through a series of measures. The district has established leadership teams, an enhanced mentoring program, Professional Learning Communities, and a peer review process in order to meet our goals.

Before the current school year started, the local TLC plan was already in motion. During the summer the three Instructional Strategists attended four days of instruction in Jim Knight’s High Impact Instruction classes. They also traveled to Des Moines to learn about the NGSS, or Next Generation Science Standards. The mentor teachers began to meet with the newly hired teachers, giving them help in establishing a good start to their year here at OA-BCIG.

As the year progresses, the team continues to build strong leadership skills. Our Area Education Agency has provided quality professional development opportunities. These opportunities have, in turn, provided useful resources allowing the leaders to work together with the educators throughout the district creating sound educational learning opportunities for all OA-BCIG students.

Large Group Speech

Ms. Kariann Jurgenson, Speech Coach

OA-BCIG will be fielding a number of participants and groups at the upcoming District Large Group Speech Contest in Denison on January 21. Students will be competing in six different categories including Choral Reading (Dallas Hare, Jarrett Bumann, Caspian Carlmark, Daltyn Swanger, Liz Adams, Sydney Bauer, Aurora Anderson, Emma Endrulat, Grace Holmes, Billie Mosier, Vandy Mosier, and Carrie Miller), One Act Play (Grace Holmes, Bree Henningsen, Linsdey Kruse, Sierra Rohlk, Liz Adams, Josie Wulf, Peyton Miller, Taylor Oldham, and Kim Renze), Group Mime (Sarah Cotton, Teah Tollufsen, Savannah Wych, and Mary Bennett), Solo Mime (Sequoia Dobbs), Musical Theatre (Courtney Peters, Carrie Miller, Emma Endrulat, Marzia Shivers, Corin Bower, Stephen Stangl, Aedan Hickey, Grant Conover, and Jarrett Bumann) and finally, Group Improvisation (Linsdey Kruse, Alexia Thomas, Dallas Hare, Madison Schiernbeck, Makenzi Devitt, Vandy Mosier, Courtney Peters, Marzia Shivers, Bree Henningsen, Stephen Stangl, Grant Conover, Aedan Hickey, Daltyn Swanger, and Caspian Carlmark). Those groups who earn 1 ratings at district contest will be eligible to compete in the state competition which will be held on February 4 in Spencer.

Group Improvisation students also participated in the Western Valley Conference Speech Workshop on December 7 in Merville.




High School Winter Formal

Saturday, February 18th

8:00-11:00 p.m.






SENIOR INFORMATION

Motto: Together we have experienced life. Separately we will pursue our dreams.

Forever our memories will remain.

Flower: Aster

Song: "May We All" by Florida Georgia Line



REMINDER FOR SENIORS: The yearbook needs **one portrait (vertical) senior photo** and **one baby photo** of each senior. The baby photo will be returned as soon as it is scanned and the senior photo will be kept and used for the senior collage that will hang in the cafeteria. In order to guarantee you will be in the yearbook, photos must be submitted to Mrs. Beck by **NO LATER** than **February 1**.

Even if you or your professional photographer email a photo to Mrs. Beck, you still need to submit an actual wallet as soon as you get one. For questions, please contact hbeck@oabcig.org or call 364-3371.

Emergency School Closing

Code No. 501.18

The Superintendent of Schools shall have the authority to close schools because of extreme weather or other emergency conditions for the length of time the emergency exists. He shall make provisions to publicly announce such closings via available mass communication media as soon as possible after the decision to close.

Every reasonable effort shall be made to have the students attend the total days annually as specified by statute, state departmental rules, and local school board policy.

Policy for Activities During Emergency School Closing

Code No. 501.19

In the event of school being dismissed because of inclement weather, the following guidelines will be followed:

(Inclement weather is weather that would be hazardous for students to travel in – such as snow and/or ice.)

1. If school is dismissed after it is in session for inclement weather, all activities will be cancelled for the remainder of that day.
2. If school is not in session on a particular day due to inclement weather, there shall be no practice or other activities* that day.
3. *Varsity contests may be played if the superintendent grants permission. (This permission will only be given after consulting with the Board President/Vice President. Factors to consider are if weather conditions have improved, the distance between the schools, and the importance of the contest. Approval should be the exception rather than the rule.)

In the event of school being dismissed because of heat and humidity in the classrooms, the following guideline will be followed:

1. The Superintendent will determine if practice or activities will be held after consulting with the School Board President/Vice President.
2. If practices are held, all coaches will make sure that all precautions are taken to ensure that all athletes will have ample rest and water breaks.

Use of Motor Vehicles

Code No. 502.

The board recognizes the convenience to families and students of having students drive to and park at their school attendance center. Driving a motor vehicle to and parking it at the student's attendance center is a privilege.

Students who drive to and park at their school attendance center shall only drive to and park at their designated attendance center or at either their attendance center or a shared district's attendance center for the purpose of attending extracurricular activities. Students may not loiter around or be in their vehicle during the school day without permission from the principal. Students shall leave their attendance center when there is no longer a legitimate reason for them to be at their attendance center. Students who drive shall enter and leave the parking lot by the routes designated by the principal.

Students who live within one mile of the school, and would not otherwise be eligible for a student driving permit, may be eligible for a student driving permit for driving to and from school and school activities and practices, if the student participates in an extra-curricular activity between 8th grade and 9th grade academic years.

Students who wish to drive to and park at their school attendance center shall comply with the rules and regulations established by the building principal. Failure to comply with this policy or the school district rules shall be reason for revocation of school driving privileges as well as other disciplinary action including suspension and expulsion.

Changes to State Assessments in 2017-18

Mrs. Mistaya Hoefling, Curriculum Director

State assessments are changing in 2017-2018. Read on to learn more.

Smarter Balanced Assessments Q&A

Why is Iowa switching to a new state assessment in 2017-18?

State tests are an important measure of student learning and a critical part of our work to ensure all students receive a high-quality education. Iowa adopted statewide standards that outline consistent and rigorous expectations in English language arts and math to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic skills and content necessary for success beyond high school. Because Iowa raised the bar for what we expect students to know and be able to do, the state adopted new assessments that will change the way we measure student progress starting in the 2017-18 school year. These are known as the Smarter Balanced Assessments. Better information from an assessment aligned to our state standards will help set the stage for improved student achievement.

What are the Smarter Balanced Assessments?

- End-of-year assessments customized to meet individual student needs.
- High-quality interim tests to provide educators a consistent check on student progress throughout the school year.
- An online library of classroom resources available to all K-12 teachers in public schools.

What's different about the new assessments?

The assessments reflect Iowa's statewide standards for what students should know and be able to do in math and English language arts, which means the assessments better reflect what's being taught in the classroom. In addition to subject knowledge, the new assessments will measure complex, real-world skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, and writing. The assessments are online and computer adaptive. By adapting to each student, these assessments present an individually tailored set of questions to each student and can quickly identify which skills students have mastered.

How can the assessments help students improve?

The assessments provide a more detailed and immediate picture of student learning by providing specific information on which skills students have mastered and where they need additional support. They also help ensure students are on track for the next grade and, eventually, college and the workforce.

What kinds of questions will be on the test?

Questions on the new assessments are in line with the work that students are doing in the classroom. The new assessments include questions that require students to demonstrate their ability to think critically and solve problems. These questions are harder for students to guess the answer to than traditional multiple-choice questions. Parents are encouraged to take the Smarter Balanced practice tests by visiting:

www.smarterbalanced.org/assessments/practice-and-training-tests/

What process did Iowa follow to adopt a new state assessment?

A legislatively created Iowa task force, charged with studying options for a new state assessment, recommended the Smarter Balanced Assessments in December 2014 after more than a year of extensive research and consideration in an open, transparent process. Based on the task force's recommendation,

Iowa's State Board of Education in November 2015 adopted state administrative rules implementing the Smarter Balanced Assessments; the rules moved forward following the 2016 legislative session. Iowa students in grades three through eleven will take the new assessments for the first time during the 2017-18 school year.

How much time will students spend on the end-of-year assessments?

Overall, students spend less than 1 percent of classroom time on the end-of-year Smarter Balanced Assessments, which are given during the last 12 weeks of the school year. The assessments include fewer questions. Because they require students to think critically, write essays, and analyze complex problems, the questions take more time to answer than traditional multiple-choice questions. There is no time limit—students will have the time they need to show what they know and can do.

How will my school use test results?

The assessments are not a one-time snapshot. They provide a consistent check on progress, allow teachers and parents to measure growth year to year, and provide information that teachers and parents can act on. This valuable information will help teachers adjust instruction to provide targeted support to struggling students, as well as appropriately challenging material to keep students engaged.

How will Iowa keep student testing data safe?

Protecting student data and privacy is a top priority. Iowa will retain control over student information, and federal law prohibits the creation of a federal database with students' personally identifiable information. Any recommended data collection adheres to all federal and state privacy laws, including but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Where can I go to learn more?

Parents can learn more about Iowa's transition to the Smarter Balanced Assessments by visiting <https://iowacore.gov/content/smarter-balanced-assessments>.

Parents also are encouraged to access practice tests and other resources available to help families familiarize themselves with the new assessments. Please visit:

www.smarterbalanced.org/assessments/practice-and-training-tests/

Who developed the Smarter Balanced Assessments?



The Smarter Balanced Assessments were developed by a consortium of states, including Iowa, guided by the belief that a high-quality assessment system aligned to rigorous academic standards will improve teaching and will help prepare students for success. Thousands of educators across the nation helped build the assessment system, including nearly 150 Iowans.



Activity Calendar for January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 No School - Winter Break	3 Classes Resume 4:00 JVR G/JV B BB vs. SCC 6:00 V G/B BB vs. SCC 6:00 WR @ Woodbine	4 	5 6:00 WR vs. WC WR Senior Recognition Night 6:00 JVR/JV G BB vs. MNW @ BCIG Elem.	6 4:00 JV G/B BB @ Lawton 6:00 V G/B BB @ Lawton	7 FFA Conferences NWIBA HS Honor Band 10:00 WR @ Ames Tournament 10:00 JV G/B BB vs. IKM 1:00 V G/B BB vs. IKM
8	9 6th Grade Strong Foundations Honor Band @ SC 4:00 7/8 G BB @ Schleswig 6:30 School Board Mtg. @ Odebolt	10 3:45 7/8 B BB @ Westside 4:00 7/8 G BB @ Aurelia 4:00 JV G/B BB @ WC 6:00 V G/B BB @ WC	11 HS Semester Tests 6:00 Love & Logic Class @ high school	12 HS Semester Tests End of 2Q/1st Semester 4:00 7/8 B BB @ Newell Fonda 4:00 7/8 G BB vs. Newell Fonda 6:30 JV/JVR G BB @ Kuemper	13 No School - Teacher Workday 4:00 Bowling @ Sioux Rapids 4:00 JV G/B BB vs. Ridge View 6:00 V G/B BB vs. RGV 8:00 Dance Team Performance	14 Quiz Bowl (V) @ Morningside Tourney 9:30 WR @ WVC Tourney @ Onawa 1:00 JV B BB @ Denison (MS) 1:00 JV G BB @ Denison (HS) 2:30 V G/B BB @ Denison
15 	16 MS Interdisciplinary Units 5:00 WR JV Tourney @ SL 6:00 JVR/JV B BB @ Kuemper	17 MS Interdisciplinary Units 4:00 7/8 B BB @ Early 4:00 7/8 G BB vs. RGV 4:00 JV G/JVR B/JV B BB vs. WW 6:00 V G/B BB vs. WW Senior Recognition Night 8:00 Dance Team Performance	18 1:00 Dismissal HS StuCo Blood Drive	19 3:45 Bowling vs. Harlan 4:00 7/8 G BB @ Wall Lake 4:00 JV G/B BB @ Siouxland Christian 6:00 V G/B BB @ Siouxland Christian	20 4:30 Herb Irgens Wrestling Tournament 	21 District Large Group Speech @ Denison 10:00 Herb Irgens Wrestling Tournament
22	23 4:00 7/8 G BB vs. Kuemper 5:00 WR JV @ Lawton Bronson Tournament 6:00 JVR/JV B BB vs. Kuemper	24 4:00 7/8 G BB vs. Lawton 	25 6:00 Love and Logic class @ high school	26 3:30 Bowling @ MMC-RU (Remsen) 4:00 7/8 G BB vs. ArWeVa 6:00 JV/V B BB @ WVC (TBD)	27 4:00 7/8 G BB vs. ArWeVa 6:00 JV/V G BB @ WVC (TBD) 	28 Little Dance Clinic Dance Night Robotics Meet @ Omaha 9:00 JV B BB @ Alta-Aurelia Tournament 9:00 JV G BB @ Sioux Central Tournament 10:00 Bowling Tournament @ LeMars 10:00 WR @ Roland Story Tournament
29	30 IHSMA Show Choir Festival @ Denison 3:30 Bowling vs. LeMars 4:45 WR JV @ MOC-FV Tournament 6:00 JV/V B BB @ WVC (TBD)	31 6:00 JV/V G BB @ WVC (TBD) 	FEBRUARY 1 1:00 Dismissal State Jazz Choir Festival	2 3:45 Bowling @ Harlan 4:00 7/8 WR @ Mapleton 6:00 JVR/JV G BB vs. Boyer Valley 6:00 V B BB @ WVC (TBD)	3 4:00 Bowling vs. Denison 4:00 7/8 WR @ LeMars 6:00 V G BB @ WVC (TBD)	4 Robotics Meet @ CB State Lg. Group Speech @ Spencer WR Sectionals @ TBD 8:00 Future Stars BB @ Odebolt 6:00 WVC G/B BB Finals @

Breakfast & Lunch Menus for January 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>BCIG B: cereal bar, yogurt BCIG L: chicken patty/WG bun, green beans, smiley fries, pineapple, apple OA B: muffin or cereal, pear cup, toast OA L: corn dog, cooked carrots, veggie sticks, pineapple cup, bread/jelly</p>	<p>4</p> <p>BCIG B: breakfast wrap, salsa BCIG L: BBQ pork rib/WG bun, carrots, tossed salad w/ranch, applesauce, orange OA B: pancake on a stick or cereal/ peach cup & toast OA L: meatball sub/WG bun, steamed broccoli, veggie sticks, apple</p>	<p>5</p> <p>BCIG B: glazed donut, *assorted cereal BCIG L: sausage pizza, corn, broccoli salad, jello, mandarin oranges, banana OA B: cheese omelet or cereal, orange half and toast OA L: beef taco soft shell, refried beans, veggie sticks, mixed fruit cup</p>	<p>6</p> <p>BCIG B: egg patty, bacon round, WG toast BCIG L: taco-in-a-bag, lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa, black bean salad, *PB sandwich, mixed fruit, apple OA B: donut or cereal banana half and toast OA L: chicken drummies, tri- tater, veggie sticks, applesauce cup, bread/jelly</p>	
<p>9</p> <p>BCIG B: breakfast pizza BCIG L: mandarin orange chicken, carrots, broc-caulif salad, rice, PB sandwich, pears, orange OA B: egg & sausage patty or cereal, applesauce & toast OA L: hamburger patty/WG bun, baked beans, veggie sticks, peach cup</p>	<p>10</p> <p>BCIG B: assorted cereal, WG toast BCIG L: hamburger/WG bun, baked beans, potato salad, sidekicks, apple OA B: breakfast pizza or cereal, pear cup and toast OA L: cheese stick w/marinara, cooked carrots, veggie sticks, pineapple cup</p>	<p>11</p> <p>BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: chicken nuggets, corn, tossed salad w/ranch, rice krispy bar, peaches, orange OA B: cinnamon roll or cereal, peach cup & toast OA L: chicken patty/WG bun, steamed broccoli, veggie sticks, apple</p>	<p>12</p> <p>BCIG B: mini strawberry bagels, *yogurt BCIG L: ham & cheese sandwich, peas, cherry tomatoes, cucumber slices, apricots, apple OA B: French toast or cereal, orange half & toast OA L: beef nachos, corn, veggie sticks, mixed fruit cup, bread/jelly</p>	<p>13</p> <p>NO SCHOOL: End of 1st Semester</p>	
<p>16</p> <p>BCIG B: pancakes w/syrup BCIG L: pork patty/WG bun, green beans, sweet potato tots, mandarin oranges, apple OA B: waffles or cereal, applesauce & toast OA L: popcorn chicken, cooked carrots, veggie sticks, peach cup, bread & jelly</p>	<p>17</p> <p>BCIG B: pop tart, *cereal BCIG L: chili, carrots, celery, cucs, cinnamon roll, saltines, applesauce, orange OA B: breakfast wrap or cereal, pear cup & toast OA L: Mr. Rib/WG bun, green beans, veggie sticks, pineapple cup</p>	<p>18</p> <p>BCIG B: breakfast burrito, salsa BCIG L: hot dog/WG bun, Elem-mixed green salad, carrots, *salad bar, pineapple, apple OA B: breakfast pizza or cereal, peach cup & toast OA L: beef hot dog/WG bun, baked beans, veggie sticks, apple</p>	<p>19</p> <p>BCIG B: ultimate breakfast round, *cereal BCIG L: cheesesticks w/marinara, Caesar salad, 3 bean salsa, mixed fruit, banana OA B: egg & hash brown patty or cereal, orange half & toast OA L: beef taco-in-a-bag, corn, veggie sticks, mixed fruit cup</p>	<p>20</p> <p>BCIG B: egg patty, bacon round, WG toast BCIG L: teriyaki chicken/WG bun, corn, marinated fresh veggie salad, pears, orange OA B: muffin or cereal, banana half & toast OA L: rotini/meat sauce, spinach salad, veggie sticks, applesauce cup, bread stick</p>	
<p>23</p> <p>BCIG B: breakfast pizza BCIG L: French toast sticks, sausage, cottage cheese, hash brown, carrots, celery, peaches, apple OA B: pancakes or cereal, applesauce and toast OA L: sweet-n-sour chicken, steamed broccoli, veggie sticks, peach cup, WG rice</p>	<p>24</p> <p>BCIG B: assorted cereal, WG toast BCIG L: spaghetti, carrots, spinach salad, garlic toast, strawberry applesauce cup, orange OA B: French toast sticks or cereal, pineapple cup and toast OA L: pork patty/WG bun, cooked carrots, veggie sticks, pear cup</p>	<p>25</p> <p>BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: popcorn chicken, Elem-fruitables, green beans, *salad bar, mandarin oranges, apple OA B: muffin or cereal, peach cup and toast OA L: sloppy joe/WG bun, corn, veggie sticks, apple</p>	<p>26</p> <p>BCIG B: blueberry muffin, yogurt BCIG L: crispito, lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa, taco fiesta beans, Spanish rice, apricots, banana OA B: hash brown and sausage patty or cereal, orange half & toast OA L: chicken fajitas, refried beans, veggie sticks, mixed fruit cup</p>	<p>27</p> <p>BCIG B: breakfast wrap, salsa BCIG L: tavern/WG bun, peas, broc-caulif salad, pineapple, orange OA B: biscuit & gravy or cereal, banana half and toast OA L: cheese pizza, green beans, veggie sticks, applesauce cups</p>	
<p>30</p> <p>BCIG B: sausage pancake wrap BCIG L: BBQ chicken breast/WG bun, baked beans, carrots, mixed fruit, apple OA B: breakfast bar or cereal, applesauce and toast OA L: lasagna/meat sauce, green beans, veggie sticks, peach cup, bread stick</p>	<p>31</p> <p>BCIG B: assorted cereal, WG toast BCIG L: scalloped potatoes/ham, corn, cucumbers, *tossed salad, dinner roll, pears, orange OA B: breakfast bites or cereal, pear cup and toast OA L: chicken strips, corn, veggie sticks, pineapple cup, bread & jelly</p>				<p><i>In accordance with Federal Law and USDA policy, this institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</i></p> <p><i>Milk choice, fruit and juice served daily. All breads are whole grain.</i></p> <p><i>*Available only at the high school.</i></p>

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

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

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.

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

BCIG ELEMENTARY
PARENT TEACHER PARTNERSHIP
PARENTS AND TEACHERS WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS AT OUR SCHOOL

One Book, One School
Kick-off: FRINDLE

BCIG Elementary kicked off the FRINDLE One Book, One School program with a special assembly on December 16th.

Thank you to ANN & JIM HOLST for reading to the kids dressed up as elves, MAGGIE BUNS & BCIG STAFF for starring in the Frindle Video, and RENEE FRITZ for helping the kids sing Christmas Carols.

All students received a FRINDLE book to take home and read over the next few months before Family Fun Night in February!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT:
February 24, 2017

The poster features a group of children and adults holding a large marker that says 'FRINDLE' and a banner that says 'ONE BOOK ONE SCHOOL'.

It is the policy of the Odebolt-Arthur and the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School Districts not to 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 Doug Mogensen, OA Elementary Principal, 600 South Maple Street, Odebolt, IA 51458, 712-668-2827, email: dmogensen@oabcig.org or Alan Henderson, BCIG Elementary Principal, 403 Barnes Street, Ida Grove, IA 51445, 712-364-2360, email address: ahenderson@oabcig.org.