

OA-BCIG INSIGHTS

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



From the Superintendent Mr. Terry Kenealy, Superintendent

Special Election Results

Earlier this past spring the patrons of the Odebolt-Arthur Community School District and the patrons of the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School District were asked by their respective Board of Directors to determine if the question of school district reorganization should be placed on a ballot and voted on by the eligible voters of the two districts by signing the petitions that were circulated in late March, April, and the first part of May.

Enough of the patrons of the two districts signed the petitions to send the question to the Northwest Area Education Agency and the Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency for their review and consideration. The Northwest AEA Board of Directors and the Prairie Lakes AEA Board of Directors agreed to place the question on the ballot at a special election on September 13, 2016 so that the eligible voters could answer the question, should the two districts reorganize as the Odebolt Arthur Battle Creek Ida Grove Community School District beginning on July 1, 2017.

On Tuesday, September 13, 2016 the eligible voters in the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School District overwhelming said yes with 85% of the vote in favor of reorganization. At the same time the eligible voters in the Odebolt-Arthur Community School District said no, the two districts should not reorganize with 57% of the votes cast against the question of reorganization. In order for the question to pass both districts were required to vote in favor by a simple majority of 50% plus 1 and that didn't happen.

As I have indicated in my comments a number of times these past months, the question of school reorganization is a question full of emotion on all

sides of the issue. At times the discussions, comments, Facebook posts, and letters leading up to the vote were contentious and emotional. The reactions following the publications of the election results were and are emotional and contentious in some corners. In my judgment, no matter how the election turned out there would be individuals upset with the result. That is always part of an election.

These are difficult times for students, staff, parents, patrons, and board members. Now we have to begin the process of moving forward to find resolution to the remaining issues so that the children we are committed to serving are provided the best possible learning opportunities each day the rest of this school year, next school year and into the future. It won't be easy to do but it is imperative that we find a way to do just that. It is my hope that we can find a way to heal the wounds, overcome our differences and begin the hard work that lies ahead.

Next Steps

The current whole grade sharing agreement as OA-BCIG is still in effect. The big question about whole grade sharing for next year and future years will need to be decided yet by each school board. The school boards will begin discussions about several items in the next couple of weeks. Those discussions will include:

- a review of the election results and the implications of that vote to the patrons of each district,
- a review of the current whole grade sharing agreement currently in place,
- a discussion of possible revisions to the agreement,
- a discussion of a possible

termination of that agreement that would cause each district to be on their own either next school year or the following school year depending on the timing of that decision,

- and a discussion of whether or not a district needs to look for a different school district to partner with in a new sharing agreement of some type.

School Board Members Selected

On Tuesday, September 13, 2016, each school district formally elected a new board member to complete unfinished terms of board members who had resigned their positions due to relocations. The Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School District selected Danika Hinkeldey to finish the unexpired term of Kim Claussen and the Odebolt-Arthur Community School District selected Ryan Schroeder to complete the unexpired term of Naomi Lozier.

Congratulations to Danika and Ryan on their election to the BCIG and OA Board of Directors!

Each school board will need to hold a special meeting in the near future to administer the Oath of Office to each of the new board members. In addition, they will need to hold their annual organizational meeting at the same time to select board officers.

Some Final Thoughts

I apologize up front at this point because these final thoughts are my own, they do not represent the school district or the school board, they are my thoughts that I want to share with you as we begin this process of moving forward.

One thing I firmly believed in is that the eligible voters of the two school districts needed to have an opportunity to weigh in on the question of reorganization and the best way to accomplish

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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)

that was to place the question on a special election ballot. The eligible voters had that opportunity and we now have the results.

I support the democratic process that our country and our state provides us when it comes to these type of issues and I think everyone should participate in the process in some format or other whether you are an eligible voter or not. The adults of our communities needed the opportunity to learn about the issues involved, debate them, and then support their position.

In addition, the young people of our communities needed to be able to participate too. Becoming informed on the issues, learning about how the process works, and what it takes to bring an issue like this before the community is an awesome learning opportunity for our students.

However, in my opinion, any attempt to intimidate, bully, harass or ostracize another citizen because their position on an issue was different from yours was not an intended part

of the democratic process. As citizens of this country each of us has the right to express our point of view, take a position on the issues, and attempt to sway others to believe and support their position.

But in a free country, we also have the responsibility to respect the rights of others who disagree with our stated position, respect their right to express their opinion, and respect their right to attempt to sway others to believe as they do. It is all part of the democratic process that our founding fathers created and that our military heroes fought for in the past and our brave military men and women still fight for today, to safeguard that democratic process and the freedom we enjoy for us and for our children and grandchildren.

In conclusion my point simply is, we all had the opportunity to participate in this democratic process and we saw it through to the end. At times during the process, mean and hurtful things were said verbally or

through social media and today still mean and hurtful things have been said in one way or another, one format or another.

As a result there are many wounds that need to be healed, many bridges that need to be rebuilt, because in the end, we are a school community and the success of our school community depends on the ability of those involved to be able to set aside their differences and work for the common good. Now is the time to begin the healing process and to begin to thoughtfully take the next steps of putting together the plans that will provide the best possible schools, the best possible learning opportunities for all of our students today, tomorrow, and well into the future. Let's do this together as a school community.

Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information. Thanks for all that you do for our schools and our communities!

Together we can make a difference!

OA-BCIG High School Happenings

Mr. Patrick, Principal

On October 6, OA-BCIG High School will be hosting its' 2nd Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner. State and county officers from around the area have been invited to stop in for dinner and visit with our students during their lunchtime. Last year we had a dozen or so officers stop in and we hope

to increase that number this year. The dinner was a positive experience for students and officers alike.

The professional development focus at the high school this year is improving rigor and relevance in the classroom. Our goal is to allow students not only more challenging materials, but also how that

curriculum matches life after commencement. How will students use what they are learning after the graduate from high school and move on to college or a career? Additionally we are looking at more options for partnering with the community to provide real life lessons for our students.

OA Elementary & OA-BCIG Middle School Happenings

Mr. Doug Mogensen, Principal

Elementary School Newsletter

I have observed many exciting learning opportunities in the first month of school.

Students and teachers are off to a great start. Teacher and student routines have been established. When I walk into classrooms, I witness our students engaged in learning all kinds of new things while reviewing some of the old.

Students in 1st grade visited the Schulte farm for the show cattle fieldtrip. At the farm students were able to see many animals including sheep, goats, horses, and of course, cattle. Mother Nature also chose to rain on them while they were at the farm. While students and teachers got a little wet, no one was damaged by the rain drops. The students came back with lots of information to share about their trip.

Fire Prevention Week will be the week of Oct. 9-15. Students will have a chance to visit the Odebolt Fire Station and learn about the importance of smoke detectors in the house. Smoke detectors need to be replaced every ten years. It is a good time to check those batteries.

Red Ribbon Week will be held the week of October 23- 27. This week is to increase awareness of drug and alcohol use and to promote good character values in our kids. In this newsletter there is information about what is planned for the week.

Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 7:30: Please mark your calendar that on Nov. 1 and Nov. 3 there is a **2:30** dismissal both days.

Harvest Party will be held on Oct. 27. Teachers will be sending more information.

Middle School Newsletter

We have had an excellent start to the year; students and teachers are excited to be back in the groove. Middle school teachers are meeting regularly during their TEAM time to assess student progress and make plans to meet students' needs. Teachers are also meeting in professional learning groups to provide students with opportunities to achieve at their highest learning level. This year our work will focus on increasing rigor in our classes, improving our overall technological knowledge

levels, and increase parent involvement through better communication efforts.

Middle School Assignment Page

The middle school teachers keep you updated with the day's assignments on the middle school assignments link found on the left hand side of the middle school webpage.

FDAs

Information about FDAs, how they work, and why we use them is also on the middle school webpage. Here is the link for the webpage: <http://www.oabcig.org/pages/oa-bcig-middle-school>.

The week of September 17 was proclaimed Constitution Week. Throughout the week, our social studies teacher, Tyler Johnson, highlighted the constitution in his 8th grade classes.

Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 7:30: Please mark your calendar that on Nov. 1 and Nov. 3 there is a **2:30** dismissal both days.

BCIG Elementary Happenings

Mr. Alan Henderson, BCIG Elem. Principal

What a great first month of school we have had. Students and staff are getting into the groove of things and are getting down to work. We recognize those students that have been noticed throughout the week by any adults in the building and announce their names on Fridays.

One thing you can do as a parent to be involved with your child's learning, is to spend some time reading with them. This could be listening to them read. It could be them listening to you read and asking them questions about the story. It could be you taking turns reading a page at a time and having discussions about what is read. This time spent with your child can really help them improve their reading scores at school. It is quality time with your child that they will never forget with you. Take some time and open up a whole new world to them through a good book. Some of my favorites were *The Boxcar Children*, *Pink and Say*, *Randall's Wall*, and *The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Take a book you remember from your childhood and share it with your child this next month. You won't regret it.

Here are a few reminders to continue to make our school year go well. Please, if your child is to do something different after school than they normally do, ALWAYS send a note to let

us know. If it changes during the day please call as soon as you can, it is hard to make the change in the last 1/2 hour of school. As it gets colder please send proper clothing to be outside for recess. If you are having trouble getting some clothing you need please give us a call, we may be able to help out. Attendance at school is very important. We want you to be at school as many days as you can be. Please don't send them to school with fevers, but do make sure they are sick before you decide to not send them.

Just a reminder of some rules during football games at the high school. We are expecting kids to sit in the bleachers or sit along the rope to watch home football games. If we see kids just running around we will ask them to first sit in the bleachers, if they don't, we will ask them to sit with their parents. If parents are not there, then we will have them call home for a ride. We want to promote cheering on the team and good sportsmanship. GO FALCONS!

Once again we would love to have you come and volunteer if you can, come eat lunch with your child, or visit a classroom. We can't do this without you and your support. Come see why I believe this school truly represents our motto Where the Best Begin...

Music Notes

Mr. Jacob Pedersen, HS Choir Director



The first concert of our 2016-2017 music season will be held on October 25, at 7:00 p.m. If you have a student involved, please remind them that they need to arrive at the Ida Grove High School at 6:30 p.m. to check in and get ready. **FRESHMEN: you must wear nice, school colored clothing.** Girls may wear a sensible dress, and bonus points if boys wear a tie! October 22 is All-State Auditions for five students: Emma Endrulat, Alyssa Mason, Ethan Ernst, Marzia Shivers, and Taylor Oldham. These students have spent countless hours on the All-State concert literature and are hopeful that they will make the cut! Please wish these students well as they compete for a spot in this choir.

Remember that the grade a student receives for choir is counted toward their GPA. Check JMC often to keep track of your student's progress in choir, and contact Mr. Pedersen with any concerns. Participation is key for success in any music ensemble, so ask about what they are singing in class or what voice part they are singing. We have one of the largest 2A choirs in the state of Iowa. Be proud and supportive of all they do with music, and encourage them even during the difficult days!

Guidance Notes

Mrs. Megan Dooley, High School Counselor

We will be hosting another ACT Prep Course this fall. The course is \$100 for each student to cover the cost of materials. The course will be held at the high school and will meet multiple times from the end of October to December. If your student would like to sign up please contact Mrs. Dooley at mndooley@oabcig.org, call 712-364-3371, or stop in my office. The course is first come first serve, so please let me know if your student would like to sign up as soon as possible. This is a great opportunity for students to increase their ACT scores and be better prepared.

ACT Prep Course Dates:

Thursday, October 27 from 5:30-7:30 pm
 Saturday, October 29 from 10 am-12 pm
 Saturday, November 5 from 10 am-12 pm
 Saturday, November 12 from 10 am-12 pm
 Saturday, November 19 from 10 am-12 pm
 Saturday, December 3 from 10 am-12 pm
 Tuesday, December 6 from 5:30 pm-8 pm

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
October 22, 2016	September 16, 2016
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016
February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017

Curriculum News

Mrs. Mistaya Hoefling, Curriculum Director

Reporting Update

OA and BCIG Elementary Schools are adjusting their report cards for the 2016-2017 school year. All report cards for students in grades K-5 will now use a 1-4 grading scale where 1- Area of Concern, 2- Developing, 3- Proficient, and 4- Exceeds Expectations. Previously K-2 report cards and elementary specials used a 1-3 grading scale without the option for 'Exceeds Expectations.' This change has been made to improve communication and create consistency in reporting for all elementary students, teachers, and parents.

Curriculum Update

Grades 6-12 social studies teachers and students have begun implementation of all new McGraw Hill social studies curriculum. Students and teachers have access to both print and digital resources, and students are able to use their new Chromebooks to access their textbooks. These digital texts offer unique resources

including highlighting and note taking within the textbook as well as access to links for primary sources and videos right in the text. All of our middle and high school teachers have embraced this new learning opportunity and student feedback about the change has been positive.

Professional Development Update

Professional development for certified staff is in full swing, and we are continuing our work within professional learning communities (PLCs). The focus of PD in all buildings is improving student engagement and rigor in the classroom. Each building is taking a different approach to tackling these topics, and PLCs are making sure that their learning is tailored to help them meet the needs of their students. All certified staff are also completing peer reviews where they receive feedback from their peers on a lesson.

Senior Information for the Yearbook

Have you had your senior photos taken yet? If not, you need to get them scheduled soon. The yearbook needs **one wallet size 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, 2017**.



Library Listings

Mrs. Mary Rohlk, K-12 Librarian

The Iowa Area Education Agencies support student learning by providing a number of online research databases and ebook subscriptions. Elementary students are introduced to the age appropriate resources, but several are geared more toward middle and high school students. Royalty free music and clipart are also available to be used in student projects.

Students may use these at school or at home. All they need is a computer/Chromebook, internet access, and the username and password.

To preview what is available, go to <https://goo.gl/uV4IIS>. A username and password are required. If your child does not know these for their respective building, please email Mrs. Mary Rohlk. (mrohlik@oabcig.org)

Quiz Bowl

Mrs. Kaye Otto, Quiz Bowl Coach

What is the medical term for “showing no signs of a disease or disorder even though an infection or disease is present? What is the Greek term for emotional appeal in rhetoric? A substance is described this way when it possess the property of certain elements of spontaneously emitting alpha, beta, and gamma rays by the disintegration of the nuclei of atoms. What is the term?

Quiz bowl is a game in which two teams compete head-to-head to answer questions from all areas of knowledge including history, literature, science, fine arts, current events, sports, and popular culture. We will meet at 7:45 a.m. each Wednesday morning to prepare for upcoming competitions, and will start with our first meeting on Wednesday, October 12. If you are interested in being a part of the quiz bowl team for the 2016-2017 academic year, please sign up in Mrs. Otto’s room by Friday, October 7.

2017 Yearbook On Sale Now

The 2016-2017 OA-BCIG yearbook is now on sale. Yearbooks feature school photos of all students in the district from preschool-seniors, faculty, extracurricular groups/teams, and special events/activities at the high school throughout the school year.

Early Bird Special: Now-November 30 \$45

Regular Price: December 1-May 12 \$50

Order online now by going to www.jostensyearbooks.com OR click the link on the school website www.oabcig.org to pay by credit/debit card. To pay by cash/check, send money to the high school. The 2017 yearbook will be delivered in late August/early September 2017. Questions?? Contact Heidi Beck at 364-3371 or hbeck@oabcig.org.

Fourth Grade Field Trips

Mrs. Janet Snyder, BCIG 4th Grade Teacher

4th Grade Experiences Farm Safety Day

The ag safety day was part of the Farm Bureau’s Ag in the Classroom Program and was held on Friday, September 9 at the Ida County Fairgrounds. This event lasted from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 4th graders from BCIG and Ridge View attended this program. This safety program involved farm machinery, ATV safety, electricity, grain bins, gravity wagons, safety around animals, and 911 calls. Students were treated to lunch that day and also received a free t-shirt. BCIG 4th grade would like to thank Farm Bureau and all the volunteers that helped to teach us many valuable lessons about being on the farm.

Fourth Grade Visits Country School

A return to the days of old for BCIG’s 4th graders was sponsored by the Ida County Historical Society during the month of September. Each of the BCIG’s three sections were treated to a day of school at Moorehead Park. Activities included: flag respect, writing on slates, using pens dipped in ink, playing country school games, and pumping water by hand. Students received lessons in singing, reading, ciphering, orthography, penmanship, geography, and art. The highlight of the day was a history hike to the old pioneer homestead at Moorehead Park. Students were given the chance to view many items that the pioneers used along with learning lots of interesting pieces of information. We would like to thank all the country school teachers and the Historical Society for making this day very meaningful and worthwhile to all of us.



TAG News

Mrs. Staci Rohlk, TAG Instructor

BCIG Elementary Talented and Gifted

During first quarter, 4th and 5th grade TAG students are learning that their brain is a muscle that needs exercising and are focusing on growing their mathematical minds and improving their self-directed and independent study skills with their individualized learning dashboard on the Khan Academy website. The 5th graders have also begun recognizing the value of math skills in everyday life and several UBI bank employees at the Ida Grove branch shared math in relationship to money, savings & checking accounts, credit cards (importance of responsible use, credit scores, etc.) and accuracy with numbers on Mon., Sept. 12 as an extension of their mathematical accomplishments.

OA-BCIG 9-12 TAG

There have been major changes in legislation regarding gifted programming in Iowa schools. The OA-BCIG K-12 program is recognized as being progressive and continues to

evolve with these changes. The implementation of OA-BCIG’s HS program has established 3 components:

1. Educational Experience (career exploration)
2. Community Involvement
3. Personal Interactions
 - *Identify interest areas & learning preferences
 - *Student skill development
 - *Promote autonomous learning
 - *Guidance in AP/College course selection
 - *Development of personal & career goals
 - *Advocate leadership opportunities
 - *Promote academic & social extra-curricular participation
 - *Investigation of assignment activity & completion
 - *Individualized stress inquiry
 - *Problem solving



Elementary Art Student Teacher Mrs. Cathi Taylor, BCIG Elem. Art Teacher

Our BCIG Elementary Art Room has been fortunate to have a student teacher this fall for 8 weeks. Katie Bruening is a Carroll native majoring in Art Education and Art History at the University of Northern Iowa. Ms. Bruening has been co-teaching with Cathi Taylor in grades K-5, and during the weeks 5, 6, and 7, she will be teaching independent art lessons. Ms. Bruening will complete her experience here at BCIG mid October and then have an 8 week student teaching experience with grades 6-12 at another district. She will graduate in December. We have enjoyed having her in our art room!



All BCIG Elementary art students in K-5th did self portraits using analogous colors chosen according to grade level and arranged as a spectrum of color. They are all displayed in the new addition on the bulletin board.

Nurse's Notes

Mrs. Tiffany Lindberg, School Nurse

Here we are at the start of the new school year! Welcome back to students and teachers. As part of Iowa law it is required for students to be up to date on immunizations. The school will have an audit sometimes this fall from the Iowa Department of Health. So over the next few weeks I will be checking over immunization records and contacting those that may need immunizations. Also reminder to kindergarten and 9th grade students' parents, if you have not returned a dental screening form please do so.

Reminders of when to keep children home from school: fever greater than 100 and must be fever free without medications for 24 hours. If the student is vomiting. Must be vomit free for 24 hours. Also, if the student is not feeling well, and will not be able to concentrate in class, or keep other students from learning. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at lindberg@oabcig.org. Have a great school year!



FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, October 26

8:30-1:30

OA-BCIG High School Gym

Hosted by the Student Council

Public is Welcome to Attend



Red Ribbon Week October 24-27, 2016

YOLO ("You Only Live Once")-Be Drug Free is the 2016 Red Ribbon Week theme at BCIG Elementary, OA Elementary, and OA-BCIG Middle Schools. Students will be encouraged to make choices that lead to health, happiness, and the fulfillment of their goals and dreams. Activities and dress-up days for **both buildings** will be:

Monday, Oct. 24: Wear RED "RED'y to Live a Drug Free Life"

Tuesday, Oct. 25: Wear attire supporting your favorite sports team "Team up against drugs"

Wednesday, Oct. 26: PAJAMA DAY "Drugs will ruin your dreams"

Thursday, Oct. 27: HERO Day Dress like your hero - "Real Heroes are Drug Free"

Assemblies: H.E.R.O. Kids BCIG a.m. OA Elem & OA-BCIG MS p.m.

*Help Others – Endure Challenges – Read to Find Answers –
Observe the Needs Around You*

(Friday, Oct. 28: No School-End of 1st quarter)

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. Ala 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 Terry Kenealy, 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.

HEALTHY HUNGER FREE KIDS ACT IMPACTS SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

Information provided by the USDA News Release #0023.12

First Lady Michelle Obama and the U.S. Agriculture Secretary initiated the HHFKA to establish new standards for school meals making them healthier for 32 million kids nationwide. For the first time in fifteen years action is being taken to improve the health and nutrition in school meal programs.

Mrs. Obama said, "As parents we try to prepare decent meals, limit junk food and try to ensure that our children follow a balanced diet, the last thing we want is for our hard work to be undone each day in the school cafeteria."

The standards set forth in the HHFKA include:

- Offering students both fruit and vegetables every day of the week.
- Substantially increasing offerings for whole grain-rich foods.
- Offering only fat free or 1% low fat milk varieties.
- Limiting calories based on the age of the children being served to ensure proper portion size.
- Reducing the amounts of saturated fat, trans fat, sugar and salt in school meals.

USDA built the new school meal menu rules around recommendations from a panel of experts convened by the

Institute of Medicine – a gold standard for evidence based health analysis. The standards were updated with key changes from the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans – the Federal government's benchmark for nutrition aimed to foster healthy meal changes for schools.

In addition to the updated meal standards, other improvements include:

- Foods and beverages sold in vending machines and other venues on school campuses will also contribute to a healthy diet, carbonated beverages and foods of minimum nutritional value will no longer be available during the school day.
- Providing an increase in school meal funding – an additional \$.06 cents per meal served – to schools that meet the new standards and serve the improved meals. This is the first real increase in 30 years in school meal funding.
- Setting pricing standards for schools to ensure that revenues from non-Federal sources keep pace with the Federal commitment to provide healthy school meals.
- Training and technical assistance to monitor compliance with the new school meal standards.
- Initiating more physical activity into school days to comply with Mrs. Obama's "Let's Move" campaign.

IDENTIFYING AND REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

Series 100 Code 105

It is Iowa state law and the policy of the OA & BCIG School (Districts) that any licensed employee, certified para-educator, instructor employed by a community college, or holder of a coaching authorization, who has a reasonable belief that a child under the age of 18 has been abused, as defined by law, by a person responsible for the care of that child, as defined by law, shall report the suspected abuse verbally to the Department of Human Services (DHS) within twenty-four hours, and follow the verbal report with a written report on appropriate forms. In addition, any licensed employee, certified para-educator, instructor employed by a community college, or holder of a coaching authorization, who has a reasonable belief that a child under the age of 12 has been sexually abused by anyone, shall contact the Department of Human Services and report that suspicion as well.

The reporting of suspected abuse by non-licensed employees is encouraged.

The failure on the part of an employee who is a mandatory reporter to make a report as required by law may subject the employee to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge.

It is also the policy of the OA & BCIG School (Districts) that reports of child abuse remain confidential as required by law.

The OA & BCIG School (Districts) will provide the training for employees as required by law in the identification and reporting of child abuse within six months of initial employment. Within one month of initial employment, the school shall also provide each new employee who is a mandatory reporter with the legal requirements of child abuse reporting.

The OA & BCIG School (Districts) administration and staff will cooperate fully with DHS personnel in conducting a child abuse investigation by providing confidential access to the child named in the report, and to other children alleged to have relevant information, for the purpose of interviews. The OA & BCIG School (Districts) recognizes that it has no obligation to contact the parents or guardians of a child suspected to have been abused.

STATE MANDATED SCHOOL MEAL PRICE INCREASE

Following the October 10, 2016 Board Meeting

One of the items in the *Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act* is for the State of Iowa to set pricing standards for Iowa public school meals to ensure that revenues from non-Federal sources keeps pace with the Federal commitment to provide healthy school meals.

When the Odebolt-Arthur and Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School Districts submitted the Application for School Nutrition Program Operation and Federal Reimbursement, the applications were denied until they received a commitment to raise school meal prices \$.10 cents for all grades in both the OA and BCIG Community School Districts.

The Boards of Directors of both districts will be asked to approve an increase in school meals prices by \$.10 at the October 10 school board meeting.

Beginning November 1, 2016, the price for elementary school lunches will become \$2.10, the price for middle school lunches will become \$2.35 and price for high school lunches will become \$2.60. Breakfast prices will remain as they are.

Art Club

Mrs. Kate Beyke, Art Club Sponsor

Art club started the 2016-2017 school year off with the designing and selling our annual falcon spirit shirts. Thanks to all who help support the falcons and purchased a shirt from the art club!

This year we will also be selling the wooden Falcon door signs. Door signs are a great way to show school spirit and support your son, daughter, or grandkids in their sports or activities. Signs are only \$15 and are custom made just for you! Order forms can be found in this edition of the newsletter or online.

We have a big group this year, 32 high school students. We will be busy with finishing the fine arts mural, face painting at the Halloween Hike at Moorehead Park on October 15, our monthly crafts and activities, and helping around in the community. Please contact Mrs. Beyke at the high school if you would like us to be involved with something at your business or organization.

Over the summer, the art room received some new upgrades. We have nine top of the line art tables that seat two students with stools, a new marker board, bulletin board and projector. The kids are very excited to come to class each day and create art with this wonderful new equipment.

A big thanks to all who support the art and fine arts department and don't forget to keep your eye out for the OA-BCIG artists in action!



Wooden Falcon Door Signs



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

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

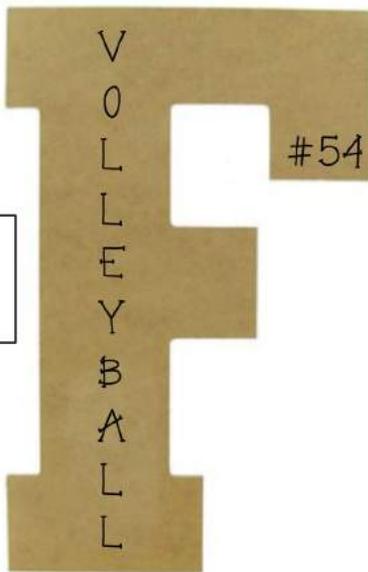
- Polk-a-dot: _____ (Up to three colors)
 (background) (color) (color)

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

-Solid Purple

-Solid Black

2. Sport or Activity or Name: Please Circle One
 (Assorted Paper)



3. Ribbons:
 Assorted
 Falcon Colors

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Falcons | Trap Shooting |
| Football | Band |
| Cross Country | Speech |
| Softball | Jazz Choir |
| Volleyball | Cheerleading |
| Basketball | Drill Team |
| Wrestling | NHS |
| Golf | Art Club |
| Bowling | Student Council |
| Track and Field | Soccer |
| Rodeo | Drama |
| Baseball | FFA |
| Choir | |

4. Number: _____
 (Optional)

Name/Other: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Payment: _____

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

Order Forms Due October 19th to High School Office

Activity Calendar for October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 IHSRA @ Waterloo	3 HS Dance Practice Begins 4:00 7/8 VB vs. Schleswig 6:00 JVR/JV VB vs. Denison 6:00 JV FB @ MVAO	4 Picture Retakes FFA Greenhand Fire-Up @ MOC 4:00 7/8 FB @ Onawa 4:00 7th VB @ Denison 4:00 8th VB vs. Denison 4:30 XC @ SCC 6:00 VB @ Siouxland Christian	5 1:00 Dismissal 	6	7 Dance Team Butterbraid Sales Begin 7:00 FB @ AHSTW	8 IHSMA State Marching Band Festival @ Sheldon 8:30 9/10 VB Tourney @ Mapleton
9	10 4:00 7/8 FB @ East Sac 4:00 7/8 VB vs. East Sac 4:00 7/8 VB @ Schleswig 4:30 XC OABCIG Invite 6:00 VB vs. WM Pink Out Night 6:00 JVR FB @ Alta 6:30 School Board Mtg. @ IG	11 	12	13 6th Grade to SC Orpheum 4:00 7/8 VB vs. AOMV 6:00 VB @ Westwood 6:00 JVR FB @ Menville	14 6:45 FB/XC/Cheer Senior Recognition Night 7:00 FB vs. GC-AC	15 NWIBA MS Honor Band Auditions 8:30 JV VB @ MVAO Tourney 9:00 XC - WVC Meet @ Mapleton
Fire Prevention Week						
16	17 4:00 7/8 FB vs. Kuemper 4:30 JVR VB @ SL Tourney 5:00 JVR FB vs. Storm Lake 6:30 JV FB vs. Storm Lake	18 1A/2A Regional VB	19 1:00 Dismissal	20 MS TAG @ ISU XC State Qualifying Meet	21 Dance Butterbraid Sales End 7:00 FB @ Treynor	22 ACT Testing All-State Auditions @ BVU
National FFA Convention (Indianapolis)						
23	24 1A/2A Regional VB	25 7:00 HS Fall Concert	26 8:30-1:30 Blood Drive sponsored by Student Council	27 End of 1st Quarter 5:30 ACT Prep Class	28 No School - Teacher Workday FB Playoffs 1st Round	29 XC State Meet 10:00 ACT Prep Class
Red Ribbon Week						
30	31 November 1 1A/2A Regional Finals MS Mock Trial @ CB 2:30 Early Dismissal 4:00 PT Conferences	2	3 2:30 Early Dismissal 4:00 PT Conferences	4 NO SCHOOL FB Q Final Play	5 Dance State Solo @ Newton NWIBA Honor Band Auditions for HS NWIBA MS Honor Band Festival 10:00 ACT Prep Class	
BCIG Book Fair						

Breakfast & Lunch Menus for October 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>3 BCIG B: sausage pancake wrap BCIG L: meatball sub, peas, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, pineapple, orange OA B: blue berry muffin, applesauce, toast OA L: chicken patty on WG bun, corn, veggie sticks, peaches</p>	<p>4 BCIG B: cereal bar, yogurt BCIG L: mandarin orange chicken, br. rice, carrots, broc-caulif salad, bread-butter, peaches, apple OA B: pancakes, mandarin oranges, toast OA L: mini corn dog, green beans, veggie sticks, mixed fruit</p>	<p>5 BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: Elem-cheeseburger macaroni, carrots, corn, *HS-mostaccioli, *salad bar, dinner roll, sidekicks, apple OA B: breakfast pizza, pears, toast OA L: sloppy joe/WG bun, broccoli, veggie sticks, pineapple</p>	<p>6 BCIG B: blueberry muffin, *cereal BCIG L: cheese pizza, spinach salad, celery-PB cup, jello, apricots, grapes OA B: sausage cheese omelet, banana, toast OA L: taco on soft shell, refried beans, veggie sticks, orange half</p>	<p>7 BCIG B: egg patty, bacon round, WG toast BCIG L: BBQ chicken breast/WG bun, baked beans, potato salad, strawberry applesauce, orange OA B: cinnamon roll, orange half, toast OA L: chicken strips, carrots, veggie sticks, apple</p>
<p>10 BCIG B: mini cinnis BCIG L: chicken alfredo, corn, marinated fresh veggie salad, garlic toast, mixed fruit, apple OA B: yogurt parfait, applesauce, toast OA L: shrimp poppers, string cheese, carrots, veggie sticks, peaches</p>	<p>11 BCIG B: assorted cereal, WG toast BCIG L: taco-in-a-bag, lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa, black bean salad, PB sandwich, applesauce, orange OA B: pancake on a stick, pears, toast OA L: beef hot dog on WG bun, baked beans, veggie sticks, mixed fruit</p>	<p>12 BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: chicken nuggets, Elem-mixed green salad, peas, *salad bar, rice crispy bar, mandarin oranges, apple OA B: donut, mandarin orange, toast OA L: cheese bread, marinara, peas, veggie sticks, pineapple</p>	<p>13 BCIG B: ultimate breakfast round, *assorted cereal BCIG L: scalloped potatoes & ham, green beans, bread-butter, pineapple, banana OA B: egg & sausage patty, banana half, toast OA L: chicken gravy & potatoes, green beans, fresh veggie sticks, orange half, dinner roll</p>	<p>14 BCIG B: sausage breakfast bagel, *Nutrigrain bar BCIG L: pork patty/bun, sweet potato tots, broccoli, pears, orange OA B: waffles, orange half, toast OA L: pulled pork on WG bun, steamed broccoli, fresh veggie sticks, apple slices</p>
<p>17 BCIG B: breakfast pizza BCIG L: hamburger/WG bun, baked beans, potato salad, peaches, apple OA B: muffin, applesauce, toast OA L: cheese pizza, green beans, fresh veggie sticks, peaches</p>	<p>18 BCIG B: assorted cereal, WG toast BCIG L: spaghetti, Caesar salad, mixed vegetables, bread-butter, applesauce cup, orange OA B: French toast sticks, pears, toast OA L: chicken nuggets, carrots, fresh veggie sticks, mixed fruit</p>	<p>19 BCIG B: breakfast wrap, salsa BCIG L: turkey & cheese sandwich, Elem-cherry tomatoes, celery, corn, *salad bar, mixed fruit, apple OA B: breakfast pizza, mandarin oranges, toast OA L: goulash, corn, fresh veggie sticks, pineapple</p>	<p>20 BCIG B: mini strawberry bagels BCIG L: pepperoni pizza, green beans, tossed salad w/ranch, strawberries & bananas, orange OA B: cheese omelet, banana half, toast OA L: chicken fajitas on soft shell, refried beans, fresh veggie sticks, orange half</p>	<p>21 BCIG B: egg patty, bacon round, WG toast BCIG L: chicken patty/WG bun, tator tots, broc-caulif salad, mandarin oranges, apple OA B: donut, orange, toast OA L: hamburger on WG bun, steamed broccoli, fresh veggie sticks, apple slices</p>
<p>24 BCIG B: pancakes w/syrup, *sausage BCIG L: beef tips, mashed potatoes, peas, bread-butter, applesauce, orange OA B: yogurt parfait, applesauce, toast OA L: popcorn chicken, carrots, fresh veggie sticks, peaches</p>	<p>25 BCIG B: assorted cereal, WG toast BCIG L: BBQ pork rib/WG bun, corn, 3 bean salsa, pears, apple OA B: French toast, pear, toast OA L: fiestada pizza, corn, fresh veggie sticks, mixed fruit</p>	<p>26 BCIG B: cheese omelet, WG toast BCIG L: chicken tenders, Elem-mixed green salad, carrots, *salad bar, animal crackers, mixed fruit, orange OA B: breakfast bites, mandarin oranges, toast OA L: chicken alfredo, steamed broccoli, fresh veggie sticks, pineapple tidbits</p>	<p>27 BCIG B: glazed donut, *assorted cereal BCIG L: hot dog/WG bun, baked beans, coleslaw, pineapple, apple OA B: egg and sausage muffin, banana half, toast OA L: taco-in-a-bag, refried beans, fresh veggie sticks, orange half</p>	<p>28 NO SCHOOL</p> 
<p>31 BCIG B: breakfast pizza BCIG L: French toast sticks, sausage, hash brown, celery, carrots, cottage cheese, strawberry cup, apple OA B: muffin, applesauce, toast OA L: corn dog, corn, fresh veggie sticks, peaches</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>*Available only at the high school.</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

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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.

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

Guys and Dolls Ms. Kariann Jurgenson, Play Director

The OA-BCIG Fine Arts Departments have begun rehearsing this year's fall musical, *Guys and Dolls*. The cast for this year's show includes Gage Thoreson, Grant Conover, Daltyn Swanger, Austin Lindner, Sequoia Dobbs, Andrew Mace, Jarrett Bumann, Rhett Ketelsen, Caspian Carlmark, Stephen Stangl, Aedan Hickey, Dallas Hare, Ethan Ernst, Carrie Miller, Emma Endrulat, Courtney Peters, Marzia Shivers, Jenna Henderson, Sydney Bauer, Alyssa Mason, Vandy Mosier, Bree Henningsen, Mally Sangpanjun, Grace Holmes, Amanda Gunderson, Sarah Bergman, Sarah Petersen, Corin Bower, Lindsey Kruse, Jillian Ludwig, Taylor Oldham, Ryder Cranston, Alyssa Henderson, Josie Wulf, Autumn Schreiber, Madison Schiernbeck, Abigail Bender, Kirsten Dausel, Kelsey Dausel, Riley



Snyder, Elyssa Freese, Sydney Bauer, Cameron Webb, Lizzie Williams, and Anna Van Dusen.

Show times are November 11 and 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the OA-BCIG High School Cafetorium. Instructions for reserving tickets will be included in the November newsletter.

Mark your calendars today to spend time with Adelaide, Nathan, Sarah, Sky, and the rest of the fascinating characters featured in this fun show.

Guys and Dolls is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIshows.com



SENIOR GRADUATION INFORMATION

Graduation will be here before we know it! The senior students will be receiving a letter concerning their high school diploma. Please have your student print their name as they want it to appear on their diploma. Both the parent/guardian and the student will need to sign this form and **return** it to the high school office **by Friday, October 14.**

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.