



December 2013
Volume V Number 5

OA-BCIG INSIGHT

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

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*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.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S SCOOP BY DR. NICK OUELLETTE

Giving Thanks...

As I write this article we are getting ready for Thanksgiving and looking forward to Christmas. Seems as though every year I look back on the previous 12 months and wonder how quickly time goes by. We have a lot to be thankful for in both of our districts over the past year. A year ago this December the Odebolt-Arthur Community School District went to the voters for a new Physical Plant and Equipment Levy for \$1.34, which passed with overwhelming support of the community.

In January both districts had to make some tough financial decisions that have put us on a path to financial sustainability. February of this year was no light month, as both Districts went to the voters with new Revenue Purpose Statements and gained passage with tremendous enthusiasm from the community. In March through May the Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School District moved forward with the demolition of the Early Childhood Center in Ida Grove. The facility will be missed, but the alumni association has great plans for a memorial park in its place.

By the end of May and well into the summer both districts began an aggressive summer project list that would make our learning environments even better for our kids and staff. The new addition at the elementary was completed and new ceilings were installed in both the BCIG Elementary and the OA Elementary buildings. In addition, many security upgrades were completed at all of the buildings.

As hard as it is to believe, just four months ago in August, the Districts implemented one of the most aggressive Technology Integration Initiatives in Iowa Schools, providing 1:1 technology in grades 4 through 12 and enhanced technology in grades K-3. We have worked through the bugs and teachers have worked hard to challenge students in new ways to enhance their experience.

We have continued keeping a feverish pace in both districts in implementing and planning for improvements by establishing a BCIG Facility Committee to study future needs and by looking to upgrade the Elementary media center in OA as well as playground enhancements. The school building in Battle Creek has been sold and we are working with the new owners and the Community Colleges to help realize the goal of Regional Career Academy in the town of Battle Creek.

We are meeting as a combined set of districts to implement with fidelity the new Education Reform bill that was passed by the Legislature. Our two districts are working towards a plan that will help improve student achievement at all grade levels. When I look back over the past 12-13 months I can't help but think how many people have contributed to all of these successes. There is no way the districts could have accomplished all that they have without the help of the community and staff, and for that, not only I, but the kids and staff of these great districts say thank you and we look forward to an exciting 2014.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Breakfast & Lunch Menus for December 2013

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <p>2 BCIG B: B'fast Pizza BCIG L: Hamburger, WG Bun, Baked Beans, FF, Mandarin Oranges, Fresh Apple OA B: Choc. Chip Muffin, Hard Boiled Egg OA L: Chicken Nuggets, Corn, Romaine Lettuce, Ranch, Trop. Fruit, WG SMB</p> | <p>3 BCIG B: Assorted Cereal, WG Toast BCIG L: Italian Pasta Bake, Tossed Salad, Corn, Garlic Bread, Pears, Fresh Apple OA B: Breakfast Pizza OA L: Hamburger, WG Bun, Potato Wedges, Baby Carrots, Pickle, Onion, Tomato, Apple</p> | <p>4 BCIG B: Cheese Omelet, WG Toast BCIG L: Popcorn Chicken, Fresh Veggie Bar, *1/2 PB Sandwich, Applesauce, Orange OA B: WG Cinnamon Roll OA L: Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Romaine Lettuce, Ranch, Banana</p> | <p>5 BCIG B: Cinnamon Coffeecake, Assorted Cereal BCIG L: Orange Chicken, Bro. Rice, Cooked Carrots, Broccoli Salad, *1/2 PB Sandwich, Apricots, Banana OA B: Cereal, Toast OA L: Super nachos, Br. Rice Baked Chips, Refried Beans, Grapes</p> | <p>6 BCIG B: Wrap, Salsa BCIG L: Fish Sticks, Coleslaw, Green Beans, Uncrustable, Peach Cup, Apple OA B: B'fast Wraps OA L: Honey Mustard Wrap, Baked Beans, Red Pepper Strips, Pears</p> |
| <p>9 BCIG B: WG Biscuit, Gravy, *Sausage Link BCIG L: Chicken Patty, WG Bun, Sweet Fries, Peas, Pineapple, Orange OA B: Whole Wheat Pancakes OA L: Orange Chicken, Br. Rice, Romaine Lettuce, Ranch, Pineapple, Apricots</p> | <p>10 BCIG B: WG Bagel, Cream Cheese, Yogurt BCIG L: Taco In A Bag, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese, Salsa, Black Bean Salad, Brownie, Peaches, Apple OA B: Nutrigrain Bar, Hard Boiled Egg OA L: Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Romaine Lettuce, Ranch, 4 Bean Salad, Corn, Peaches</p> | <p>11 BCIG B: Scrambled Eggs, WG Toast BCIG L: Pork Patty, WG Bun, Fresh Veggie Bar, *Mixed Veggies, Mixed Fruit, Orange OA B: Poptart, Yogurt OA L: French Toast Sticks, Syrup, Sausage Pattie, Baby Carrots, Clementines</p> | <p>12 BCIG B: B'fast Round *Assorted Cereal BCIG L: Pepperoni Pizza, Marinated Fresh Veggie Salad, Gr. Beans, Jello, Applesauce Cup, Grapes OA B: Sausage, Bagel OA L: Chicken Sandwich WG Bun, Green Beans, Cucumbers, Romaine Lettuce, Ranch, Applesauce</p> | <p>13 BCIG B: Egg Patty, Bacon, WG Toast BCIG L: Mini Chicken Drumsticks, Italian Bean & Pasta Salad, Corn *1/2 PB Sand. Mandarin Oranges, Apple OA B: Apple Frudel OA L: Pork Pattie, WG Bun, Cooked Carrots, Straw. Spinach Salad, Apple Slices</p> |
| <p>16 BCIG B: Sausage & Pancake Wrap BCIG L: Teriyaki Chicken, Rice, Spinach Salad, Carrots, Breadstick, Applesauce, Orange OA B: Blueberry Muffin OA L: Bean Cheese Burrito, Broccoli, Peas, Pineapple</p> | <p>17 BCIG B: Assorted Cereal, WG Pop Tart BCIG L: Ham Slice, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Gr. Beans, Dinner Roll, Cake, Pears, Apple OA B: Cereal Bar Yogurt OA L: Popcorn Chicken, Cooked Carrots, WG SMB, Strawberries, Rice Krispie Bar</p> | <p>18 BCIG B: Cheese Omelet, WG Toast BCIG L: Chicken Nuggets, Fresh Veggie Bar, *1/2 PB Sand. Apricots, Apple OA B: WG Cinn. Roll OA L: Egg, Sausage, Cheese on WG Bun, Oranges, Apple Juice</p> | <p>19 BCIG B: Blueberry Muffin, Cereal BCIG L: Breakfast Wrap, Potato Cubes, Salsa, Baby Carrots, Celery, PB Cup, Pineapple, Banana OA B: B'fast Pizza OA L: Hot Dog, WG Bun, Baked Sun Chips, Red Pepper Strips, Pears</p> | <p>20 BCIG B: Egg Patty, Bacon, WG Toast BCIG L: Turkey Burger, WG Bun, Baked Beans, Tossed Salad, Peaches, Apple OA B: B'fast Wrap OA L: Maidrites, WG Bun, Corn, Mixed Fruit, Christmas Treat</p> |



*In accordance with Federal Law and USDA policy, this institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Skim & 1% Milk, Fruit and Juice served daily *Available at High School*

HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS PATRICK MILLER, PRINCIPAL

SEMESTER TESTS

Semester Tests will be held on December 19th and 20th. On Thursday, December 19, periods 1, 3, 5, and 7 will test, with periods 2, 4, 6, and 8 testing on Friday, December 20th. Each class will meet for 80 minutes.

DECEMBER 19TH:

| | |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1st period | 8:40am - 10:00am |
| 3rd period | 10:10am - 11:30am |
| LUNCH | 11:30am - 12:25 pm |
| 5th period | 12:30pm - 1:50pm |
| 7th period | 2:00pm - 3:20pm |

DECEMBER 20TH:

| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| 2nd period | 8:40am - 10:00am |
| 4th period | 10:10am - 11:30am |
| LUNCH | 11:30am - 12:25pm |
| 6th period | 12:30pm - 1:50pm |
| 8th period | 2:00pm - 3:20pm |

During semester tests students have Open Campus, meaning if they are not testing they do not have to be in school. If you do not want your child to have the Open Campus option please contact the office at 364-3371.

DRIVERS EDUCATION

Registration for driver's education courses will be in late January. Look for more information the next month's newsletter.



VETERAN'S MEAL

The foods classes at OA-BCIG would like to thank Pat Phillips at Food Pride, United Bank of Iowa, and the Ida County Cattlemen for providing us with the essentials to have a successful Veteran's Day dinner.

We would also like to give a special thank you to the veterans for their service, and taking time out of their day to enjoy a meal with us.

BLOOD DRIVE

Student Council sponsored a blood drive at the high school on Monday, Nov. 11th. 57 people signed up to donate and of that 36 people were able to donate. LifeServe Blood Center also collected seven double units. The spring-blood drive is currently scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th.



HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC NEWS BY LINDA JOHNSON HOLIDAY CONCERT

Please join us Monday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. for the high school winter concert. **ADMISSION is a non-perishable item!!!**

Please help us support the area county food pantries by bringing in some items as your admission to our concert!

HOLIDAY MUSIC & DESSERTS!

Join the High School music students for a time of holiday celebration. Enjoy the choir and band as they present their winter concert then enjoy desserts following at the OABCIG High School.

Be sure to mark your calendar for December 16, 2013 at 7:00pm for this event. A free will donation will be taken for the desserts and hot drinks. The proceeds will help to continue in supporting the music Department. (Parents of high school musicians ~ your children have been given a letter with what each grade level has been assigned to bring for our dessert event!)

HS BAND BANTER BY ERIC WELLS

As our busy Marching Band season comes to a close, the students would like to thank all those who skipped a hot dog to cheer on the band during halftime of our football games. Our "light show" was a real highlight for us. We've started preparing for Pep Band as we transition to the winter sports season and we'll also dig out some fun music for our December concert on the 16th.

Jazz band has started and is currently meeting twice a week. Several band members helped the St. Paul Lutheran Church celebrate the reformation and played with the choir and congregation. Thanks for having us! And thanks to Sac County Thrivent for their donation. It is truly appreciated.

Congratulations to Erin Fineran for being accepted to the NWIBA District Honor Band! Lots of hard work and dedication goes into that audition. Many music students will be participating in the OABCIG Madrigal at the Ida Grove Country Club tentatively set for Sunday, December 22nd. Band students are currently using their chromebooks to read musical excerpts and then recording them using Soundcloud. Several assessments are being done this way.

GO FALCONS!



HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE BY CAROL SADLER

First of all I'd like to say thank you to the parents who came to visit during parent teacher conferences. It is always good to talk face to face about how your child is doing and what we are doing in class. For those who communicate through email, feel free to contact any time.

We are well into 2nd doing many things in the life science area. Anatomy and Physiology have just finished the skeletal system. To make things festive for Halloween, they made skeletons out of milk jugs and poster paper to hang throughout the room. They had fun doing this and learned from the experience. Making a 3D version is a completely different learning dimension than learning the skeleton in 2D.

Biology students have been studying cells and their function. We made analogy posters of the cell parts and what they do. Then we did an experiment with cell transport and chicken eggs. Ask your child about the egg experiment. Ask them how they got the shell off the egg and what they soaked the egg in after the shell was off and what happened to the egg. This is a great visual of the affects of different solutions and cell water balance. Biology students should now know why our skin wrinkles after sitting in a hot tub.

AP Biology has been hard at work on Cell Energy Transformations. They have measured the effectiveness of enzymes on hydrogen peroxide, measured variables that affect the rate of cell respiration and fermentation using peas and yeast. Now they are testing the chlorophyll and how light exposure affects the rate of photosynthesis.

Thank you Smith Trust for purchasing LabQuest and Vernier probes which allow for accurate data collection and instant visual graphics to analyze.

Environmental Science finished a unit on Trees of Iowa. They put together an electronic version of a Tree ID packet using their chromebooks and apps on their chromebooks. Now they are studying Biomes and soon will be preparing presentations using their chromebooks to share with the class. Environmental Science has also been participating in the monitoring of Odebolt Creek of the Iowa DNR program known as IOWATER. Thanks to the help of Steve Hummel, Ida County Naturalist, we have been able to get "real" data for Odebolt Creek for August, September, October, and November. We will continue to collect data in the spring.

Parents continue to be active and interested in your child's education. Ask them what they learned today and what activities they have done. If they say "nothing", ask probing questions because we are doing something everyday. When you show interest in their studies, they show interest in class.

YEARBOOK WINS AWARD

The Jostens National Yearbook Program of Excellence Award has been created to recognize those who excel in the creation and distribution of their yearbook, and meet the following criteria:

A MEANINGFUL BOOK FOR ALL STUDENTS

A book that means something to all students and includes a vast majority of the student body.

A BOOK IN EVERY STUDENT'S HANDS

Schools put so much time, effort and love into their yearbook. We want to help ensure that as many students as possible get to enjoy the masterpiece that's created.

EFFECTIVE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Meeting the yearbook deadlines is a very important part of the yearbook creation process, and ensures the delivery of books on time.

Only 12 schools from the State of Iowa received this award this year and this is the second year in a row that OABCIG has received the award. Congratulations to Mrs. Beck and the yearbook staff!



The OABCIG yearbook staff would like to thank McCormick Motors for helping support/ advertise in our 2013-2014 student publication.

If any other business would like to help sponsor or run an advertisement in the yearbook, please contact Heidi Beck at the high school (364-3371) or email her (hbeck@oabcig.org). Thank you once again to all of our sponsors!

HEALTH I BY ANDREA NEILSEN

"We are overfed, but starving to death."-David Wolf Health I students are currently learning about nutrition. We started the unit learning to read food labels. Rather than focusing on serving size and calorie counts alone, the students now know how to recognize genetically modified ingredients, high fructose corn syrup, and artificial sweeteners like the neurotoxin Aspartame. Also, how the excitotoxin monosodium glutamate (msg) can be hidden under different ingredients names, and which dangerous additives and preservatives should be avoided. The students have learned that "real," living food fuels, builds, and repairs the body.

MIESNER'S MEMO BY JEFF MIESNER

Physical Education students have been participating in floor hockey the last week and a half. There has been a very high level of participation from all students. In the coming weeks the PE students will get to travel to the bowling alley and practice some of their skills there.

The strength training classes have been working equally hard. Last week we worked on finding one rep maxes in some of our core lifts. The lifts were: Bench Press, Par-

Parallel Squat, Dead Lift, and Power Cleans. We have had lots of great lifts by all our male and female students with several students meeting and exceeding their previous records. Moving forward the students will be able to use those numbers to help tailor their own workouts to meet personal goals they have been setting. I look forward to a great rest of the quarter.

Our Fridays have been used as “cardio” days up to this point. Everyone has done a fantastic job in their efforts given. I look forward to being able to challenge the students even more and seeing how much they can accomplish!

HIIT CLASS BY ANDREA NIELSEN

High Intensity Interval Training class is based on the idea of building foundational strength. We started the semester developing the ability to handle body weight through a full range of motion with speed and control. We have since added resistance to the compound movements at high intensity building endurance and power.



FFA UPDATES BY RACHEL STOBERL

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

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

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

**VISIT THE FALCON BOX
FOR CHRISTMAS IDEAS!**

***open before every home basketball game!**

For Up-To-Date Info, Please Visit: <http://www.oabcig.org>



COMBATING BULLYING

In November, a bullying survey was sent out to OABCIG High School students. Students were asked various questions about what bullying is, how they see it manifested at school, and how they feel the school responds to it. Results showed where students feel they need the most support in dealing with bullying. Ideas from students included having more supervision in the halls, clearly defining what bullying is, and having clear consequences for when it occurs.

There are many anti-bullying programs out there these days. Some are shown to be more effective than others, while some are shown not to be effective at all. A common theme in research is that teaching kids empathy is more effective than telling them not to bully. Having empathy or being empathetic means that an individual has the ability to put him/ her self into the shoes of another and understand that person's perspective. It doesn't mean agreeing with or endorsing a choice; it simply making an effort to feel what that other person is feeling.

How can we teach our students empathy? Simply put, empathy = kindness + action. Thinking about how to be kind and acting on it naturally produces empathy. There are many ways to help students practice this. Teaching empathy at home can be a key component. When your student is frustrated with a friend or teacher or community member, take a moment to help your student imagine how the other person is feeling and process the situation from the other's perspective. Doing so will help your student see that the world is bigger than their side of the story.

As a school, we are striving to teach our students empathy. We have started a group called RAKE (Random Acts of Kindness Everyday). Members of RAKE strive to make at least one intentional act of kindness each day, and meet twice each month to discuss ways to promote a climate of kindness at our school. One example is that RAKE students created a Kindness Locker, where students can write down kind things and put the notes in the locker. At the end of each week, the notes will be displayed for students to see. Our hope is that with simple ways of encouraging kindness, we can positively impact our school culture.

Another way OABCIG High School is striving to create a culture of kindness and empathy is by bringing in a speaker named Mike Donahue of R5 Productions. For over 10 years, R5 Productions has specialized in speaking to students about respect, tolerance, and making positive choices. Their programming is called “Walk A Mile” and focuses on building empathy and respect using the old adage “Don't judge someone until you've walked a mile in their shoes.” Mike will be at OABCIG High School Friday December 6th for a morning assembly. We are excited about the steps being taken to create a positive school culture for our students!

ACT TESTING

The ACT is offered throughout the entire 2013-2014 school year at local sites.

TEST DATES

February 8, 2014

April 12, 2014

June 14, 2014

REGULAR DEADLINE

January 10, 2014

March 7, 2014

May 9, 2014

ACT Code: 162-129



MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSES DOUG MOGENSEN, PRINCIPAL

OA-BCIG ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL CELEBRATED RED RIBBON WEEK IN OCTOBER

To begin Red Ribbon Week, a group of fifth grade students put on a production for the rest of the elementary about the dangers of drugs and how bad decisions can negatively affect the future. Mrs. Brady scheduled during the week many learning activities for the students about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. The S.K.A.T.E. program for 1st- 5th grade promoted good choices and behaviors. The middle school students used their creativity to decorate classroom doors using the theme, "A healthy me is drug free." The 7th and 8th grade students participated in a program helped by our Rachel's Challenge group that depicted what happens legally when students make the wrong choice to use drugs and alcohol. The county attorney and local sheriff deputies helped with the program. Middle school students commented that the courtroom experience was scary and that it really opened their eyes to problems that can arise when wrong choices are made.

Thank you all for the great turnout during Parent/Teacher conferences. We had about 70% of our parents in the middle school attend conferences. We had 96% of our parents of elementary students attend conferences during the designated conference times with the other 4% being rescheduled either to meet or to talk on the phone. I encourage you to continue communicating with the school and you child's teacher so that together we can help our students achieve at their highest levels.

Please remember: The end of the semester is December 20th. The winter break is December 23 to Jan. 1. Classes will resume on January 2. Teachers in the elementary will be sending home information regarding the Christmas party they will be having in their classrooms.



MOCK TRIAL TEAMS COMPETE BY MISSY JENSEN

OA-BCIG's Mock Trial teams did an excellent job of representing our school at the M.S. Mock Trial Competition in Council Bluffs on Friday, November 1st. Each team competed in two rounds of competition. Both teams finished 1-1. The Purple Team finished 8th in our region with 220.5 points. The Silver Team finished 12th with 213.75 points. Four students were recognized for outstanding performances. Outstanding Attorney: Bailey Ullrich, Outstanding Witness: McKinna Faulkenberry, Reed Godbersen & Cameron Webb.

Both teams should be congratulated on outstanding performances against tough competition! The teams were coached by Talented and Gifted Teacher, Melissa Jensen and Attorney Coach, Peter Goldsmith.



Purple team members include: Bailey Ullrich, Devin Behrendsen, Jatelyn Jessen, Kirsten Dausel, Tracy Chatwell, Kenny Hausman, Cameron Webb, Lindsey Kruse, & Jenna Henderson, timer. Silver team members below include: Alyssa Mason, Anna VanDusen, Ellie Diersen, Kelsey Dausel, McKinna Faulkenberry, Reed Godbersen, Quintin Cranston and Abbi Ullrich, timer.



WINTER CONCERTS

Thurs., Dec. 12th

OA Elem. 3rd-5th @ Odebolt



Mon., Dec. 16th

OA-BCIG High School @ Ida Grove

Thurs., Dec. 19th

BCIG Elem 1st-4th @ High School Gym



**GUIDANCE NOTES
JOLEEN BRADY
MS GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**



Mad About Money II: Pay Yourself First met with the 6th-8th grades recently. This assembly was presented by the National Theater for Children, and was sponsored by the Iowa Insurance Division.

They provided an entertaining comedy about managing your money, how to save, and to be aware of advertising gimmicks. Following the performance, students have workbooks which will be used during their Falcon Times to stress financial literacy.



On Monday, 11-11-13, OA Elementary and OABCIG Middle School held a Veteran's Day celebration. Local Veteran's and members of the American Legion Post #313 were in attendance. Our program was led by student members, Kelsey Dausel, Kirsten Dausel, Emma Endrulat, Trey Kruckenberg, and Maddie Schiernbeck. Our 2nd grade classes, under the direction of Mrs. Baldwin and Mrs. Christensen, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and performed a choral reading. Emma narrated the Flag Folding ceremony and our 7th & 8th grade choir sang a melody honoring all branches of the armed services. Mr. Neil Anders played Taps to conclude our program. We were very proud to be able to honor and remember those who have sacrificed their lives to achieve peace and democracy for each and every one of us.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



NURSES NOOK

ANGIE KASTNER, BSN RN



Now that winter weather is upon us, and a hard winter is predicted, I have few winter weather tips:

Tip #1 Make sure your children are dressed appropriately for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them warm and dry. This can include shirts, pants, sweaters, coat, snow pants, warm socks, gloves or mittens, scarf, and a hat. Dressing appropriately will prevent cold weather exposure and hypothermia.

Tip #2 Be sure and prevent frostbite. Frostbite happens when the skin and outer tissues become frozen. This most commonly affects fingers, toes, ears and nose. The area may become pale, gray, and the child may complain that the frost-bitten area is painful or has become numb. If frostbite occurs, bring the child indoors and place the area in warm, NOT hot, water.

Tip #3 If your child suffers from winter nosebleeds, try using a cool air humidifier at night. Saline nose drops can also help keep nasal tissues moist. If bleeding is severe or happens frequently, consult your health care provider.

LINES FROM THE LIBRARY

MARY ROHLK, HEAD LIBRARIAN



Thank you to all who supported the BCIG elementary book fair. Sales were up and we earned 60%. Our profit, all in books, was \$3374. Families also donated \$626 in the All for Books promotion. Every cent went towards library books from the book fair. Scholastic will now donate 626 books to two children's charities. Here Mrs. Harriman's preschool watches as Mrs. Rohlk uses a change machine to count some of the donated money.



Photo on left: BCIG and OA second grade students explored and shared different types of literature. Students read different types of poetry. Students practiced their reading skills and enjoyed sharing jokes.

Photo on right: Fourth and fifth grade students explored various databases provided by our AEA's. Fourth grade practiced locating state information on their chrome-books while fifth grade started their cyber-safety lessons. Ask your child to show you the Cybersmarts ebooks that we used for our lessons.



CURRICULUM CLIPS

ALICIA NELSON & JULIE WEEDA

Elementary and Middle School Art, Music, and P.E. Teachers met on Wednesday, November 13th and the Common Core Curriculum. As Common Core was developed, an important understanding was that all teachers share in the education of each student, offering content-specific education that also connects to the goals of English and Language Arts (ELA) and Math. This group of teachers participated in a learning exercise to strengthen their understanding of general goals of the common core while realizing the important role that they play in helping students meet these goals.

Parents and community members may not be fully aware of the critical role that our specials teachers play in the holistic education of their children, but these teachers have a continuous, positive impact each and every student and their abilities to perform tasks of complexity. Keep in mind that our specials teachers have the unique opportunity to teach students in multiple grade levels and over continuous years, offering a different, valuable perspective on education.

The following tables demonstrate what these K-8 teachers are working on with your students in relationship to Mathematical and ELA Connections.

Created by: Neil Anders, ReNee Fritz, Shawn Miller, Alicia Nelson, Jonathan Nelson, Sonya Schiphoff, Katelyn Spindler, Cathi Taylor, Julie Weeda, and Lucas Wilding.

| Common Goals | Art | Music | Physical Education |
|---|---|--|--|
| Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. | Providing art assignments using new materials and new techniques. | Articulation, dynamics, intonation, nuances of performance are practiced and utilized daily. | Articulation, dynamics, intonation, nuances of performance are practiced and utilized daily. |
| Reason abstractly and quantitatively. | Abstract techniques for art requiring planning and strategy. | Thought processing used for learning how to count a measure and change between time signatures. | Understand why individuals behave the way they do, recognizing the role of feedback in athletics. |
| Construct viable arguments and critique the work of others. | Class and personal discussions of art-work and whether it meets the criteria required | Attendance of performances, constructive critique of self and others in performance. Students present ideas on how to phrase a passage of music. | Provision of individual and group feedback in order to ensure best practices and positive performance within games and activities. |
| Model with mathematics. | Solving for age of paintings and works of art using math. | Counting, rhythm, and notation is consistent modeling of math. | Instruction of scoring, points, and strategies and how others' performance affects the assurance of a high score. Number sense is required for scoring and strategy. |
| Attend to precision. | Attend to precision. Folding, measuring, cutting, careful design creation for balance and symmetry. Ex: Grid drawing, Masks | Articulation, dynamics, intonation, nuances of performance are practiced and utilized daily. | Repetition of practice and guided facilitation of new skills to ensure optimal muscle memory and spatial awareness. |
| Look at and make use of structure. | Discern pattern and structure within art; identifying lines, figures, angles, and shapes. | Students practice phrasing, movement of notes on a staff, and use implications of dynamics. | Consistent instruction on the importance of structure and parameters within games and activities to achieve the best results. |
| Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning. | Observing surroundings, listening to others' reasoning, classify works of art, following patterns. | Reasoning and knowledge of music symbols, notes, signatures is applied in performance. | Use of angles, anticipation, velocity, mass, speed, and target heart rate in relationship to sports activities. |
| Use appropriate tools strategically. | Painting with different brushes for detail, working with rulers and templates. | Use of instrument and voice appropriately in order to produce the best sound, pitch, and dynamics required within a piece of music | Instruction and practice with new tools and strategies required to perform an activity individually |



ELEMENTARY EDICTS ALAN HENDERSON, PRINCIPAL

One thing that happens over Christmas Break every year in my house is: They are excited to have the time off and not have school; but then they say they are bored, even with a ton of things to do. One of those things to help fill that time is activities in math and reading.

What a great opportunity to introduce your child to some of your favorite Christmas books you remember as a child. Take the time to do some book talks with your kids and share in experiencing a book for the first time.

Some books are good just to listen to, others you can take turns reading back and forth. Even rereading a favorite several times out loud helps students build their fluency.

In Math there are many math games to play online and in person. On the OABCIG website there are recommendations of math games for students to participate in. If you google free math games there are a ton of them as well. A simple card game; take a deck of cards and flip two over and add or multiply them, roll some dice and do the same.

Take some time this season to have some fun with your child and continue to learn more in the areas of reading and math. Have a great Christmas Season.



JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT BY JENNIFER GLAWE











Third graders have begun a 6 week unit with Junior Achievement volunteers Kevin and Tammie Dausel. The unit centers around the many facets of a community. Here the students create buildings found in a city and help determine whether the structures should be built in a residential, business, agricultural, or multi-purpose zone.



The BCIG third graders that met their monthly reading goals visited Golden Horizons Assisted Living Center. The students performed choral readings, plays, and poems about fall and Thanksgiving. The residents enjoyed Thanksgiving pictures and cards made by the students. At the end of their visit the children enjoyed cookies provided by Golden Horizons.



Activity Calendar for December 2013

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| <p>1</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB 7th Boys @ Odebolt</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB 8th Boys @ Storm Lake</p> <p>6:00pm BB @ Correctionville</p> | <p>3</p> <p>*4:00pm MS BB Boys @ Odebolt</p> <p>*4:00pm MS BB Girls @ Anthon</p> <p>*4:15 JVR G/B BB @ Merville</p> <p>*6:00pm BB @ Woodbury Central (Merville)</p> <p>*6:00pm WR @ East Sac Co. (Wall Lake)</p> | <p>4</p> <p>1:00pm dismissal Professional Development Day</p> <p>5:30pm Music Boosters (HS Cafeteria)</p> | <p>5</p> <p>*4:00pm MS BB 7th Boys @ Odebolt</p> <p>*4:00pm MS BB 8th Boys @ Denison</p> <p>*6:00pm JV BB G/B @ West Monona (Onawa)</p> <p>*6:00 WR @ Ridge View (Holstein)</p> | <p>6</p> <p>3:45pm Bowling @ Denison</p> <p>4:00pm JV BB G/B vs Westwood @ Ida Grove</p> <p>6:00pm BB vs Westwood @ Ida Grove</p> | <p>7</p> <p>*MAT RATS Youth Wrestling Tour- ney @ Odebolt</p> <p>*NW HS Honor Band Concert @ Storm Lake</p> <p>*10:00am WR @ Doug Wood Invi- tational (Manson)</p> <p>*3:00pm BB @ Ponca, Nebraska</p> |
| <p>8</p>  | <p>9</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB Boys vs East Sac Co. @ Odebolt</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB Girls @ Lake View</p> <p>6:30pm School Board Meeting</p> | <p>10</p> <p>6:00pm HS BB vs. Kingsley- Piersen @ Ida Grove</p> | <p>11</p> <p>6:00pm Athletic Booster Club Meeting (HS Library)</p> | <p>12</p> <p>6:00pm BB@ East Sac (Sac City)</p> <p>6:00pm WR @ Kingsley-Pierson</p> <p>7:00pm OA Elementary Winter Concert (3rd-5th grades) @ Odebolt</p> | <p>13</p> <p>*4:00pm Bowling vs MMC-RU @ Ida Grove</p> <p>*4:00pm MS BB Girls @ Odebolt</p> <p>*5:00pm T.A.G. Soup Supper @ HS Cafeteria</p> <p>*6:00pm BB vs West Monona @ Ida Grove</p> | <p>14</p> <p>ACT Testing</p> <p>12:00pm WR @ E-Hawk Invitational (Emmetsburg)</p> |
| <p>16</p>  | <p>16</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB Boys @ Sloan</p> <p>5:00pm JV WR Tourney @ Sergeant Bluff</p> <p>7:00pm HS Winter Music Con- cert@ IG</p> | <p>17</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB Boys vs Kuemper @ Odebolt</p> <p>4:00pm MS BB Girls @ Storm Lake St. Mary's</p> <p>6:00 BB vs. Newell-Fonda @ Ida Grove</p> | <p>18</p>  | <p>19</p> <p>High School Semester Tests</p> <p>*3:45pm MS BB Boys @ ArWeVa (Westside)</p> <p>*3:45pm MS BB Girls vs. ArWeVa @ Odebolt</p> <p>*6:00pm WR @ Sloan</p> <p>*7:00pm BCIG Elem. Concert @ HS</p> <p>*6:00pm JVR BB Girls @ Mapleton</p> <p>*7:30pm JVR BB Boys @ Mapleton</p> | <p>20</p> <p>High School Semester Tests</p> <p>*WR @ Battle of Waterloo Duals (Waterloo)</p> <p>*4:00pm Bowling vs LeMars @ IG</p> <p>*4:00pm JV G/B BB vs. RV @ IG</p> <p>*5:00pm FFA Soup Supper @ HS</p> <p>*6:00pm BB vs Ridge View @ IG</p> | <p>21</p> <p>WR @ Battle of Waterloo</p>  |
| <p>24</p>  | <p>24</p>  | <p>25</p>  | <p>26</p>  | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>28</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



WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!



OA Central Office

712-668-2289

BCIG Central Office

712-364-3687

OABCIG High School

712-364-3371

OABCIG Middle School

712-668-2827

OA Elementary School

712-668-2827

BCIG Elementary School

712-364-2360

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

“Teaching candidates must hold a valid Iowa Teaching License. We look for energetic teachers who have a passion for students, helping them achieve their highest level of ability and potential through student centered classroom activities, assignments, relationships, participation and feedback. The OA and BCIG School Districts are focused on guided reading, CAFE, the RTI process and differentiated instruction through collaborative work within Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). Teachers must have the ability to communicate with all stakeholders and use technology effectively for instruction, integration within curriculum, record keeping and other educational tasks.”

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.