From the Desk of the Big Tooth:  
Mrs. Adams, Principal

No matter what your memories are of school days gone by, there can be little debate about today’s need for improved building security. Meeting the need to protect students, staff and visitors requires the effective implementation of access control measures. As a proactive measure to provide a more physically safe and secure learning environment, the Omaha Public School district continues to improve safety initiatives. In recent years, security personnel have been added to the building to make rounds and monitor the campus. In addition, cameras have been installed around the perimeter of the building to screen activity outside the building. At Boyd, we have installed shades in the main building classrooms that allow building occupants a view of outside activity without outside visitors looking in. Visitors are required to check in through a check-in system that records entrance and exit. All of these are in place to support a part of the district mission to provide a “Safe Learning Environment.”

The most recent measure has been to install a monitoring system that restricts entrance to the building during the school day. As a result, in the near future, ALL doors to Boyd Elementary will be locked after 9:30. This includes the main entrance to the building. A monitoring device will allow security to observe who is requesting entrance to the building at the primary portable entrance, the cafeteria entrance and the main entrance. Upon request (an alert), the door will be electronically released to allow entry. There will be no other entrances that are accessible during the day, other than during recess, the door to the blacktop playground will be opened. Following lunch recess, the door will again be locked.

Training is yet to take place, but the wiring is being completed on the system, which will be up and running soon. At Boyd we are so fortunate to have a community that monitors and reports activity beyond the norm to the school. As more information comes forth regarding the date of active implementation, you, the stakeholders will be provided that information. Thank you so much for all you do to help us make certain our students come to school with a mindset for learning and feel they are in a physically safe place to explore and learn.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

This year’s Grandparent’s Luncheon will take place on two different dates. Wednesday, Nov. 20th for the PreK-2nd grades & Thursday, Nov. 21 for the 3rd-6th grades.

Details to follow soon!

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:
MRS. STREETER, 4TH GRADE

It’s hard to believe that we are already drawing close to the end of the first quarter. The students in room four have been working hard so far this year. We spent the first few weeks getting to know each other and establishing procedures and routines. Now we are working on learning the third grade curriculum. The students have been introduced to place value, rounding, and addition and subtraction concepts in math. In science, we have been learning all about weathering, erosion, and glaciers. We are also learning to identify characters, setting, and plot in reading using various fiction and nonfiction texts. We’ve covered so much in the short amount of time that we’ve been in school already, and there is still so much more to go. I hope the students are just as excited as I am to see what the rest of the year has in store for us.

I would like to take a moment to say thank you to the parents for your support in being a part of the educational team, and I look forward to seeing you at conferences in a couple of weeks.
Dear Parents:

You have read all the stories and seen the headlines: food allergies are a growing concern in schools across America. Millions of children—children who are perfectly healthy and normal in every other way—must watch every single bite they eat, or risk suffering a severe or even life threatening reaction. In fact food allergies claim over 200 lives and are responsible for over 30,000 emergency room visits each year. A major health issue such as this one needs to be taken very seriously, and it has always been the policy of this school district to make the safety and well being of our students our top priority. Here are a few guidelines recommended:

- Students eating peanuts or peanut butter productions for breakfast or lunch should wash their hands with soap and water before attending class.
- If you have any questions or concerns about food allergy related issues throughout the school year, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs. Kafka RN, School Nurse

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**PTA NEWS**

**Fundraiser Pick-up**

Be sure to mark Thursday, November 7th on your calendar for the Fundraiser Pick-up. You can pick up your items between the hours 3:30 and 6:00 PM. Just a warning, right after school is very busy, so be sure to give yourself some extra time if you plan to pick up at that time. We need volunteers to help with pick-up. Please call contact us at boyd_pta@yahoo.com or contact Larry Davenport at 402-572-8876.

**Family Dance**

This year's Family Dance is on Friday, November 8th 6:00-8:00 PM! If you would like to help in the planning or volunteer to help at the dance, contact Larry Davenport, PTA President.

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Do you shop at HyVee? This year the Boyd Robotics program will be participating in the HyVee CASH for STUDENTS program. Send in your HyVee receipts and turn them into the bucket by the office to help us raise money to buy parts and attend competitions. Go Boyd Bots!