BOYD BEACON
Omaha Public Schools

Elaine Adams, Principal
Scott Hilger, Asst. Principal
www.ops.org/elementary/boyd

September 25, 2014

BOYD BEAVERS
UPCOMING EVENTS:
September 25—Extra Specials 4:00-5:00
September 25—Read to Succeed 4:00-5:00
September 26—FUNDRAISER
ORDERS DUE!
September 26—Meal applications for Free & Reduced Lunch are due.

***Students who have not filled out a NEW 2014-2015 application prior to date above will become full price paid lunches.
September 30—Extra Specials 4:00-5:00
September 30—Math Club 4:00-5:00
September 30—Math Team 4:00-5:00
October 1—Robotics 4:00-6:00
October 1—Extra Specials 4:00-5:00

Beaver Parents & Students!
Please save your aluminum can tabs for one of our own 2nd grade students, Cooper Stiles. Cooper would like to take these with him on his next appointment at the Shriner’s Hospital. The deadline is Oct. 17.

Thank you for your support!

Greetings Boyd Beaver family,

The school year is off to a fantastic start! My favorite portion of the school day is seeing and greeting the students of Boyd Elementary each morning. However, a close second is spending time with the students in the cafeteria. Mr. Hilger is improving his skill set of opening a variety of drinks and food containers. But, most important of all is what’s happening in our classrooms!

Recently, our 3-6th grade students completed their Acuity Pre-Screen assessment in Reading and Math. Acuity is an online testing system that is aligned to the Nebraska State Reading and Math Standards. Two-thirds of the Acuity pre-screen assessment is based on the previous grade’s standards. Students will take this assessment again in February, which is named Acuity Mid-Year assessment. The mid-year assessment is completely grade-level material. Acuity monitors student progress between the pre-screen and mid-year testing with a “student growth report”. The student growth report indicates individual growth between the two tests, and typically will show results from the mid-year test taken in the previous grade level. Lastly, acuity gives teachers the opportunity to focus on standards in need of improvement to prepare for the NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability tests) tests in March. Acuity correlates a projection to potential NeSA achievement. Please don’t hesitate to contact me to discuss your student’s growth report.

New this year, our 2nd grade students will take an online assessment called “NWEA/MAP” (Northwest Evaluation Association—Measures of Academic Process). The NWEA/MAP is an online adaptive test that is used to determine the student’s instructional level. The assessment presents students with engaging, age-appropriate content. As a student responds to the test questions, the test responds to the student, adjusting up or down in difficulty. Second grade students will take a NWEA/MAP math and reading assessment. Each assessment is projected to last approximately 30-60 minutes and will be taken during the weeks of September 29 and October 10. The second grade students will also take the NWEA/MAP test May 4-19, to demonstrate within grade progress.

Our Kindergarten and 1st grade students recently completed the “K-1” reading assessment. The K-1 reading assessment provides data for teachers to guide instructional planning. Students in Kindergarten answered questions on letters, sounds, high frequency words, initial sounds, blending, segmenting, rhyming, writing, and writing picture names. 1st grade answered questions on blending, segmenting, high frequency words, phonograms, and vowel clusters. The “K-1” reading assessment will be given a second time April 13-May 15 to measure growth. In addition to the reading assessment, Kindergarten and 1st grade will take a math assessment (April 13-May 15) focusing on number systems, math skills, and computation.

Let’s continue to work together to improve the success of our students. Every person is a piece of the puzzle! Please connect with your child’s teacher, myself, and/or Mrs. Adams to discuss the assessments, your student’s results, and strategies to progress.

Go Beavers!
Scott Hilger
Assistant Principal
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CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:
MRS. JAEKE, 1st GRADE, ROOM 11

Wonderful things have been happening in room 11. The first graders are reading up a storm, solving addition and subtraction problems, discovering that they are scientists, and learning how to be great citizens. Oh, I should also mention that you could often hear someone singing on a karaoke machine during our Daily 5 Reading stations! It sure is a fun way to read!

Next week we are starting an apple unit. We are going to do science experiments, make predictions and observations, learn about life cycles and seasons, and do some fact writing. There is plenty of learning and fun happening in Mrs. Jaeke’s first grade classroom. Stop by anytime and check it out!!

GET YOUR SPIRIT ON!

Welcome back Beaver families! The PTA is kicking off the school year with a Boyd Spirit Gear Drive. Items included for purchase will be t-shirts, hoodies, polos, zip up hoodies & much more! Please stop and look at the new Spirit Gear in the glass display case across from the library. Fliers will be sent home on Friday, Sept. 12. This sale ends Sept. 30, 2014. Monies raised by purchases help to pay for buses for field trips, offset admission costs on certain field trips and other school projects that help with our students’ education.

Show your support! Order from our custom flyer or online and wear your spirit with pride!

Www.spiritgeardirect.com
Thank you Boyd PTA

NOTES FROM THE NURSE!

To Parents/Guardians of Kindergarten Students:
Nebraska Law requires a Physical Exam and a Vision Exam (which can be part of the physical exam) upon entry into school. This is due November 1st. If you have not completed both, please make an appointment to complete this now. If you have forgotten to turn in the papers, please do so as soon as possible. (If your child got immunizations for Kindergarten, it is often done at the Physical Exam. Some people have turned in the immunizations, but not the Physical Exam, so please double check.)

To Parents/Guardians of Pre-K Students:
Nebraska Law requires a Physical Exam upon entry into school. This is due November 1st. Please turn in the papers as soon as possible. If you have not yet made an appointment, please do so.

To Parents/Guardians of Students NEW to NEBRASKA:
Nebraska Law requires a Physical Exam within 60 days of entry. We are approaching 60 days, so please make those appointments, and turn in the Physical Exam form from your Health Care Provider.