UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 10—Read to Succeed 4:15-5:15

Dec. 10—Winter Program 1:30 > Last names beginning A-G. Band & Strings perform.

Dec. 10—Basketball game @ Chandler View 4:30

Dec. 11—Winter Program 9:30 > Last names beginning H-O. 1:30 > Last names beginning P-Z. No Strings perform on this day. Band performs in the A.M. performance only.

Dec. 16—Robotics 4:30-6:30

Dec. 16—Basketball practice 4:15-5:15

Dec. 16—Mrs. Prentis & Mrs. Wellendorf's class field trip 9:45-2:00.

Dec. 17—Read to Succeed 4:15-5:10

Dec. 17—Family Dine-Out Night at Cane's 7060 Dodge St. 4:00-9:00 pm

Classroom Spotlight:
Mrs. Hollendieck, 6th Grade, P01

Seasons Greetings from fifth grade! It has been a great start to the year as our fifth graders have leaped into the new science curriculum. The students were apprehensive about writing in their new consumable book, but they adapted quickly.

In addition to the new science curriculum, we completed the study of the Mayans, Aztecs, and Incas in social studies. The students really enjoyed discovering the disparities between men and women, and ethnic races in Ancient times, compared to today. These discussions have revealed a quest for equality for all. Our revelations will lead us into great conversations during Black History Month, in January.

In conclusion, we continue to work towards our reading goals this year. To encourage reading, the fifth graders will be challenged to access Study Island over the winter break. They will have several activities that will enhance their reading skills, and they include games at the end of each lesson that is successfully completed. The Study Island website can be accessed at home or even at the library: www.studyisland.com. Modern technology has certainly made educational resources more accessible. So, do not be surprised if your student comes home begging to read more!

We hope you enjoyed the winter program, and we are excited to see what the New Year will bring. As the Fijian natives from the country of Fiji would say...

Ni sa bula vinaka (pronounced as nee-sahm-bula-veenaka), which means wishing you happiness and good health.

Winter Program

The Boyd Winter Program is fast approaching. Please note all students perform at all three performances. We split up the audiences alphabetically to ensure seating for all. Please come when is most convenient for your schedule. Here are the dates and times:

For student with last names beginning with A-G
December 10th at 1:30 p.m.

For Students with last names beginning with H-O
December 11th at 9:30 a.m.

For Students with last names beginning with P-Z
December 11th at 1:30 p.m.

PARENTS OF BAND/STRING STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE:

BAND students will perform the afternoon of Dec. 10th at 1:30 p.m.

They will perform during the 9:30 performance on Dec. 11th. No Band at the 1:30 performance on Dec. 11th.

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STRING students will perform the afternoon of Dec. 10th at 1:30 p.m.

There is not a strings performance on Dec. 11th as their instructor has performances at other schools.
Thanks to everyone who participated in the gingerbread house decorating last week. It was a fun family night with a great turnout.

Also in celebration of winter, the PTA will be selling Snow Buddies – grab bags of snowy surprises – for just $1. Order forms were sent home. Orders and payment will be taken through Tuesday, Dec. 15. Snow Buddies will be distributed on Thursday, Dec. 17.

**Dine Out:** Boyd is partnering with area restaurants for “dine out” nights that support PTA activities. The next one will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17 at Raising Cane’s, 7060 Dodge St. Mention Boyd Elementary School and 15% of your bill will be donated to the PTA.

**Box Tops/Labels:** The PTA collects Box Tops and Labels for Education as an additional source of income to support its programs. There is a collection box near the front desk. Box Tops and Labels can also be given to your child’s teacher. (Please check the expiration date on these clippings before turning them in.)

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**Boyd’s Kindergarten Roundup for the 2016-17 school year will be held Friday, January 22, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.**

**If you have a child or know of a child that will turn age 5 on or before July 31, 2016 please call the office at 402-572-8928.**

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**APPROPRIATE ATTIRE:**

The weather is changing, bringing the need for warmer coats, hats & gloves. Students will continue to go outside for recess as long as the weather permits. Be sure they are prepared for the outdoor temperatures during recess, and before & after school!

Thank you
SCHOOL CHOICE FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

January, 2016, starts the annual school selection application process for the 2016-17 school year. Students enrolled in a transition grade (last grade at the current school), will receive a selection application to participate in the school choice process for the next school year. The School Selection process is guided by the Student Assignment Plan for the Omaha Public Schools.

School Selection Guarantee under the Student Assignment Plan:
Elementary and Middle school students are guaranteed placement in their neighborhood (Home Attendance Area) school assigned by residential address.

School Choice under the Student Assignment Plan:
Families may apply for their child to attend any OPS school. Approval of a request depends on the availability of space at the student’s grade level in the requested school and these priorities:
With limited exceptions, OPS students may continue to attend their current school. Possible exceptions include children attending a school with extremely high enrollment who move out of the attendance area (such as Castelar or Gomez), or Kindergarten-eligible children who currently attend Pre-Kindergarten and Head Start programs that are not located in the neighborhood school. They may apply through selection for placement in the non-neighborhood school however, capacity may limit their selection.

After neighborhood students, the priority for approval is for a student whose sibling now attends and will continue to attend the requested school. Approval is based on available space and is not guaranteed.

The next priority will be given to a student who resides within the Omaha Public Schools and who will enhance the socioeconomic diversity of the requested school. A student who will not enhance the socioeconomic diversity of a school may be approved if space is available.

Transportation:
Transportation provisions included in the current Student Assignment Plan for 2016-17 are designed to support the goal of increasing socioeconomic diversity in every school and to assist families whose children attend the neighborhood elementary or middle school but live more than 1.5 miles from the school.

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATIONS will be distributed at school in January, 2016 to all incoming KG children now enrolled in Head Start or PK and to children in the last grade level of their school (GR 4, 5, or 6). Generic School Choice Applications will also be available at every school and at the Student Placement office at TAC during the month of January.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECRUITMENT LETTERS will be mailed in December to families of students currently in the last grade level of their school. The purpose of the letter is to provide information about middle schools and their respective Open House dates. Families are encouraged to request theme-based middle schools through the School Choice process in order for their children to benefit from the innovative curricula and diverse environments of these schools.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UPS will be held in January, 2016. Please attend Round-Up at your neighborhood school based on your residential address. School Selection Applications will be available at Round-Up and throughout the month of January for families who wish to request a non-neighborhood school (s). Round-Up dates will be posted on the OPS Web page or check the date with your neighborhood school.

If you have questions about the Omaha Public Schools Student Assignment Plan or the School Choice process, please contact the Student Placement Office at (402) 557-2710