UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept. 17—Read to Succeed 4:15-5:10
Sept. 17—Pre-K Family Fun Day
Sept. 18—NO SCHOOL—ALL OPS
Sept. 21—NO SCHOOL—ELEMENTARY ONLY
Sept. 24—Read to Succeed 4:15-5:00
Sept. 24.—KDG field trip 12:00-2:00
Sept. 25—Meal applications for Free & Reduced Lunch are due.

***Students who have not filled out a NEW 2015-2016 application prior to date above will become full price paid lunches.

Sept. 24—McTeachers Night 5:00-8:00
@ McDonald’s 9009 Military Rd. 10% of sales returned to Boyd!
Sept. 29—Math Club 4:15-5:10
Sept. 30—Mrs. Prentis & Mrs. Wellendorf’s Class field trip 11:30-1:45

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:
Ms. Austerman, 3rd grade, Room 2

The 3rd graders in room 2 have been busy beavers during our first month of school! While learning the many procedures and expectations of the classroom, we’ve enjoyed getting to know each other and building our classroom community. We’re discovering new ways to learn that challenge us and assist us in becoming critical and creative thinkers.

Thus far we’ve worked on mastering addition and subtraction facts, understanding the different elements of a story, discovering the many components of our community, and examining the role of a scientist. We’ve been tackling the rigorous curriculum by employing higher levels of thinking and working collaboratively. Collaborative work is a valuable method of learning that will play a major role in our classroom throughout the year.

Students are also becoming proficient at taking assessments on the computers. Technology is a powerful educational tool and we are using it as much as possible to aid us in accessing our curriculum.

In room 2 we strongly believe that self-assessment and reflection is a key element in the learning process. This practice has been beneficial in creating and pursuing meaningful goals that help us develop academically, emotionally, and socially. The responsibilities of a third grader are plentiful, but beavers in room 2 are rising to the occasion!

Dear Parent or Guardians,

Please check your student’s backpacks this afternoon as there are some very important papers being sent home today.

- First quarter Progress Reports for students in grades 3-6th.
- K-1 Assessments, current students in grades 1-2. These reports contain the individual student’s 2014-15 K-1 Assessment results in the subject areas of reading and mathematics. As you know, students who are performing at or above grade level have achieved proficient or advanced performance levels.
- MAP - current students in grade 3. The NWEA/MAP reports contain the individual student’s MAP scores in both reading and mathematics for the 2014-15 school year. Each student report includes a legend printed on the back.
- NeSA, current students in grades 4-6. You are receiving a copy of your son/daughter’s NeSA state test results administered in April 2015. NeSA stands for Nebraska State Accountability. The NeSA state tests are intended to provide statewide comparability of Nebraska students who are in grades 3 through 8 and 11. It is part of the mandated testing required by state and federal guidelines. The results provide one snapshot of your child’s performance and are reported using a scale score that indicates your child’s performance level. NeSA has three Performance Levels: Exceeds the Standards, Meets the Standards, and Below the Standards. As no single test score can tell the full story about a student, it is important to use a variety of measures to look at the progress your child has made. Your son/daughter’s teacher is a valuable source of information and uses daily observations along with classroom assessments to develop an instructional plan to promote your child’s growth.

The Omaha Public Schools values your participation in your child’s educational experience. After reviewing your child’s NeSA reports, please let us know if you have questions.
The Boyd PTA’s fall fundraiser of Red Wheel food products concludes today (Thursday, Sept. 17). Please be sure to turn your child’s order form in to his or her teacher. **Items will be available for pickup from 3:15 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 8.** As many items come frozen, all orders must be picked up at this time.

**Dine Out:** Boyd is partnering with area restaurants for “dine out” nights that benefit the PTA. These will be held the fourth Thursday of each month. **The first “dine out” night will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24 at the McDonalds at 9009 Military Road.** The PTA will receive 10 percent of all sales, and all students in the class the highest attendance that evening will get a coupon for a free Happy Meal or Value Meal. We hope to see you there!

**School Store:** The PTA will host a “school store” featuring Boyd-branded merchandise, including shirts for $11, water bottles for $2, and wrist bands, pen/pencil set, Halloween Smencils and Smickers (scented stickers) for $1 each. **Each classroom will have an opportunity to shop at the store the morning of Friday, Sept. 25.**

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**COUNSELOR’S CORNER**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Daily school attendance is very important and an expectation of the Omaha Public School District. School starts at 8:50 a.m. and dismisses at 4:05 p.m. daily. When your child misses school, is late, or picked up early for any reason, they miss out on valuable learning opportunities. Chronic absences or tardies can have a negative affect on your child’s school performance.

In addition to absences marked for full or partial days, **students who arrive late to school, leave for a period of time during the day, or leave early from school for any reason, will be counted as absent for the instructional minutes missed** on that day. Reasons such as medical appointments or daycare pick-up prior to dismissal will be counted as time absent. Minutes missed will affect the 100% Attendance lists.

By law, all Nebraska schools are required to provide early interventions to prevent students from missing too many days of school. Additionally, schools are required to contact parents/guardians when students miss the equivalent of five, ten, or fifteen days. The District notifies the County Attorney when a student misses the equivalent of 20 days, and then the County Attorney decides whether to dismiss, divert for counseling, or prosecute the case.

If your child must routinely visit the doctor, or has to be absent for any extended period of time due to extended or chronic illness, **please bring a doctor’s notice of your child’s visit or required absence.** These days are counted as a medically-excused absence but do count towards total days missed.

All of the teachers here at Boyd feel that attendance is very important to be successful in school and life. We want our students to work really hard to be in school “All Day, Everyday”. Please help us support our students by getting them here on time and daily.

If you need assistance with attendance issues, please contact Ms. Redinbaugh at 402-572-8928.