



Dec. 20—2nd Quarter ends. Report cards sent home.

Dec. 23 thru Jan. 6—Winter Break



Jan. 6—No school

Jan. 7—Students return to school.

Jan. 8—Boys basketball orientation 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Jan. 13—Good News Club 4:05-5:30

Jan. 15—2nd grade field trip

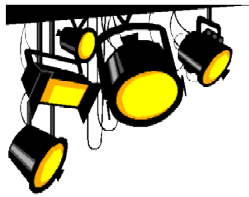
Jan. 20—No school in honor of Martin Luther King day

Jan. 21—Early Childhood work day. No Head Start or PK classes on this day



Briana McLeod-Larsen, Principal  
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December 20, 2019



## CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:

### Mrs. Bryan ~ 1st Grade

Mrs. Bryan's First Grade students hope you are having a wonderful holiday season! We can't believe how fast the year has gone already. In Reading, we have enjoyed so many great stories and books. Examples of good writing not only makes reading interesting, it also helps us to improve as writers ourselves. We love to read with our families every chance we get. (Hint, hint. This is a great way to spend some time during Winter Break).

We have been working hard in Math, as well, and have mastered multiple strategies for tackling addition and subtraction problems with numbers up to twenty, such as: counting on, counting back, ten frames, related math facts, doubles facts, etc. Add to this everything we are learning in Science, Social Studies, Writer's Workshop, and Specials (Music, Art, Library, Computer Lab, Guidance, and P.E.), and you'll have an idea of how busy and rewarding it is to be in First Grade!

### Kindergarten Round-Up!

Thursday, January 30, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Items necessary for registration are birth certificate, immunization records, proof of address (M.U.D., O.P.P.D., Cox Cable or lease/purchase agreement).





## Warm Heart Wednesday!

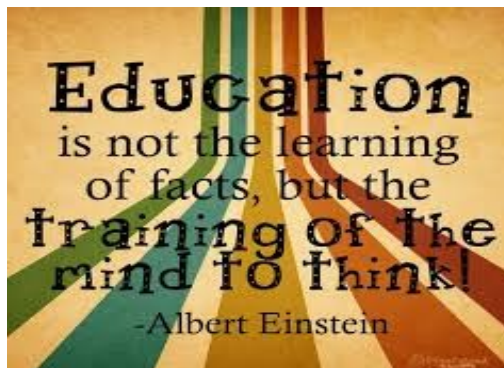
Student: Cassius Mack

Nominated by: Mrs. Larsen 12/18/19

It is my honor to recognize Cassius as a recipient of the coveted Warm Heart Wednesday Award. First, Cassius has an infectious smile that instantly makes you smile in return. He is a true leader. Cassius has led his class to Strive for 95 and win the Boyd Perfect Attendance Award TWICE before another class won once. However, when a classmate was ill and needed to go home, Cassius told him not to worry about perfect attendance, his health is more important.

Cassius also focuses on his learning.

You rock!



## Everyone Provides the Strength of Support

**Who are the people that really support you in your life?** These people are important champions. They cheer us on when things go well. They stick with us when life throws us a curve ball. They listen. They ask questions. They smile. They hug. They're people we like to be around.

What kind of champion are you for your child? Are you a fair-weather supporter? A rain-or-shine supporter? What's your unique way of supporting and loving your child?

Your love and support for your child are critical. But you can't go it alone. You need others. Your child needs others. How supported and cared for does your child feel by teachers, neighbors, coaches, grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents of their friends, youth workers and mentors? These other key adults are important players in helping your child jump over the hurdles in life. In fact, the more supportive adults your child has, the better. And by nurturing and loving all the children in our communities, we help them grow to be loving, caring people themselves.

# SCHOOL CHOICE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

**January 2020**, starts the annual school choice application process for the 2020-21 school year. Students enrolled in a transition grade (last grade at the current school), will receive a school choice application.

The Omaha Public School’s Student Assignment Plan for elementary and middle school students called the Partner Plan (grades K-8) consists of eight (8) elementary partner zones and four (4) middle school partner zones within the district. Your residential address and corresponding neighborhood school determine your partner zone. A student’s residence and distance to school determines transportation eligibility. **If you have had a change of address, please contact your child’s school immediately as this could impact your Partner Zone and transportation eligibility.**

Elementary Partner Zone 1	Elementary Partner Zone 2	Elementary Partner Zone 3	Elementary Partner Zone 4
Belvedere PK-5 Florence K-5 Fullerton PK-4 Masters K-5 Prairie Wind K-5 Saddlebrook PK-5 Wakonda PK-5	Boyd PK-5 Lothrop PK-4 Miller Park PK-5 Minne Lusa PK-5 Pinewood PK-5 Ponca K-5 Sherman PK-5 Springville K-5	Benson West K-5 Central Park PK-5 Dodge PK-5 Hartman PK-5 Mount View PK-5 Rose Hill K-5 Western Hills K-6	Adams K-5 Druid Hill PK-5 Fontenelle PK-5 King PK-5 Picotte PK-4 Skinner PK-5 Standing Bear PK-4 Sunny Slope PK-5
<i>Wilson Focus will continue as a District wide Specialty School. Families may apply to Wilson Focus starting in grade three. Applications available through the website at <a href="http://wilsonfocus.ops.org">wilsonfocus.ops.org</a> or by calling the school at 531-299-2260.</i>			
Elementary Partner Zone 5	Elementary Partner Zone 6	Elementary Partner Zone 7	Elementary Partner Zone 8
Belle Ryan PK-6 Catlin K-5 Dundee K-6 Field Club PK-5 Jackson PK-6 Liberty PK-6 Walnut Hill PK-6 Washington PK-6	Conestoga PK-6 Edison PK-5 Franklin PK-6 Gifford Park K-6 Harrison PK-6 Joslyn PK-5 Kellom PK-6 Kennedy PK-5	Ashland Park/Robbins PK-6 Beals PK-6 Crestridge K-5 Gateway PK-6 Highland PK-6 Indian Hill PK-6 Jefferson K-6 Oak Valley PK-5	Bancroft PK-6 Castelar PK-5 Chandler View PK-6 Columbian PK-5 Gilder K-6 Gomez Heritage PK-4 Pawnee PK-6 Spring Lake PK-4

**Middle School Partner Zones**  
**Zone 1:** Davis (6-8), Hale (6-8), King Science\* (5-8), McMillan (6-8)  
**Zone 2:** Alice Buffett (5-8), King Science\* (5-8), Monroe (6-8), Morton (6-8)  
**Zone 3:** Beveridge^ (6-8), King Science\* (5-8), Lewis & Clark (6-8), Norris (6-8)  
**Zone 4:** Beveridge^ (6-8), Bryan (7-8), King Science\* (5-8), Marrs (5-8)

\***King Science** is a district magnet school and is therefore a partner school in each zone; however, students who live in the King Science neighborhood are in partner Zone 2 and only eligible for transportation to schools in that zone.  
 ^**Beveridge** is a shared partner school in zones 3 & 4; however, students who live in the Beveridge neighborhood are in partner zone 3 and are only eligible for transportation to schools in that zone.

**Visit: [sap.ops.org](http://sap.ops.org) to determine your Partner Zone and transportation eligibility.**

### SCHOOL CHOICE UNDER THE PARTNER 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:*

Neighborhood school (guaranteed placement).

Siblings residing within the Partner Zone are selected first, followed by siblings residing outside the Partner Zone (not eligible for transportation).

Students residing in the Partner Zone. OPS remains committed to diversity in our schools. Applications are prioritized within the Partner Zone between schools with significantly different neighborhood characteristics.

**Students residing outside the Partner Zone (not eligible for transportation). Applications are prioritized for any remaining space between schools with significantly different neighborhood characteristics.**

**TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY** (The school choice application must be received by January 29, 2020)

Students are eligible for transportation IF they attend their neighborhood school and reside more than 1.0 mile from their elementary school or more than 1.5 miles from their middle school.

Students are eligible for transportation IF they attend one of their Partner Zone schools and reside more than 1.0 mile from the elementary school or 1.5 miles from the middle school.

**Students are NOT eligible for transportation IF they attend any school outside of their Partner Zone.**

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD INFORMATION**

If your child is currently enrolled in an early childhood program and will be age-eligible for kindergarten for the 2020-21 school year, she/he will be enrolled at the neighborhood school. If you would like to be considered for placement at a non-neighborhood school, you must complete the school choice application that will be provided by your child's current school.

**KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UPS** will be held in January 2020. **Please attend Round-Up at your neighborhood school based on your residential address.** School Choice 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.

**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.