

### SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Woodside Middle School

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

### January 2017 Newsletter

### **Upcoming Events**

### Woodside Middle School

FEBRUARY 2, 2017 Woodside PTO Meeting in Library, 6:30 PM

**FEBRUARY 9, 2017** 8th Grade History Day Exhibit, 5:30 PM in Woodside South Entrance

FEBRUARY 10, 2017 3rd Quarter Mid-Term

FEBRUARY 13, 2017

- Professional Development Day; NO SCHOOL
- School Board Meeting, 6 PM at Saydel District Office

#### FEBRUARY 20, 2017

8th Grade Parent Meeting, Course Registration in High School Auditorium

FEBRUARY 21, 2017 Festival of Music Concert, 6:30 PM in High School Auditorium

MARCH 2, 2017 Parent Teacher Conferences, 4 - 8 PM

MARCH 7, 2017 Parent Teacher Conferences, 4 - 8 PM

MARCH 10-17, 2017 Spring Break; NO SCHOOL

### **School Hours**

WOODSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL 7:45 AM - 2:45 PM Wed.: 8:45 AM - 2:45 PM

NOTE: Each Wednesday school begins one hour later for teacher in-service.

MISSION: Serving the Unique Learning Needs of Each & Every Student

### Principal's Message

# Eligibility for Extra Curriculars at Middle School?

Over the last two years, Woodside has taken steps to increase student involvement in activities beyond the school day. In past newsletters, I have highlighted the opportunities our students have to be involved after school. We encourage students to participate in athletics, fine arts, and clubs.



Principal Joshua Heyer

While involvement in sports, fine arts, and clubs is

important, it is essential students remember their number one responsibility is maintaining good grades. To support the student first and extra curricular second mindset, Woodside has emphasized academic eligibility this year. I would like to highlight our eligibility policy so students and parents know the impact poor grades will have on their after school participation.

Grades are reviewed every 4.5 weeks to determine eligibility. A student is deemed ineligible when they are receiving an "F" in any of their courses. It is the student's responsibility to work with the teacher to improve their grade. As soon as the student has increased the grade to a passing mark, they are eligible to participate in competitions excluding end of semester reports. At the semester, if a student is receiving an "F" in any of their courses, they are declared ineligible for 30 days. Eligibility includes any school-sponsored after school activity. Students can still attend practice, but are not allowed to participate in competitions.

Grades will be checked every 4.5 weeks with the following consequence for failing grade(s):

- 1st quarter mid-term: remain ineligible until the instructor(s) indicates a passing grade
- End of 1st quarter: remain ineligible until the instructor(s) indicates a passing grade
- 2nd quarter mid-term: remain ineligible until the instructor(s) indicates a passing grade
- End of 1st Semester: see State Policy
- 3rd quarter mid-term: remain ineligible until the instructor(s) indicates a passing grade
- End of 3rd quarter: remain ineligible until the instructor(s) indicates a passing grade

Continued on page 2...

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### Principal's Letter continued from page 1...

- 4th quarter mid-term: remain ineligible until the instructor(s) indicates a passing grade
- End of 2nd Semester: see State Policy

State Policy:

Any student not passing all subjects at the end of the semester will be declared ineligible for the time period in accordance with Department of Education and state association policy. In the absence of the Department of Education and state association guidelines and stipulations, any student not passing all subjects at the end of the semester will be declared ineligible to compete/perform in public events the following semester for 30 calendar days beginning with the finding of the academic ineligibility or the first date which competition is allowed.

To help students maintain good grades, I encourage students and families to take advantage of the following supports at Woodside:

- Check Powerschool on a frequent basis.
- Use any "down time" in student schedule to keep up with outside of class work.
- Stay after school for Wednesday Academic Support.
- Request extra time with a teacher before or after school.

If you have any questions regarding Woodside's eligibility policy or extra supports to assist students with academic progress, please contact me at heyerjoshua@saydel.net or 515-265-3451.

### The Promise of Iowa Campaign

Each year as the legislature comes into session and the topic of education funding arises, the media is flooded with information about our lowa Public Schools. Iowa Schools serve over 480,000 young people in 333 school districts. The Iowa Association of School Boards launched The Promise of Iowa campaign to tell the story of Iowa's public edu



tell the story of Iowa's public education system.

In Saydel and across the state our students achieve at high levels under the supervision of caring staff. The Saydel School Board has signed on to support this effort to tell the true story of our schools and our children. You are encouraged to get involved by finding out more information at www.promiseofiowa.org.

## Students Learn To Work As A Team; Act The Eagle Way At Woodside

By Bobbie Jo Pedersen, Instructional Strategist

Ms. Pedersen's Social Skills class is currently working on The Eagle Way. They are working on how to work as a team, how to make friends, and to make the right choices. We put those skills to great use on Thursday, December 15. The class went to Cornell Elementary to decorate cookies with Mrs. Nelevanko and Ms. Price's classes. This is a popular unit with the students as they not only enjoy going back to Cornell to decorate cookies but they learned about taking turns and how to make friends.





## Living History Farms Visits 5th Grade

Living History Farms visited all 5th grade classrooms recently. Students learned about the way of life of the loway tribe in the 1700's. Students learned about the lifestyle, culture, agriculture, and technology of the time period. They learned about how the tribe utilized natural resources in order to survive and what contributions French traders had for the tribe. Students made a clay pot and practiced making their own corn husk rope. They also learned an loway song and sang along! The presentations brought Native American culture to life for our students! The program compliments both current work in social studies with Native American tribes and prior work in literacy with our first unit about Native Americans' culture. We all enjoyed the presentations and hands-on learning from Living History Farms! To the right, Lucy Peak studies a bison horn.





From left: Cameron Delude, Gabe Kline, Samantha Jacobs, Eva May-Mitchell, Sam Kost, Tyler Gabor and Kolton Keller study artifacts from the time period.



Trace Slater-Perez makes a pinch-pot.



Frank Gillespie and Hannah Rizzo hold their pinch pots with teacher Mrs. George.



Living History Farms Speaker Jeffrey Nauerth shows Mrs. George how to make corn husk rope.

### Saydel Booster Memberships

Thanks to the following businesses and individuals who support the Saydel Athletic Boosters through membership.

#### **BUSINESS PLATINUM EAGLE**

Chemorse Rising Star/All Iowa Stone & Gutter The Results Group, L.L.C. Iowa Demolition Inc. R Rogers Septic LLC Jason's Lawn & Tree Care Goode Greenhouses Tesdell Electric

#### **BUSINESS GOLD EAGLE**

Heartland Chiropractic & Wellness Ctr. Capital City Equipment Co. Iowa State Bank Affinity Credit Union

#### BUSINESS GREEN EAGLE

Struthers Brothers Kawasaki-Suzuki, Inc.

#### **BUSINESS SILVER EAGLE**

Walker Construction & Painting John Sandin Painting Decarlo Demolition Company Seth Wicks Construction Schneider Graphics Xtreme Liners of Central Iowa

#### INDIVIDUAL GOLD EAGLE

Doug & Lisa Wheeler Kevin & Kelly Schulte Roland & Shari Kouski Randy & Joleen Stephenson Kevin Farnsley Doug & Susan Cline Rollie Madison Brett Hersom Ric Powell

#### INDIVIDUAL SILVER EAGLE

Missy Burr Joshua & Denna Heyer Ruth Kouski

#### **INDIVIDUAL GREEN EAGLE**

Roland & Shari Kouski Brian & Diba VanHouten

#### INDIVIDUAL PLATINUM EAGLE

Corey Myers Scott Myers Kelly & Tana Sprague

#### STAFF DUAL ATHLETIC & MUSIC MEMBERS

Jerry Young Penny Smith Cheri Tingley Caleb Hales Dia Fenton Melissa Sensor Kyle Luttenegger Julie Rolf

### Nurse's Notes:

### When Do I Keep My Child Home From School Due to Illness?

If your child has the sniffles, cough, sore throat or mild congestion and they haven't slowed down at home, they are probably able to participate in school activities. Your child should stay home if they have a fever, are nauseated, vomiting or has diarrhea.

You child can return to school if they are no longer vomiting, and have gone fever free (<100.0) for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.

Students must also stay home for 24 hours after starting medical treatment for pink eye or strep throat.

Frequent hand-washing is the best way to avoid getting sick and spreading illness.

All medications brought to school must be in the original container, whether they are prescription or an over-the-counter medication. This includes cough drops. Also, a signed permission slip must be on file for us to administer the medication. Permission slips can be found in the office and on the Saydel website.

### Sixth Grade Academic Update

By the 6th Grade Team

The 6th Grade Team hopes that our students and families had a wonderful break. We are all ready to jump right back into learning. Second quarter ended January 10.

In English, Language, Arts, we will be finishing the book *Bud, Not Buddy* soon. The students have been learning about the Great Depression through the eyes of a boy their age. They have had wonderful discussions about Hoovervilles, the 1930's GM Sit-Down Strikes, Labor Unions, and all the other hardships Americans faced during the Great Depression.

The students have been exploring the physical landforms, climate, culture, and government of Russia and Eurasian Republics in geography. We will be learning about Sub-Saharan Africa next.

In math, the students have started their unit on integers and rational numbers. They are working with number lines and coordinate grids to deepen their learning of these concepts.

The students are wrapping up their unit on energy in science, and they are excited to start their new unit called vehicles in motion. Their challenge will be to design and build a vehicle that will go straight, far, fast, and will carry a load. We look forward to seeing where their creative minds will take them.

### Woodside ELL Flexes Enjoy Exploring "Figurative Language"

By Mahnaz Shojaie, K-12 ELL Instructor

This school year, we are having ELL Flex classes at Woodside Middle School. Each ELL grade meets daily for about 30 minutes for ELL instruction and ELL skills. The 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th ELL Flex classes have been enjoying exploring figurative language. Our thematic unit stretches over several weeks of instruction. ELLs are learning more about different figurative language, including similes, metaphors, idioms, oxymoron, onomatopoeia, personification, and hyperbole. This has been useful in two ways: 1. Language is being recycled throughout the unit and 2. ELLs are given multiple opportunities to use the new language, engaging in more complex communicative situations that emulate real-life situations.

Cultural differences affect understanding of figurative language, as they do not have a literal translation. ELLs' first L1 has a deep impact on figurative understandings. The challenges that ELLs face when learning to read materials in English is an abundance of idioms and figurative language in English texts and no doubt this can be an arduous task for them.

In order to acquire the skills to navigate within the complex world of English figurative language, ELL students are getting familiar with these challenging figures of speech. Understanding the differences between the major types of figurative language also helps ELLs to use each type more effectively in their writing.

The 6th grade ELL students showed lots of creativity and enthusiasm while working with idioms as they struggled to decode them. We started with raining cats and dogs



and some similar weather related idioms. Beginner levels draw two pictures of each idiom; one with literal meaning and one with figurative meaning. Students made educated guesses on the meanings of new idioms and then searched for the real meanings. Then they thought of a similar idiom in their own native language. They explained the meanings to the rest of the class. The 7th graders wrestled with some more challenging figures of speech such as a William Shakespeare oxymoron. The 5th graders wrote a narrative story using as many literary devices as they learned. The 8th graders had to come up with a simile poem describing them. Our students also made posters of the figurative language of their choice and presented them to their classes.

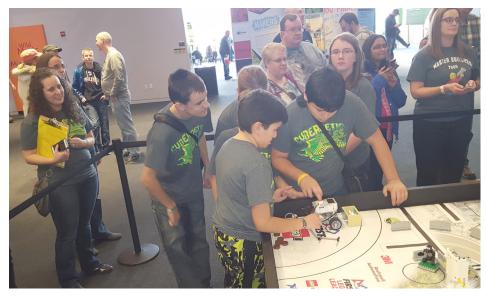
One of the 6th grade ELL student who blurted out "I could eat a horse!" right before lunch realized he was using figurative language! Every time any of my Ell students use figurative language in my classroom, it becomes a teachable moment. In this case, the figurative language lesson plan practically writes itself!

### Band Students Perform for Saydel District Office



Band students from Woodside Middle School performed holiday music at the Saydel District Office. Pictured from left are Rachael Barton, Payton Ballard, Edwin Delgado, Ben Kayser, Justin Scott and Quin Peak.

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### Woodside's Lego League Competes

Voodside Middle School students recently competed in the FIRST Lego League Regional Qualifying Competition at the Science Center of Iowa in Des Moines. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a global non-profit organization dedicated to providing students of all ages opportunities to explore science and technology and their role in modern life. Lego League is FIRST's opportunity for 9-14 year old students, in which students use the LEGO Mindstorms programming language and interface to create robots that compete in a multi-mission Robot Game. In addition to the Robot Game, teams must complete a research project in which they identify a problem related to the year's theme, propose a solution to the problem, and present that solution to groups of adults who might be able to use it. This year's FIRST Lego League theme was "Animal Allies" - students explored the many ways animals and humans interact and how those interactions affect animals, humans, or both. Woodside sent two teams to the Des Moines regional competition - the Cyber Eagles, coached by Matthew Bannerman, and the Cybernetic Eagles, coached by Annie Gallaher. Both teams competed extremely well and showcased their gracious professionalism in working together and staying focused on the tasks at hand through a long day.

### Creating Holiday Keepsakes

F ifth graders at Woodside Middle School were able to spend time recently participating in Snowman Stations. They rotated through eight station activities geared toward reading, math, science and crafts with a winter theme. Fifth graders Stephanie Martinez and Aaron Ellsworth are pictured below creating keepsakes out of felt at their Snowman Stations.



### Woodside Students Build Math Confidence

### By Brooke Knudten, 5-8 Math Interventionist

n my math skills class, I've been working to build students' confidence and show them that math doesn't have to be scary. Many students in the math skills class have the viewpoint that they aren't good in math. I've been working to show them that they ARE good in math, but they may have been looking at things differently, or they simply didn't find their niche yet. Since the beginning of the year, we've been working on various topics, such as building number sense, fractions and algebraic processes. Each day students choose a card when they walk into class. They have to solve the multiplication problem on the card to find their seat for the day.

Every student is then involved with Khan Academy, and they have the opportunity to work at their own pace. Each grade level has specific goals to reach, but students are allowed time to work at a pace that suits them and choose the topics they wish to work on for each day. We have also played games, such as musical chairs, cards and various movement activities. All of these games incorporate math knowledge so the students are learning but still having fun! Right now, students are being empowered by knowing their previous MAP test score, and allowed to set goals for the upcoming MAP test.

We will revisit these scores after testing so they are able to receive immediate feedback on their goals. Overall, my students may not say that math is their favorite subject, but the discussions are becoming more positive, which is a step in the right direction!

## Woodside Middle School 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Intramural Activities

Questions? Email PE Instructor Travis French at

frenchtravis@saydel.net.

There is NO CHARGE

to participate.



Who: Any student at Woodside
What: Dodgeball Tournament: 5 vs. 5 - Teams of 5, can be co-ed
Where: Woodside Gymnasium
When: 3:00-4:30 PM

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament on Tues., Feb. 14, 2017
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament on Wed., Feb. 15, 2017
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament on Thurs., Feb. 16, 2017
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament on Fri., Feb. 17, 2017

#### We want to play Dodgeball!

Our Team Na	.me is			
Player 1		Grade Emerg	ergency Contact & Phone	
Circle One:	Bus Home	Parent Pick-up		
Player 2		Grade Emerg	ergency Contact & Phone	
Circle One:	Bus Home	Parent Pick-up		
Player 3		Grade Emerg	ergency Contact & Phone	
Circle One:	Bus Home	Parent Pick-up		
Player 4		Grade Emerg	ergency Contact & Phone	
Circle One:	Bus Home	Parent Pick-up		
Player 5		Grade Emerg	ergency Contact & Phone	
Circle One:	Bus Home	Parent Pick-up		

# TALON CHALLENGE



Who: Any student at Woodside

**What:** Timed obstacle course challenge combining agility, speed, power, balance. Winner for boys & girls in each grade.

Where: Woodside Gymnasium

- When: 3:00-4:30 PM
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Challenge on Mon., Feb. 20, 2017
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Challenge on Tues., Feb. 21, 2017
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Challenge on Wed., Feb. 22, 2017
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Challenge on Thurs., Feb. 23, 2017

I want to participate in the Talon Challenge!

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact & Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Circle One: Bus Home Parent Pick-up

### PLEASE RETURN THIS SHEET TO MR. FRENCH by Feb. 3.

January 2017 Elementary Physical Activity Calendar
Tuesday
3 Parachute With friend or family member use a bed sheet like a parachute in PE. Lift up and down to move air underneath the sheet.
10 High Knees & Stretch High knees for 30 seconds then stretch a body part. Repeat stretching a new body part each time.
17 Long Jump Pick a starting point and jump as far as you can. Try 3 different times to see how far you can go.
24 <b>Crazy 8's</b> 8 jumping jacks 8 silly shakes (just shake as silly as you can) 8 high knees 8 scissor jumps
30       31       31       31         30       31       Star Jumps       SHAPE America recommends school-age pour favorite r turm on the ground and gently touch ance however e during the ire song!       31       NATIONAL HEALTH OBSERVANCE         x turm on the ground and gently touch ance however e during the ire song!       Tea Cup Tip-ups       SHAPE America recommends school-age children accumulate at least 60 minutes and up to several hours of physical activity should be followed by cool-down stretches that help reduce soreness and avoid injury. Happy       NATIONAL HEALTH OBSERVANCE

### Saydel Community School Food Services

#### A Historical Perspective; Part 1

The National School Lunch Program, funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), has provided millions of children nutritious meals for the past 70 years. In its first year in 1946, the National School Lunch Program served approximately 7.1 million children daily, and today, it serves more than 31.6 million children lunch daily. Similarly, the School Breakfast Program served 1.8 million children in 1975, and today, it serves 13 million children breakfast every day.

**1946**--The National School Lunch Program was formally established in 1946 following World War II when President Harry Truman signed the National School Lunch Act. The National School Lunch Program was implemented because young men drafted into the army were undernourished and lacked the strength needed to fight for our country. Therefore, the mission of the NSLP was to "safeguard the health and wellbeing of the Nation's children."

**1954**-- Congress authorized funds for a Special Milk Program for the National School Lunch Program. This Special Milk Program provided a half pint of milk to school children daily to support healthy growth and development.

**1966**-- The Child Nutrition Act was passed by President Lyndon B. Johnson. This act established a pilot program for the School Breakfast Program. Additionally, in 1968, The Child Nutrition Act was amended to include the Special Food Service Program, which established year-round feeding programs for day cares and a summer feeding program for low-income children.

**1975**-- "Offer vs. Serve" was introduced to encourage schools to give students a choice in meal selection to improve student satisfaction and to reduce food waste. Also, the School Breakfast Program and was made permanent in 1975.

**1980s**-- The 1980's were a tough time for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program as the Reagan Administration cut school funding by one third. Schools were forced to turn to affordable processed foods that were high in fat and lacked adequate nutrition.

**1994**-- The Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act required that all school meals had to conform to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

**1998**-- Congress initiated a pilot fruit and vegetable program.

**21**<sup>st</sup> **Century**-- The mission of the NSLP and SBP has shifted to improving the quality of school food to promote better nutrition in our nation's youth. In 2006, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, offered for elementary schools, was made available in all 50 U.S. states.

Most recently, The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 implemented major updated nutrition standards for the first time in over 15 years. With the newest nutritional standards, the food served in the NSLP and SBP will continue to improve to provide students with the freshest and healthiest food the NSLP has ever seen!

\*Be sure to look for March's issue to learn about the newest regulations passed in the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010!

The National School Lunch program Fact Sheet. U.S. Department of Agriculture. http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/NSLPFactSheet.pdf. Published September 2013. Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 School Meals. U.S. Department of Agriculture. http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/HHFKA\_080112.pdf. Published 2010

#### Foodservice Office:

Visit <u>www.saydel.k12.ia.us</u> for menus and more information Email: sadlerjessy@saydel.net Phone: 515.264.0866 Fax: 515.264.0869 Follow us on Twitter: @saydeldining

### Build a Healthy Lunch



## Woodside Staff Focus

Highlighting staff members new to Woodside Middle School



Name: Kellie Meyer

Position at Woodside: Literacy 8 Teacher

*Family:* "I have a husband, a 16-month-old daughter, and two dogs, an Irish setter and a border collie. We all packed up and moved to Iowa last year when my husband was offered a job at Principal!"

**Previous work/College Experience:** "I started out substitute teaching while I was in Madison, WI, finishing up my teaching license. My first full-time position was at Wauwatosa West High School in Milwaukee. I transferred to Whitnall High School in Greenfield two years later and also began coaching track, which I really enjoyed. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with an English/Creative Writing degree, where I also worked at places like the YMCA and Boys and Girls Club. This is my first middle school job!"

**One thing you have enjoyed about working at Woodside:** "The students! I also love the energy and positive atmosphere in the building."

**One thing you did not realize about Saydel before starting this position:** "I did not know that we would have electronic PBIS tickets and a school store! I also didn't know that we'd have fifth graders in the building. Since I've worked with high school students in the past, they all looked so small to me at first! I think their energy contributes nicely to the overall environment."

**One thing you want others in the community to know about Woodside:** "It is a very positive building with friendly people working in it. Transitioning here has been a smooth process, as everyone is so helpful and willing to both welcome new ideas and share their own. So far, middle school has been my favorite position, and I'm looking forward to the rest of the year!"

Subscribe to receive all of Saydel's newsletters by emailing newsletter@saydel.net.

### SAYDEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Brian Bowman, Board President Jennifer Van Houten, Vice-President Melissa Sassman, Board of Director Henry Wood, Board of Director Chad Vitiritto, Board of Director Doug Kayser, Board of Director Roland Kouski, Jr., Board of Director

Superintendent: Mr. Douglas Wheeler Board Secretary: Beth Vitiritto



School Board meetings are held at the Saydel District Office on the second Monday of each month at 6PM EDUCATION FOR LEADERSHIP; LEARNING FOR LIFE

Woodside Middle School 5810 NE 14th Street Des Moines, IA 50313 515-265-3451

We're on the Web: www.saydel.k12.ia.us

It is the policy of the Saydel Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Julie McKibben, Director of Student Services, 5740 NE 14th Street. Des Moines, IA 50313; mckibbenjulie@saydel.net. Office for Civil Rights, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.