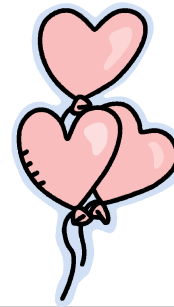


Ponca Public Schools

www.poncaschool.org

February Newsletter 2008



NEW ELEMENTARY GRADE-LEVEL PATTERN RECOMMENDED

After several months of meetings and research, a District Advisory team has made a recommendation to the Ponca Board of Education regarding an elementary grade-level pattern change for the District to begin with the 2008-09 school year. The recommendation made to the Board of Education at the January 21st meeting will affect all elementary students in the Ponca Public School District as follows:

- Students in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade will attend Jackson Elementary School.
- Students in 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grades will attend Ponca Elementary School.

At present, the above is a recommendation to the Board from the Advisory Council. The Board of Education will take official action on this recommendation at their February 21st meeting.

.....

Last spring, the Board of Education charged this Advisory Council with the task of reviewing the effective and efficient use of Jackson Elementary School as a part of the Ponca School District. The focus soon became integrating kindergarten through sixth grades to meet a series of goals that would provide a more consistent and effective educational system for all elementary students in the District. After taking in background information, goals established by the Advisory Council for their task were as follows:

- Provide for more consistent classroom instruction at each elementary grade level.
- Provide for more consistent curriculum presentation at each elementary grade level.
- Make better use of unused classroom space.
- Keep kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades together for social age-level contact.
- Eliminate the combination grade-level classrooms.
- Keep the departmental approach at the 5th and 6th grades in Ponca to allow for a better transition to junior high.
- Attempt to reduce student time on buses by reviewing district routes.
- Provide more rooms at Ponca High School in an attempt to provide additional opportunities for programs and instruction.

The proposed recommendation presents a challenge for the District and for parents. Issues such as transportation of children to their attendance center, the school day, teachers in the classroom, specialty programs, etc., may be of concern to parents. Parents who may be affected by the proposed changes, and may have some questions, are encouraged to call the Superintendent of Schools at 755-5700.

The Ponca Public School requests your help in locating handicapped children. The school implements the Federal Handicapped Childrens' Act (PL 94-142) and Nebraska statute which guarantees a free appropriate educational program for all children between birth and 21 years of age. If you have students or know of any young person who meets these criteria, please contact Superintendent's office

Ponca Pride!!

SPORTSMANSHIP VERY IMPORTANT

Many of you may remember the night our boys basketball team played at Creighton last winter. The game was played during a near-blizzard outside. Afterwards, instead of starting back for Ponca, students and fans delayed until determining if the weather would get any better. It was then that members of the Creighton school and community displayed what sportsmanship and hospitality are all about. Pizza's and movie videos were brought in for the comfort and enjoyment of the Ponca fans. ---- The Creighton boy's basketball team and fans will visit Ponca on Friday, February 15th.

As the regular season for both our girls and boys basketball teams approaches the end, we are now immersed in preparation for tournaments, both conference and District. I am sure that I do not need to remind anyone that Ponca has won the last two (2) Sportsmanship Trophies presented at the Boy's State Basketball Tournaments. The conduct of our team, coaches, students and fans were responsible for these trophies presently sitting in our trophy case.

Winning these two trophies set a standard and an expectation for Ponca sportsmanship. The bar has been set high for our community to live up to, whether at home or visiting another school. We are constantly under scrutiny by opposing schools as to whether we were deserving of the awards, or not.

We need to continue to make that effort to ensure that we display good sportsmanship in our schools. Being good sports isn't always easy because athletics bring out the competitive nature in all of us. But sportsmanship is important for a number of reasons, not just to win a trophy. First, it shows that we have respect for the athletes who put in the hard work and many hours of practice demanded of them – not just “our own” kids, but those from other schools as well. It shows that we can accept decisions of the officials and that we respect the knowledge and strategies of coaches -- men and women who also put in much time and work for the love of the game, certainly not for the financial compensation they receive. Good sportsmanship means we can overcome our own natural biases toward our team and be appreciative of good play on both sides. It shows that we can temper our desire to win and not let that desire turn into irrational behavior. Good conduct at games and meets is important because we are setting an example for children every time we attend an event. Kids tend to emulate the behaviors of adults, especially their parents and relatives - we need to make sure that the examples that we set show responsibility and good judgment.

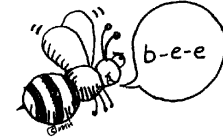
Ponca has a well-deserved, and earned, reputation for the respect, consideration, and responsible behavior that we display at games and events. We all believe that participation in extra-curricular activities helps kids to set individual and team goals, to work with others toward common goals, to persevere, to form trusting relationships with others, and to understand that working for something is a reward in itself. But, if student-athletes and spectators start emulating poor sportsmanship, too often displayed on television, it can have an effect the opposite of that what we want for our kids. Participation in extra-curricular activities helps to build character. Positive character traits generate respect for the individual, team, school and community

---- William F. Thompson, Superintendent

Ponca Pride!!

Notes from Ms. Rinas....

Ponca School Spelling Bee!



The Ponca School Spelling Bee is scheduled for 2:30 p.m in the east gymnasium on February 13, 2008. Students in grades 5-8 write a 50 word spelling test. The students in each grade level with the top five scores on the written test advance to the oral Ponca Spelling Bee. The top five oral spellers compete at the Dixon County Spelling Bee at 1:00 p.m. on February 21 at the Haskell Ag Lab near Concord, NE. The winner of the Dixon County Spelling Bee advances to the Annual Midwest Spelling Bee in Omaha on March 15, 2008. The public is invited to attend the Ponca Spelling Bee on February 13. Inform your spellers that they may access the "2008 Spell It" at the website www.myspellit.com.

Ponca music students are top performers! Congratulations to Jessica Bostwick, D.J. Smith, Jacob Torson, Cara Erickson, Abby Watchorn, Aaron Bostwick and Kash Echtenkamp on earning medals at the Lewis and Clark Honor Band Clinic at Wayne State College. These students spent January 19, rehearsing with other conference instrumental music students. The students then performed several selections that evening in a concert.

On January 26, vocal music students Aaron Bostwick, Josh Masin, Jacob Oswald, and Tanner Boyle traveled to Holdrege NE. These students were selected for the Singing Youth of Nebraska Junior High Choir. This is a 120 member choir of which four are Ponca students. Junior high students, Krystal Rush and Samra Eiler were selected for the Wayne State College Junior High Honor Band. They spent January 26, rehearsing and performing at Wayne State College.



Community Character Development Coalition (CCDC)

On January 25, Ponca junior high and high school students learned about healthy relationships at an assembly presented by the Community Character Development Coalition (CCDC). Their mission is- "to deliver positive and persuasive abstinence messages which motivate and equip individuals to develop healthy vibrant relationships." Their goal is- "to try to increase the number of people who decide to remain abstinent from sex until marriage, who abstain from alcohol use until age 21, and who abstain from tobacco, drugs and violence for a lifetime." If you want to know what the presentation was all about, ask your teenager what an ear of corn, a sheet and two pillows, the words: time, knowledge, trust and touch have to do with healthy relationships. This is the second of three presentations our students will experience this year by CCDC. The third presentation is scheduled for later this spring. If you want to learn more about CCDC check out their website at www.youareaboveit.com.

CLIMATE SURVEYS

The State of Nebraska requires every school district to assess its learning climate every two years. Surveys were mailed to approximately 33 1/3% of the K-12 parents. The survey will also be given to 50% of the 7-12 students and 50% of the certified and non-Certified staff. If your household was selected to complete the survey and you have not done so already, please complete and return it to the school by Tuesday, February 12, 2008. The survey can be mailed back to the school, returned with a child who attends Ponca Public School, or dropped off in the business office during regular school hours. Results of the survey will be presented at a School Board meeting and published in an upcoming school newsletter.

Notes from the Guidance Office..

Next A.C.T. Testing Date....

Packet Registration Deadline = March 7, 2008

Testing Date = April 12, 2008

SENIORS.....

Deadline for the Ponca
Community Educational
Foundation Scholarships is:

Friday, March 14, 2008
4:00 p.m.

Summer Fun...

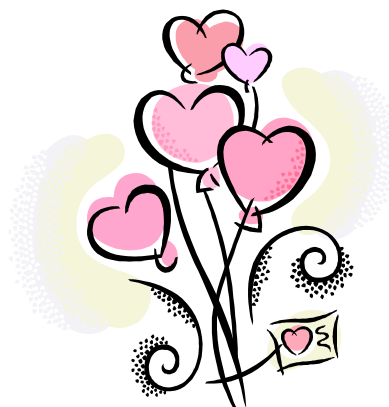
Parents: Are you looking for great
summer academic camps for your
kids in grades 8-11?

Check out the:

"Big Red Summer Academic Camps"

@ the following website:

www.bigredcamps.unl.edu



HOSPICE GRIEF GROUPS for CHILDREN AND TEENS

Hospice of Siouxland provides grief support groups for children and teenagers ages 3 to 18 who are grieving the recent death of a loved one or experiencing grief from a past loss. The groups will be held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of February, March and April from 6:00-8:00 pm at Heartland Community Church. Supper is provided and daycare may be available for younger children if we receive the request at least a week in advance.

Families can begin a session in the fall or spring after the death of a loved one and continue to participate in as many sessions as needed to heal. An educational group will meet concurrently for parents and guardians.

Professional staff and trained volunteers provide a safe place where families can move through the healing process. Art, play, drama, music and discussion will be used to express feelings, strengthen memories, learn coping skills and receive information about grief.

There is no set fee to attend the program, however families can make donations for an amount with which they are comfortable. Pre-registration is required. Parents or guardians may call Hospice of Siouxland at 712-233-4144 or 1-800-383-4545.

(John Giorgio, MS, NCC is the Hospice Bereavement Coordinator.)

*Ponca All-School
Community
Presents*

The Wizard of Oz

March 28th & 29th

Principal Roles

Dorothy	Lauren Brickett
Uncle Henry/Oz Guard	Jared Crosgrove
Auntie Em	Candice Hansen
Glinda	Christina Luebbe
Professor Marvel/Wizard	Scott Heaton
Almira Gultch/Wicked Witch	Rhonda Stark
Hunk/Scarecrow	Sadie O'Neill
Hickory/Tinman	Aaron Bostwick
Zeke/Lion	D.J. Smith

<u>Mayor</u>	Spencer Criddle	<u>Coroner</u>	Jake Masin	<u>Barrister</u>	Christian Rush
<u>Mother 1</u>	Rachel Krause	<u>Mother 2</u>	Tara Millard	<u>Nikko</u>	Shelby Utech
<u>General</u>	Jayce Gustafson				

Miscellaneous Munchkins

MacKenzie Niemeier	Hannah Cook	Codi Reinert	Madison Kinnear	Brady Krusemark
Kim Stowe	Tre O'Neill	Savannah Rager	Heather Markworth	Zach Heaton
Shelby Utech	R.J. Hartman			

Lullaby League

Caryn Mellick
Emily Persinger
Cassandra Stowe
Emma Beach
Kristie Criddle
Rachel Hohenstein

Lollipop Guild

Alexis Anderson
MacKenzie Boyle
Abbey Millard
Kari Rooney
Abby Millard
Elyssa Collins

Crows

Josie McRoberts
Brittany Heaton
Kayla Herfel
Crystal Rush

Trees

Trevor Watchorn
Taylor O'Neill
Jayce Gustafson

Poppies and Snowflakes

MacKenzie Niemeier	Tara Millard
Kari Rooney	Alexis Anderson
Heather Markworth	MacKenzie Boyle
Madison Kinnear	Hannah Cook

Kim Stowe
Savannah Rager
Shelby Utech

Beauticians

Josie McRoberts
Crystal Rush
Kayla Herfel
Brittany Heaton

Polishers

Zach Heaton
Codi Reinert
R.J. Hartman
Spencer Criddle

Manicurists

Christiana O'Neill
Rachel Krause
Heather Markworth
Jessica Bostwick

Monkeys

Shelby Utech-Nikko
Jake Masin
Codi Reinert
Zach Heaton
R.J. Hartman
Tre O'Neill
Christian Rush

Winkies

Jayce Gustafson-General
Hannah Cook
Kim Stowe
Brady Krusemark
Trevor Watchorn
Taylor O'Neill
Spencer Criddle
Savannah Rager
Madison Kinnear

Thank You...

Each school year our buses travel numerous miles on the roads in our District. Due to weather conditions - as we just recently experienced - many times our bus drivers have to adjust their routes to maintain safe conditions for your children. The drivers and I want to thank the many parents and citizens of our community who come to our assistance during these times.

Our thanks goes to those who have helped the District by: taking the time to open your roads for our buses and after a wind blows a drift back across; using your tractor and coming to the aid of a bus that is stuck or has gone into a ditch; and by bringing your children to school or to different drop off sites when our buses can not travel on certain roads.

All of these actions are greatly appreciated by our drivers, the administration, the Board of Education, and by the parents of children on the buses.

---- William F. Thompson, Superintendent

PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS FOR 2008

The Ponca Public School District's Board of Education has established four (4) goal statements to provide direction for the District for the year 2008. Listed below are these statements. The Board has developed action plans and persons responsible to work with these statements. Reports will be made periodically to the Board concerning progress in meeting the goal.

GOAL #1: The Board will direct a committee of school administration, students, faculty, community members and alumni to the school mascot issue. A recommendation should be provided to the Board by the April 21, 2008, meeting of the Board of Education.

GOAL #2: The Board will continue to resolve issues associated with the incorporation of Jackson Elementary School as a valuable resource to the District.

GOAL #3: The Board will actively explore cooperative agreements with neighboring school districts to share personnel, programs, or services.

GOAL #4: The Board will establish a District Advisory Committee to identify District needs to provide the best educational opportunities and environment for students in the District.

Please Keep Saving... HyVee Receipts



Pop Tabs



Box Tops for Education



ELEMENTARY FUND RAISING EFFORT

Elementary students at Jackson and Ponca Elementary schools will take part in a service learning project starting Friday, February 1st. The concentration for this effort will be to promote the sale of frozen pizzas, although there will be a variety of other items for purchase as well.

Following are the specifics for this fund raising effort:

Friday, February 1st - Students will receive order packets at promotional meetings.

Monday, February 11th - Order taking ends. Students will return packets and money to school.

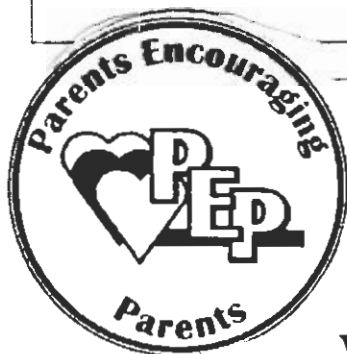
Early March - Product delivered to school for distribution. Announcements will be made prior to delivery regarding distribution procedure.

Grade Levels Involved - Grades 1-6 will take part in this project. Kindergarteners will be contributing through the sale of lollipops by the elementary student council.



Profits from this service project will be used to purchase aluminum alloy letters to attach to the Jackson and Ponca buildings for identification purposes. Each letter will be 8" and will be attached to the face of the building in prominent locations so as to announce the name of the school. The approximate cost for the letters needed will be \$3,650.00. A 40% profit will be realized from the sale of each pizza. At Ponca, these letters will replace the painted wooden signs on the south and west sides of the building. The Jackson site will be identified as: Jackson Elementary.

This project to raise funds for the building signs will not be a typical "door-to-door" canvas of the community. Students will bring order packets home for any orders within the family or close friends. This is a very short campaign to raise funds for a clearly identified purpose: adding visible signs to our buildings that communicates who we are. "Ponca Public Schools."



March 13-15, 2008
Midtown Holiday Inn
Grand Island, Nebraska

WHAT IS PEP?

The purpose of PEP is to bring parents of children with disabilities together in an accepting and confidential environment, giving them the opportunity to share ideas, feelings and common concerns, and to obtain information on parenting and educating a child with a disability. A major objective of the weekend is to help parents realize that each is doing the best he/she can do at this time. By the end of the conference, parents will go home with renewed energy, spirit, hope and a desire to work closely with professionals who serve their child so that every child can experience the fullest life.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This conference is open to all Nebraska parents who are raising a child with a verified disability. The child with the disability must have either an active IFSP or IEP.

**If you have any questions,
please contact Mary Kock
or Carol Ryan @ 755-5700.
Thanks!**



Music Booster Meeting
February 20, 2008 6:00 p.m.
Oscar's Restaurant

Upcoming Events



Jr. High Band
Jr. High Choir

Pops Concert
February 26th 7:00 p.m.

Groups to perform:

High School Band High School Jazz Band
High School Choir Swing Choir



Jr. High Contest @ Wayne State
March 4th (during the day)

Thank You!! Thank You!! Thank You!!

The Ponca Boosters would like to thank everyone who provided food, worked in the kitchen, donated money or helped in any other way to support the Music Boosters Soup Supper!! It was a great success because of each of you. The money raised will go a long way in helping support our music programs.

Music Boosters' Concession Stand Workers

Please find a replacement, if you cannot work.



DATE & CONTACT PERSON	SPORT & OPPONENT	PARENT WORKERS
Feb 7- Julie Kremper 632- 4748	G BB Homer	Deb & Dan Krause Chad & Lynn Eifert
Feb 8- Mary Rager 755- 2415	B BB Homer	Terrance & Kris Goetz
Feb 15- Dawn Bostwick 755- 2591	B BB Conference Tournament	Ron & Mary Jensen Chad & Lynn Eifert

Wrestling Updates

D-2 wrestling districts are in Stanton again this year. Come see wrestlers from the toughest district in the state. 23 of the top 56 ranked wrestlers come from this district including our own Brandon Watchorn at # 5 @160 lbs. Wrestling starts at 4pm Friday Feb 8th, and at 10am Sat. Feb 9th.

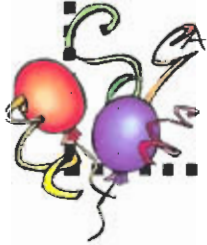


State is Feb 14th-16th in Omaha.

Contact Coach Trusty, if your interested in STATE WRESTLING APPARREL.

Ponca After Prom 2008

Plans are underway for a fun and safe After Prom party. The financial support of parents, grandparents, friends and area businesses would be appreciated. Contributions may be left at the Bank of Dixon County with Sally Eiler. With your help, we will continue the tradition and have another great party for our kids.



Anyone interested in helping with After Prom, please attend the meeting
Wednesday, February 20th, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Elementary Library, Ponca School



Sweetheart Plans Being Finalized by PHS Student Council...

The 9th through 12th grade students will celebrate Sweetheart Coronation and the annual Sweetheart Dance on Saturday evening, February 23, 2008, in the high school auditorium. Coronation is scheduled for 8:00 P.M., followed by the Sweetheart Dance from 9:00 P.M. to midnight. One senior boy and one senior girl will be crowned 2008 Sweetheart and Beau.

The public is invited to attend coronation.

Students are encouraged to dress up, too. The dance is open to all PHS 9-12 grade students. Cost for the dance is \$5.00 per person.

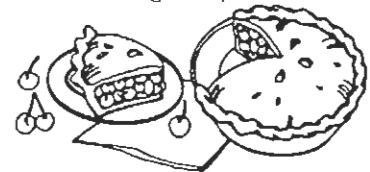
Make plans to help PHS celebrate Sweetheart!



Wellness Window

F·E·B·R·U·A·R·Y
Is A Good
Month To

- Make a cherry dessert in honor of Presidents' Day.
- Write a loving letter to your parents for Valentine's Day.
- Check for the groundhog's shadow on Groundhog's Day.



Lost & Found

Parents:

Our "lost and found" pile has grown very large. We have coats, boots, snow pants, gloves and all sorts of clothes. Please have your child check for anything they have lost or stop by and look. The items are on a table outside of the elementary library.

Thanks!!



PONCA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL
2nd Quarter 2007-08

SENIORS

Jessica Bostwick
Josh Brewer
*Melissa Christiansen
Cody Davis
*Sydney Eiler
Colemun Harbaugh
Michael Jensen
*Haley Keller
*Paige Lux
Josie McRoberts
Brandi Monk
*Sadie O'Neill
*Samuel O'Neill
Garrett Peterson
*Crystal Rush
*Brent Smith
Rebecca Walsh
Brandon Watchorn
Jillian Webb

JUNIORS

Andrew Curry
Colton Kastning
Brandon Rush
Seth Scollard
Nick Watkins
Samantha Woehler

SOPHOMORES

Jared Curry
*Ben Gehring
*Austin Hansen
Brittany Heaton
*Heather Husen
Joel Markworth
Amber Stark

FRESHMEN

Aaron Bostwick
Scott Braun
*Kash Echtenkamp
Jerod Goetz
Korah Kramper
Jesse Way

8th GRADE

Katie Anderson
*Kayla Beacom
Josh Block
Colin Brandt
Cheyenne Brown
Tylar Greenleaf
Cari Hughes
Andrew Larsen
Nellie Logue
*Megan McLean
Rylee Rich
Kelsi Stoops
*Jesse Walsh

7th Grade

Allie Albrecht
Tanner Boyle
Lauren Conrad
*Samantha Gill
Zach Kvidera
Jonathan Larsen
Laikyn Libby
Heather Lieber
*Josh Masin
Christiana O'Neill
Victoria (Parsley) Oberdick
Jacob Oswald
Erin Persinger
Krystal Richards
*Austin Schweers
Patrick Watchorn

PONCA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL
1st SEMESTER 2007-08

SENIORS

Jessica Bostwick
Josh Brewer
Melissa Christiansen
Cody Davis
Sydney Eiler
Colemun Harbaugh
Michael Jensen
*Haley Keller
*Paige Lux
Josie McRoberts
Brandi Monk
*Sadie O'Neill
Samuel O'Neill
*Crystal Rush
*Brent Smith
DJ Smith
Collin Trusty
Rebecca Walsh
Jillian Webb

JUNIORS

Jacob Carlson
Sarah Crosgrave
Colton Kastning
DeAnna Markworth
Jenelle Olsen
Seth Scollard
Nick Watkins

SOPHOMORES

Kelsey Beacom
Josh Bennett
Haley Brown
Jared Curry
*Ben Gehring
*Austin Hansen
Brittany Heaton
*Heather Husen
Joel Markworth
Josh Watchorn

FRESHMEN

Aaron Bostwick
Scott Braun
*Kash Echtenkamp
Korah Kramper
Nichole Lux
Luke Markworth
Allison Pick

8th Grade

Katie Anderson
Kayla Beacom
Josh Block
Colin Brandt
Cheyenne Brown
Abigail Goetz
Tylar Greenleaf
Shane Husen
Andrew Larsen
Nellie Logue
*Megan McLean
Rylee Rich
Kelsi Stoops
Jesse Walsh

7th Grade

*Allie Albrecht
Isaac Bennett
Tanner Boyle
Lauren Conrad
*Samantha Gill
Rachel Krause
Zach Kvidera
Jonathan Larsen
Heather Lieber
Josh Masin
*Christiana O'Neill
Jacob Oswald
Erin Persinger
Krystal Richards
Dillon Rickett
*Austin Schweers
Mattie Schweers
Blake Smith
Patrick Watchorn

*Denotes "A" Honor Roll Students (students must earn at least a 93 numerical grade)
"B" Honor Roll (students must earn at least an 85 numerical grade)

* DENOTES "A" HONOR ROLL STUDENTS (students must earn at least a 93 numerical grade)
"B" HONOR ROLL (students must earn at least an 85 numerical grade)

The Ponca Community Educational Foundation (PCEF) announces it's 2008 Funding Opportunities for Ponca Graduates and Patrons of the District.

One of the purposes of the PCEF is to promote and support educational opportunities for the students of the Ponca Public School District. One of the avenues of support has always been funding scholarships to Ponca High School graduating seniors.

Because of recent growth from the generous support of its members, the PCEF is excited to sponsor additional funding opportunities. Listed below is a brief description of those opportunities. After reading these descriptions be sure to encourage a P.H.S. connected student, parent, or community member to apply for this resources.

Guideline information, cover sheets, and applications for each program may be obtained by contacting the high school guidance office at Ponca Public School. Additionally, the information and forms may be found on the school website: www.poncaschool.org. (Click on Foundation Icon; then click on Grant-Scholarship Opportunities).

Completed applications and supporting documentation must be returned to Fran Hassler, PCEF Scholarship Selection Committee Chairperson by Friday, March 14, 2008, 4:00 P.M., in person or via email at: fhassler@esu1.org (Please note: Due date deadlines will not be adjusted in the event of technology difficulties.)

Funding categories presently include:

1. Awards for P.H.S. Graduating Seniors
2. Awards for P.H.S. Alumni
3. Awards for Certified Staff Members at Ponca Public School
4. Awards for Non-Certified Staff at Ponca Public School

Should an individual, family or business wish to contribute to the PCEF, please contact **Foundation President Stanley Leigh**, Ponca, NE, #402-755-2837. Thank you.

Funding Opportunities Article
(updated: 1-30-08)

Introduction to the Student Aid Report (SAR)

The Student Aid Report (SAR) is a summary of the information you entered on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The SAR also notifies you of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), see EFC on right, and if you are eligible for a Pell Grant.

After completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you should receive a SAR in 1-3 days if you filed electronically or 2-3 weeks if you filed a paper version. Check immediately for:

- EFC (on upper right of pg 1)
- Any mistakes or errors (pgs 5-8)

Why is the SAR important?

- Your SAR is the form that tells you how much student aid you are eligible to receive from the federal government, and how much the government expects your family to pay.

What happens after I receive my SAR?

- Immediately check for any mistakes or errors. Any colleges you listed on your FAFSA will also receive a copy of your SAR. Notify your prospective school's aid office immediately to make corrections. A delay could mean less aid.

What if I don't receive my SAR?

- Call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) if you do not receive your SAR in 3-4 weeks.

When do I receive my aid?

- Once your prospective colleges review your SAR and verify your eligibility, they will each construct an aid package and send an award letter. You do not need to accept all of the aid that's offered to you; accept only the aid you want.

Highlights of each page in your SAR:

- 1- Intro: Tracks the aid process for you. If there is an asterisk next to your EFC, you have been selected for verification.
- 2- Confidentiality info: Includes other formal reminders.
- 3- EFC, other info: EFC is listed at the top, along with other information, such as issues affecting your aid eligibility.
- 4- Summary of loans: As a high school student, you probably do not have any loans yet. If you have not taken out any loans, the totals should read zero (0).
- 5-8- FAFSA summary: Review the summary. Make corrections or changes in the spaces provided. You can also make changes online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

SAR Information Acknowledgement: A summary of your FAFSA. If any information is wrong, financial or otherwise, you can correct it on pages 5 through 8 of the SAR or online.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

The EFC is the amount your family will be expected to pay based on your situation. It is found on page 1 of your SAR.

How is the EFC calculated?

The U.S. Department of Education uses the Federal Methodology (FM) to calculate your aid eligibility. The FM takes into account: your family's income, the number of family members (in college or not), the net value of assets and your enrollment status, among other factors.

Why is there an asterisk next to my EFC?

It means you have been selected for verification and must provide documents to your prospective college(s) to verify the information submitted on the FAFSA. About 1 in 3 are selected. If there is no asterisk, you have not been selected.

What should I do if I was selected for verification?

If your college asks for verifying documents, send them as soon as possible to avoid a delay in the aid process.

What if I find mistakes on my SAR?

Inform your prospective college(s) financial aid office of any mistakes. Be sure to make corrections as soon as possible. On the Web, using your PIN: Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and under "FAFSA Follow Up," click "Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA." You will be able to check off the items you want to change and make corrections accordingly. On paper: Flip to the last pages of the SAR and find your original FAFSA info. Make changes in the spaces provided. Only fill in the areas that need to be changed and/or corrected. Once finished, you must mail it in.

Financial Planning Tool from Making It Count!

The Making College Financial Planning Count online tool provides an interactive overview of the college financing process. You can work at your own pace and save your work as you go.

This free online program will help you:

- Plan for and manage college costs.
- Understand the FAFSA, including critical tips and deadline dates.
- Learn more about the types of financial aid available, including scholarships and grants.
- Create your own personal college funding strategy using our College FundPath™ Worksheet.

This valuable tool can be accessed anytime at: <http://www.elearning.makingitcount.com>.

An in-school, assembly-style version of this program is also available for high school students and their parents from September through April. For more information, visit <http://mcfc.makingitcount.com>.




PONCA SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM 2008

REGISTRATION FORM for baseball and softball, we would like you to fill out the bottom portion and return to: Ponca Summer Recreation, PO Box 465, Ponca, NE 68770 by **Friday, February 29, 2008**. **PLEASE USE ONE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH CHILD.** To be eligible to play, your child must be the following age:

Girls age 8 by 12/31/2007

Boys age 8 by 1/1/2008

To help defray expenses, there will be a \$30 registration fee for a SINGLE CHILD or a \$50 registration fee PER FAMILY which must be returned with the registration form(s). Your child will not be registered until this fee is paid. A late registration fee of \$20 will be charged and the late registration must be returned by March 14, 2008. Once teams are determined, the coaches will contact you regarding further details and game schedules. **Registration Deadline: Friday, March 14th. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY REGISTRATIONS AFTER MARCH 14, NO EXCEPTIONS.** Please note T-ball registration will be held at a later date. Thanks!

_____	____/____/____	_____	
Child's Name	Birth Date	Age as of Girl: 12/31/2007 Boy: 1/1/2008	
_____	_____		
Parent/Guardian Signature	Telephone		

Ponca School Newsletter
Ponca Public School
Ponca, Nebraska 68770

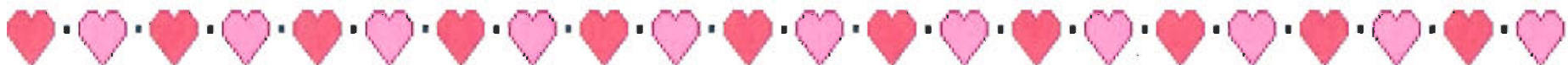
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Ponca, NE 68770

ECRWSS
Postal Patron

February 2008

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Chic. Noodle Soup/Crackers Carrot Sticks Pineapple
4 BBQ Rib Scalloped Potato Peas Apple Roll/Butter	5 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potato/Gravy Green Beans Peaches Roll/Butter	6 Fish Sticks Curly Fries Corn Fruit Cocktail Roll/Butter	7 Chic. & Noodles Mixed Vegetables Pineapple Roll/Butter Cookie	8 Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Pears Roll/Butter
11 Chicken Patty Mashed Potato/Gravy Corn Raspberry Applesauce Roll/Butter	12 Ham Sandwich Chips Baked Beans Oranges	13 Goulash Lettuce Salad Peaches Garlic Sticks	14 Mini Corn Dog Fries Green Beans Pears Cake	15 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup/Crackers Carrot Sticks Fruit Cocktail
18 No School	19 Chicken Nuggets Potato Cubes Pineapple Roll/Butter	20 Deli Turkey Sandwich Mac & Cheese Corn Applesauce	21 Scalloped Potato/Ham Peas Peaches Roll/Butter Krispy Bar	22 PICNIC LUNCH
25 Chicken & Biscuit Peas Applesauce Cookie	26 Hot Dog/Bun Nachos/Cheese Sauce Green Beans Fruit Cocktail	27 Burrito Lettuce Salad Pears Roll/Butter	28 Chili/Crackers Carrot Sticks Jello/Fruit Cinnamon Roll	29 Shrimp Poppers Fries Cole Slaw Peaches Roll/Butter

Milk Served Everyday



February

<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 G&BB Conf Tourn. Sites: Ban-Ros/Hart	2 Ban-Ros Speech Invite G&BB-JrHi-Hart-Home 9:00 JVGirls&BBReserves @ Hart--10:00 & 11:00
4 G&BB Conf. Finals @ Laurel - 6:15	5 GB @ Pender-6:00	6	7 GB-Homer-Home-6:15 Parent's Night	8 BB-Homer-Home-6:15 BB Reserves @ 5:00 Parent's Night ----WR Dist---	9 G&BB-JrHi @ Newc-9:00 K-6Cheer Camp 1:30-4:30 @ Stanton----
11 G&BB-JrHi-Crofton- Home-3:00 ---GB Sub- BB Reserves @ Allen- 4:00	12 ---Dist @ Wayne High	13 L&C Conf Mtg @ Wayne-4:30 Ponca Spelling Bee-- 2:30	14 GB Sub-Dist @ Wayne High	15 BB-Creighton-Home-6:00 (Little Girls cheer) ----State WR	16 G&BB @ Newc Inv.-9:00- A & B teams @ Omaha----
18 Teacher In-Service NO SCHOOL Board Meeting 7:30 BB Sub-Dist @ Wayne High (President's Day)	19 BB Sub-Dist @ Wayne High	20 Post Prom Mtg-7:00 ElemLib. Music Booster Mtg-5:00 6 th Gr Orientation-2:45	21 BB-Sub Dist @ Wayne High Dixon Co. Spelling Bee @ Haskell Lab-1:00	22 Sweetheart Coronation Practice- 7 th Prd.	23 Sweetheart: 1:00-3:00 Decorating 8:00 Coronation 9:00-12:00 Dance Conf. Speech @ Winn.
25 Start of Spring Practice	26 JrHi/H.S. Pops Concert 7:00	27 Am. Legion Aux. Serves Staff @ 3:30-FCS Room	28 -----Girls-----	29 ---State----Basketball-----	1 -----Tournament-----
3 Writing Workshop 3:45 - 4:45	4 Gr. 5-8 Music Contest @ WSC	5	6 -----Boys-----	7 ---State----Basketball-----	8 -----Tournament-----

Sunday, Feb. 10th, Ponca Legion Baseball Parent/Player Meeting, 7:00 P.M, Firehall
 Sunday, Feb. 24th, Pancake Feed by Ponca Legion Baseball, Ponca Community Hall, 8:00-1:00

2008