

Ponca Public School  
505 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, P O Box 568  
Ponca, NE 68770  
[www.poncaschool.org](http://www.poncaschool.org)  
December Newsletter  
2006



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### From the Desk of... William F. Thompson,

We have had a great start to the school year in the Ponca Public School District. Students involved in fall school sponsored activities is a source of pride for the District. As we move into the winter season, please encourage your child to take advantage of some of the opportunities for involvement in extracurricular activities.

The four (4) weeks between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are as busy and involved as any time during the year. Winter activities with games and concerts are just beginning. Secondary students will be busy studying and preparing for semester exams as the first academic semester is scheduled to end on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. If this is not enough to occupy their day and evening schedules, there are time demands for family, church, community, job and other responsibilities that can create a busy and hectic lifestyle for students and families at this time of the year. The stress to keep up with all these demands can, and does, have an effect on a student's physical health and mental approach to school. Parents are encouraged to be supportive of their children in working through the demands that activities place upon a child at this time of the year.

Another factor for constant awareness at this time is weather. We encourage families to make plans thoroughly and inform everyone involved when there are considerations for school cancellation, late start, or an early dismissal. In town, if a child lives a long distance from school and is in the lower grades, arrangements might be made with a friend living enroute as a "stop-off" place. Make sure that the parent/guardian is notified if the child stops. In the country, some people with long lanes have asked a neighbor up the road to call them when the bus is coming so they can meet their child. Make arrangements as needed. The ultimate consideration is to **dress students for cold and bad weather**. Should there be a bus breakdown or a bus gets stuck, proper clothing could be a critical matter.

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**Vacation for the Christmas and New Year's  
Holiday Season will begin**

**Thursday, December 21st, at 3:30 p.m.**

**School will reconvene on**

**Wednesday, January 3, 2007.**

**Have a Merry Holiday Season!!!**





# Season's Greetings from Ms. Rinas & Mrs. Curry



December is filled with excitement and activities. We are excited to begin our winter sports of wrestling and basketball and to show off our talents as we celebrate the holiday season with music in our Christmas programs. The K-6 Ponca students will perform their Christmas concert at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 8. The Jackson elementary concert is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11. The 7-12 music students will perform their concert at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 14. We hope you can attend our holiday programs!

Our wrestling and basketball teams will open their winter sports season on Thursday, November 30. As we begin the winter sports season, we remember the Sportsmanship Trophy we were awarded at the 2006 Boys State Basketball Tournament. We did not win this trophy because we were lucky we won it because our student body and fans worked hard at displaying good sportsmanship. Comments on our evaluation were "Students used very positive cheers!" "Excellent support of team by fans" and "Impressive school". Now the work begins to carry our positive sportsmanship through this wrestling and basketball season. An unknown writer reminds us, "Without sportsmanship, there is no sport. Good sportsmanship is to interscholastic activities what textbooks are to the curriculum. We cannot afford to neglect either because learning takes place in the classroom and in the arenas of competition." Let each player on the court and each fan in the stand bring to each competition positive sportsmanship!

Among the excitement and activities of December our students must continue to focus on studying and learning. Our first semester will end on December 21, 2006. Students in grades 7-12 will write semester tests on Wednesday, December 20, and Thursday, December 21. A semester test schedule is printed in this newsletter. A student in grades 9-12 who has a scheduled study hall the first or last testing periods may be excused from school with written permission from a parent/guardian.



## 2006-2007 SEMESTER 1 TEST SCHEDULE

### WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 20)

08:25-09:55	PERIOD 2	REVIEW AND TEST
09:55-10:12	***BREAK***	
10:15-11:46	PERIOD 3	REVIEW AND TEST
11:46-1:03	PERIOD 5	PERIOD 5
REVIEW/STUDY TIME		
01:06-02:16	PERIOD 8	TEST
02:20-03:30	PERIOD 5	TEST

### THURSDAY (DECEMBER 21)

08:25-09:55	PERIOD 1	REVIEW AND TEST
09:55-10:12	***BREAK***	
10:15-11:46	PERIOD 4	REVIEW AND TEST
11:46-1:03	PERIOD 5	STUDY
TIME/HOLIDAY HAPPENING		
01:06-02:16	PERIOD 7	TEST
02:20-03:30	PERIOD 6	TEST

**9-12 STUDENTS WHO HAVE A SCHEDULED STUDY HALL THE FIRST OR LAST PERIODS MAY BE EXCUSED WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM A PARENT/GUARDIAN**

And still more . . .

**Spaghetti**  
She just puts noodles and meat in the pan with hot boiling water. She puts sauce on it and then she puts it on the plates and we wait until it is cool.  
**Evan Anderson**

**Macaroni**  
You put the noodles in. Get the cheese out and squirt it on. And eat it up!  
**Tosha Huls**

**Macaroni**  
Sometimes Mom asks me to help her. I put in the cheese and noodles and everything else in the pot. We turn on the stove and then, when I pour the cheese in, I stir it. Then we eat it.  
**Quest O'Neill**

**Turkey on the Grill**  
He puts charcoal in the grill and wood and then he starts it on fire. Then he just puts the turkey in the grill and starts it on fire. He also makes potatoes on the grill. They are really hot.  
**D.J. Franke**

**Popcorn**  
I get it out of the box and put it in the microwave. I push 2,1,3,0. I pop up into popcorns. Then I take it out of the microwave and eat it.  
**Cole Richards**

**Macaroni**  
Mom puts the macaroni in the microwave for 10 minutes. She takes it out of the microwave. She puts milk with it. Then I eat all of it.  
**Kelsey Hamar**

Just in time for the holidays . . .

## The Second Annual Kindergarten's Favorite Family Recipes

**Tortellini**  
You put them on the stove and then you make it. Then when they're done you eat 'em in a bowl or a plate.  
**Colson Watchorn-Newbrey**

**Pizza**  
Mom gets it at the grocery store and she makes it.  
**Graci Tangeman**

**Chimichangas**  
I don't know how to make them cause I am always outside with my dad. I think she just buys em.  
**Gage McGill**

**Cheeseburgers**  
Mom gets those brown burgers. She cooks them. What is that thing outside? Uh, Uh. The grill! She cooks them on the grill. Put the cheese on the bread. Put the burgers on the bread. And after the burgers are done, she puts the burgers on the bread.  
**Cody Martin**

**Easy Mac**  
It's real easy. I make 'em all the time. You put water in a bowl. Then you put the macaroni in. Then you put it in the microwave. And then you take it out and put cheese on it. That's all!  
**Logan Rush**

# More good stuff to cook...

## Mac and Cheese

Mom puts some water in the pan. Then she puts it on the stove. And then she puts some of this stuff in. She puts milk in and then she puts some cheese in there. Then she's done!

**Olivia Eifer**

## Pizza

Mom cooks it in the microwave. Then when it's done, we eat it.

**Joel Anderson**

## Pizza

Mom buys the crust from the Country Store. She puts on some sauce and she puts on some cheese, sausage and pepperoni. That's all!

**Claire Hoelsing**

## Cookies

Mom puts chocolate chips in and she puts dough in the oven and she cooks them and she gets them out and, uh, uh. I don't remember.

**Kaitlyn Beach**

## Spaghetti

My mom gets the noodles in and gets the meatballs in. Then her puts it on the stove. Her takes it out and gets it on the table and her calls us to eat.

**Jadee-Shnitz**

## Chicken

She cooks them in the cooker.

**MaKayla Nelson**

## Chicken

My dad gets the chicken out of fridge. He puts it in the pot and then he puts it on the stove and lets it cook awhile and then puts it on plates and we eat it.

**Andrew McLean**

## Chocolate Chip Cookies

Put flour in the cookies and eggs in the cookies and chocolate chips and brown sugar. We roll them up in a ball and then flatten them. Put them in the oven for half an hour. Take 'em out and eat 'em.

**Morgan Swick**

## Halloween Pizzas

You put frosting on bread. You put bones on it and then worms. Then the ghosts.

**Autumn Nolan**

## Macaroni and Cheese

Mom puts water in the bottom, then she puts noodles in. Then she turns the oven on and that's how she makes it. I don't know. I never watch her cause I'm too busy playing in my room.

**Kaitlyn Kasning**

## Juniors Experience Job Interview at Ponca School...

As part of the Junior Career Unit the 11<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in a 15-20 minute videotaped job interview on November 2, 2006. Interviews were conducted by community volunteers: Richard Dohma and Heather Craig-Oldsen. With additional volunteer help of Jamie Hamar (who assisted Nancy Walsh as one of the receptionists) the students were provided with authentic interview practice. Students received valuable feedback regarding their resumes and personal presentation skills. The grades earned through the interviews will be incorporated into the students' second quarter English grade.



*Special Thanks to Mrs. Oldsen, Mr. Dohma, and Mrs. Hamar  
for donating their time and expertise with the students!*



Please note: We encourage you to use this news release in your school or organization newsletter. If you would like an electronic version of the press release and/or logo, contact us at [countdown@educationquest.org](mailto:countdown@educationquest.org). Thank you!

Have questions about college planning?  
Tune in to Countdown to College!

Tune in to NET Television Wednesday, December 6 at 7 pm CT (6 pm MT) for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Countdown to College live call-in show.

During this one-hour program, experts in the areas of college planning, admissions and financial aid will answer viewers' questions on the air. You can submit questions now or the evening of the show by calling 800-666-3721 or e-mailing them to [countdown@educationquest.org](mailto:countdown@educationquest.org). You'll receive an answer on the air or via e-mail.

If you miss the show on December 6, watch for a rebroadcast on NET2:

- December 8 at 10 am and 3 pm CT (9 am and 2 pm MT)
- December 9 at 12 pm CT (11 am MT)
- December 15 at 9 pm CT (9 pm MT)

A Spanish-captioned version of the program will air on NET2 in late January or early February (date and time to be announced).

*Countdown to College: A Nebraska Connects Special* is a co-production of EducationQuest Foundation and NET Television. EducationQuest provides free college planning services year-round. To make an appointment, call the Kearney office at 800-666-3721, Lincoln at 800-303-3745 or Omaha at 888-357-6300.

### NEXT A.C.T. TESTING

#### DATE...

Packet Registration Deadline.....

January 5, 2007

Testing Date... February 10, 2007

## ***Financial Aid Meeting Is Scheduled...***

On Monday, December 4, 2006 at 7:00 P.M., a representative from the Educational Planning Center (in Omaha) will present a financial aid workshop for students in grades 9-12 and their parents. While the first part of the session will include general financial aid information for all grade levels, the second part will be geared more specifically for seniors and their parents. **SINCE FINANCIAL AID IS SUCH A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION, ANY STUDENT CONSIDERING TRAINING BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS MEETING. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.**

**Seniors and Parents: This is an excellent local opportunity for you to learn about completing the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (F.A.F.S.A.)!**



# Christmas Concert Schedule



December 8, 7:00 p.m.

Elementary Concert

K-6 vocal

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

December 14, 7:00 p.m.

High School Band, Jazz Band and Chorus

Junior High Band and Chorus

Swing Choir, Solos and Ensembles

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

2006 Nebraska High School All-State Chorus

Zach Kramper-Tenor 1

Cortney Rickett -Alto 2 (Alternate)

Congratulations! On November 16, 17, and 18, Zachary Kramper joined approximately 450 of the finest high school singers in Nebraska for a memorable weekend and I'm certain one of the highlights of his musical life---the "Nebraska All-State Chorus!" The two and one half days of rehearsals were demanding but the final performance by the chorus on Saturday was an experience these chorus students will cherish for the rest of their lives. They sang under the direction of Dr. Dennis Cox, Director at the University of Maine. WE are so proud of your outstanding accomplishment!!!

**Congratulations!!!**

**Ponca High School**

**Lewis and Clark Conference**

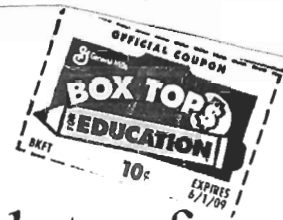
**Vocal Medalists**

Sopranos: Autumn Conrad and Jessica Bostwick

Altos: Cortney Rickett, Anne Langhorst,  
Rebecca Walsh and Brittany Heaton

Tenor: Zachary Kramper

# Turn in Your Box Tops!!!!



Our school receives lots of fun things, when we turn in our Box Tops!!!



Also, don't forget to keep

your HyVee receipts!!!



# PONCA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2006-07



### SENIORS

Heather Bennett  
 Miranda Braun  
 Josh Crossgrove  
 \*Justin Curry  
 Courtney Dohma  
 \*Jenna Dohma  
 Ellen Duffy  
 \*Alisyn Hansen  
 \*Justin Hoelsing  
 \*Jacob Jensen  
 Jason Jones  
 \*Zach Kramper  
 Kim Krause  
 \*Anne Langhorst  
 \*Andrea Pavlushik  
 Jennifer Richards  
 Cassandra Snow  
 Adam Stark  
 Matt Watchorn

### JUNIORS

Justin Blatchford  
 Jessica Bostwick  
 Josh Brewer  
 Melissa Christensen  
 Cody Davis  
 Sydney Eiler  
 Michael Jensen  
 \*Haley Keller  
 \*Paige Lux  
 Nathan Markworth  
 Jessica McGinty  
 Brandi Monk  
 \*Sadie O'Neill  
 Sam O'Neill  
 \*Jenelle Olsen  
 \*Garrett Peterson  
 \*Crystal Rush  
 \*Brent Smith  
 Brandon Watchorn

### SOPHOMORES

Jake Carlson  
 \*Sarah Crossgrove  
 Colton Kastning  
 Daniel Richards  
 Brandon Rush  
 Seth Scollard  
 Jacob Torson  
 Nick Watkins

### FRESHMEN

Haley Brown  
 Jared Curry  
 Chris Dohma  
 Jared Duffy  
 \*Ben Gehring  
 \*Austin Hansen  
 Brittany Heaton  
 Heather Husen  
 Joel Markworth

### 8th GRADE

Aaron Bostwick  
 Kash Echtenkamp  
 \*Korah Kramper  
 Dale Krause  
 Nichole Lux  
 Josh Markworth  
 Luke Markworth  
 Allison Pick  
 Tyler Rasmussen  
 Nathan Uhl  
 Eric Watchorn

### 7th GRADE

Katie Anderson  
 Kayla Beacom  
 Josh Block  
 Colin Brandt  
 \*Cheyenne Brown  
 Kyle Hohenstein  
 Cari Hughes  
 Shane Husen  
 \*Andrew Larsen  
 Nellie Logue  
 \*Megan McLean  
 Seth O'Neill  
 Trenton Peterson  
 Rylee Rich  
 Kelsi Stoos  
 Jesse Walsh  
 Bailey Wimmer

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

"B" Honor Roll (student must earn at least an 85 numerical grade)

## Helping Your Child

In the 2000 edition of *The Positive Line*, ten ways are identified to help your child do well in school.

1. **Show you care.** Your child needs hugs and words of support. Ask your child about school each day.
2. **Read, read, read.** Read with your child every day. Make it fun — talk about what you have read.
3. **Make home a place for learning.** Help your child practice reading, writing, math, and science skills. Stimulate your child's creativity.
4. **Promote healthy habits.** Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep and exercise and eats balanced meals. Schedule regular checkups.
5. **Be a role model.** Your child learns from you. Be positive about education and show you enjoy learning.
6. **Encourage independence.** Allow your child to make mistakes and learn to accept their consequences. Give your child responsibilities, such as household chores.
7. **Create a study routine.** Set a time and quiet place for your child to work every day. Go over homework together.
8. **Get involved.** Meet with our child's teacher, attend school events, and help out at school if you can.
9. **Build Success.** Help raise your child's self-esteem by setting reachable goals and praising your child's efforts, not just results.
10. **Make school important.** Insist on good attendance and punctuality.

## Wellness Window

### Q&A Too many snacks

**Q:** When my child comes home from school, he snacks all afternoon and then isn't hungry for dinner. How can I get him to change this habit?

**A:** You may be surprised to know that children actually need snacks. Their stomachs are small, so they can't get all the food and nutrients they need in just three meals a day. The trick is to give your youngster a snack that's both healthy and filling so he will be able to wait until dinnertime to eat again.

Try giving your child a choice of snacks when he comes home. Offer foods like microwave low-fat popcorn,

string cheese and fruit, or "ants on a log" (peanut butter spread on celery stalks and covered with raisins).

**Tip:** If your youngster is in day care after school, find out when they serve the last snack of the day. Ask that your child not have one too close to your dinnertime. ●



# STUDENT DATA STILL NEEDED FROM A FEW PARENTS

December 12, 2006 is the date for many state forms. The state extended their reporting date to give schools more time to gather the information. Please submit your student information sheets immediately if you have not done so. Sorry for any inconvenience but it is important that you fill out a yellow parent sheet for **each** parent a blue sheet and a tan sheet for **each** student. Please do not skip information even though you may be repeating information. Notice on the student information sheet it asks information on the student vehicle---this is for students that drive to school. If you cannot find your immunization records please do not wait to send in the other forms. Please send the information forms in and the medical forms later.



Thanks for your help and time getting all this information together in a timely manner. **Please keep the packet of information as ONE family packet.** Please send the forms to school to be given to Mrs. Hayes.

## Mr. Trusty's World

Ten juniors and seniors are learning more about the ecology of our Biosphere by taking Environmental Science. We've studied interactions in the ecosystem, ecosystem balance, and learned about the different biomes. We also spent a day on a prairie nature hike and then tested the water quality of the Aowa Creek and Missouri river as we have done in the past. This Water Quality study will be expanded slightly as it is getting funding from Learn and Serve Project of the State. We will again do our testing in the spring and show some elementary classes what we are doing. We will look into human impact on the environment and energy resources.



Anatomy & Physiology students are currently working on learning the anatomy of the human body. We are finishing up identifying the tissue types and their functions then we will begin the bones and landmarks of the Skull. We will continue learning the skeletal system top to bottom, studying the muscular system and the internal organs.

Integrated Science-10 replaces Biology this year, First semester we will spend most of our time on Ecology: animal behavior, adaptations to environment, organisms interactions, and natural selection. Then Second Semester we will study earth history, its processes and how it has changed over time. Then we will finish off the year staring into space, as we cover astronomy and the earth, moon system and our galaxy.

## PONCA WRESTLING



Returning letterman for the 2006-07 Wrestling season are Collin Trusty 140, Matt Watchorn 145, Brandon Watchorn 152-160, Bill Markworth 152-160, and Tony Bostwick 171. Freshman joining this years team are Josh Watchorn 215, and Colton Bruggeman 215-285. Juniors Nate Markworth 189-215 and Jamie Herfel 125-130 are back and hope to have a complete season, with the new additions of Jared Crosgrove 215 and Daniel Richards 103 rounding out this years team. We hope to fill all but 4 weight classes this year. 112, 119, 135 will be open and 130 will be filled by Jamie Herfel who is hoping to get to 125. I feel even with just a few practices under our belts that we are a much improved team over last years. Matt is our team Captain and Brandon and Collin are the Co-Captains this year. They have worked hard in the off season attending freestyle tournaments and other wrestling camps.

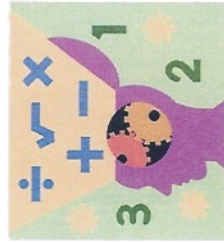
This season began differently than other seasons as the NSAA has implemented a hydration and body fat percent test for each wrestler. They first have to pass the hydration test before they can take the BF % test. That made for an interesting trip to Wayne St. College. Wrestlers are not allowed to compete at a weight below 7% BF unless cleared by a doctor. Even though this adds paperwork, etc, I believe in the long run that it will make healthier athletes as intended.



## Greetings from Mrs. Larsen's classroom!

We have had quite a busy year so far.

In Geometry, we have completed the formal unit on Logic and Reasoning, however we will still be working with proofs throughout the rest of the year. We have begun working with triangles and their relationships, and will be moving into quadrilaterals soon. The class has really worked very hard and is doing a great job at the new and interesting ways of thinking!



The Algebra 2/2 classes have finished reviewing and have been working exceptionally hard at learning the new concepts that I am throwing at them. We spent several weeks working with graphing equations, and will be doing more graphing soon. They have worked with solving inequalities and inequalities with absolute values. We will be moving into solving systems of equations and factoring before long. They are all doing a great job.

The Algebra 1/2 classes are preparing to begin solving equations. We have done a lot of work in getting the background information instilled into the minds, and are just about ready to begin what people think of as "real algebra" – solving equations! This will be a new (and sometimes difficult) concept for them, and they may need a little extra help from home! They have all worked very hard, and I hope that they continue to do so throughout the rest of the year.

## Updates from Mr. Gehring...

### Algebra I

After studying the order of operations and various properties such as distribution, we have worked our way up from simplifying expressions to solving linear equations with one variable. We have just started graphing linear equations with two variables (equations of lines). Second semester will begin with writing linear equations and applying them to statistics. Our skills will improve as we learn to apply them to inequalities containing first one and eventually two variables. After exploring systems of linear equations (two equations with two variables), we will explore exponents and radicals as we prepare for Geometry and Algebra II.

### Algebra II

We began the year graphing and solving linear equations, inequalities, and piecewise functions. This led us to working with systems of equations (two or

more variables and two or more equations). Presently, we are learning how matrices can be used to solve systems. We will finish the semester graphing and solving quadratic equations. Quadratics involve using powers of two and graphing u-shapes called parabolas. While we will cover a broad range of topics throughout the remainder of the year, graphing will be a common link. We will cover a variety of functions including quadratic (parabolas), square root, cube root, exponential, and logarithmic. By year's end, we should be ready for Pre-Calculus.

### Pre-Calculus

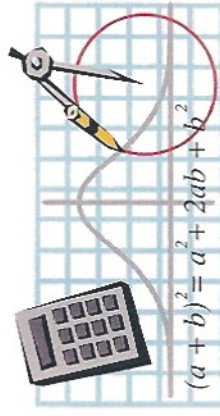
After reviewing linear functions, matrices, and the nature of graphs, we studied polynomial functions. Calculus was introduced by using derivatives to find critical points and inflection points of the various curves. Rational functions challenged us with asymptotes and holes in the graphs. It is difficult to develop a common understanding of similarities and differences between various types of functions. We will finish the semester with our first taste of trigonometry. Second semester will consist of an in depth study of trigonometry and its many applications to the real world.

### Math Standards

We are using the Accelerated Math program to generate problems for the students who are working at individual levels. All students started the year by studying the subsets of the real numbers and their properties. After the first couple of lessons, the students began working on material based on their previous experience. Three students are working with pre-calculus topics and eight students are working with various aspects of algebra. It is interesting to see how students respond to a non-traditional classroom.

### Math 8

We began the year with a unit on converting measures in both the metric and customary systems. We used measurements to calculate perimeter, area, and volume. Calculating the volume of cones and pyramids proved to be challenging. We have just started an introduction to algebra. We will explore calculations with positive and negative integers and writing and solving simple equations. Second semester will involve working with fractions and dealing with consumer topics such as percents, wages, and taxes. We will find time to improve our skills adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing with decimals.



# Updates from Mrs. Mahler

During the month of October all of the Spanish classes studied about the very traditional holiday called El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead). It is celebrated on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Hispanic culture views death as part of the journey of life. They truly celebrate a person's life.

In the months of November and December the students in high school and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will be studying and celebrating "La Navidad". The Spanish II and III classes will be making pinatas as part of the "Feliz Navidad" celebration. The Hispanic culture celebrates for nine days – December 16 – 24 called La Posada!!

# ¡Feliz Navidad!

## Concession Stand Schedule Music Boosters (Choir/Band Parents)

**PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 20-30 MINUTES BEFORE GAME TIME TO WORK IN THE CONCESSION STAND!**

*If you are unable to work the night you have been scheduled, we ask that you try to trade with someone already on the list above or another Music Booster. If you are unable to find a replacement, PLEASE call the contact person for your game AS SOON AS POSSIBLE so that alternate arrangements can be made. Please give at least 24 hours notice. THANK YOU in advance for supporting the music program!*

### **Saturday, Dec. 2 (2:00 PM) – Boys vs. Crofton**

Jack & Sally Eller  
Chip & Melissa Watchorn  
Contact person: Maureen Anderson 755-4193

### **Tuesday, Dec. 12 (6:15 PM) – Girls & Boys vs. Laurel-Concord**

Rick & Tammy Davey  
Keith & Carla Trusty  
Gary & Susan Way  
Contact person: Sandy Jensen 632-4588

### **Friday, Dec. 15 (6:15 PM) – Boys vs. Emerson-Hubbard**

Chad & Lynn Eifert  
Bob & Wilma Logue  
Peggy McGinty  
Lisa Peterson  
Contact person: Ken and Teresa Pavlushik 755-2906

### **Monday, Dec. 18 (6:15 PM) – Girls & Boys vs. Coleridge**

Rena Koepke  
Kori Lundin  
Bill & Christina McCain  
Greg & Amy Utech  
Contact person: Diane Rush 632-1400

### **Tuesday, Dec. 19 (6:00 PM) – Girls vs. S.C. West**

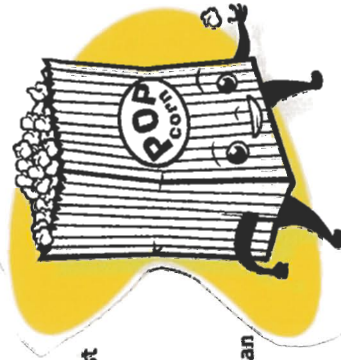
Bob & Pam Curry  
Terrance & Kris Goetz  
Matt & Jennifer Krusemark  
Contact person: Kandis Conrad 755-4287

### **Tuesday, Jan. 2 (7:00 PM) – Wrestling vs. Heelan**

Kevin & Kim Dohma  
Bob & Carrie Lux  
Contact person: Maureen Anderson 755-4193

### **Friday, Jan. 5 (6:15 PM) – Girls & Boys vs. Allen**

Jeff & Sheila Herfel  
Gail & Leslie Reece  
Annette Schnoor  
Contact person: Sandy Jensen 632-4588



# The Gift That Keeps Giving



Are you looking for a unique Christmas gift for your child or someone else? For a donation of \$15.00 to the school library, we will *purchase* a 2006 Nebraska Golden Sower Award Book ([www.goldensower.org](http://www.goldensower.org)), *insert* a gift plaque honoring the person you designate, and *place* it in the library for all to enjoy. It's a great way to share a gift that keeps on giving. If you'd rather, you may purchase a book yourself to donate, but you may want to check to see if the library already has that particular book.

## BOOK GIFT DONATION

Please purchase a Golden Sower Award Book for the library with the enclosed \$15.00. Put a placard inside the cover honoring \_\_\_\_\_.

Place the book in the Elementary/High School/Jackson School Library.  
(circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Return this coupon to Mrs. Foulks at Ponca Public School.  
*Thank you for the donation.*

*Thank You!!*

*Thank You!!*

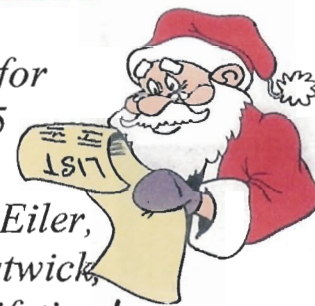
**Thank you to the following families  
for library book donations in November:**

**Brad and Carol Conrad, Don and Carla Taylor,  
Patrick and Jennifer Hartman**

## Gift Idea - Yearbooks for Christmas!!

*For a great Christmas gift, order a 2007 yearbook for  
only \$30.00, or personalize it with a name for \$35*

*See Mrs. Noll, Anne Langhorst, Crystal Rush, Sydney Eiler,  
Jill Webb, Josie McRoberts, Brandi Monk, Jessica Bostwick,  
Paige Lux, or Casey O'Neill to order this gift to last a lifetime!*



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.

## Mrs. Sprakel's 7th Grade Life Science & Math classes!



The students have studied a variety of topics in Life Science during first semester, which include: exploring life, structures of viruses and cell, cell processes and reproduction, heredity, and bacteria. We are very excited about the second semester because we will begin learning about plants, animals, mollusks, worms, anthropods, and echinoderms, and fish, amphibians, and reptiles. During the fourth quarter, we will begin dissecting in our lessons about worms, fish, and amphibians.



During the first semester in math we have been learning and completing assessments about order of operations, powers and exponents, comparing and ordering decimals, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals, the metric system, using graphs and determining mean, median, and mode. In the second semester, we will be focusing on many more interesting topics. These topics include probability, sequence, exponential notation, fractions, algebra, integers, and geometry.

$$\frac{A+B}{C}$$



## Physical Science Department Mr. Huston

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas from the science department. It's that time of year again when we find out what's happening in chemistry, physics, physical science and integrated science.

In physics we have been learning about vectors: which includes velocities, forces, momentum, etc. We have just finished with a chapter on momentum and will next be discussing universal gravitation. Good old gravity one of the reasons we experience life as we do on earth.

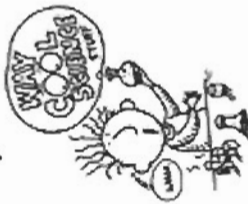
In chemistry we are finishing discussion of bonds and energy of formations. We will next be going to learn how to name compounds which means the cation and anion quiz that I have been telling the students about all year. From here we will look at balancing chemical reactions and then my favorite---stoichiometry---mass to moles and moles to mass using chemical equations and reactions. If you don't know what I'm talking about ask you favorite chemistry student.

In integrated science 9 we are just finishing up the chemistry portion and will be moving into the physics portion. We will start discussions of motion and then Newton's Laws of Motion. We have a couple of activities for the students to do at this time.

In physical science 8 we are just finishing the sections on work, power, efficiency, and mechanical advantage of simple machines. The next thing we will be discussing is thermal energy and one of the activities that we do here is burning peanuts to see how many calories this produces.

Hope you have a great and safe holiday season.

David L. Huston, Physical Science Teacher



# PONCA ATHLETIC BOOSTERS NEWS

The Athletic Boosters would like to congratulate the football, volleyball and cross country teams on their successful seasons and wish the same to the girls and boys basketball and wrestling teams!

We are now proud to announce we are 205 members strong and are always looking for new members to help support our athletic programs. We are currently looking for someone to step forward for next year to be a member of our board. Please contact one of the current board members if you are interested in joining the board.

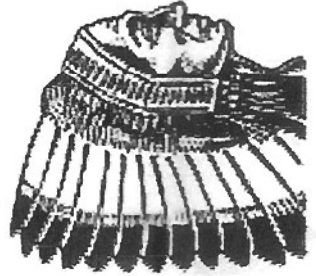
*Many thanks to everyone who supported our fall tailgate parties. Equal thanks for your support of our sweatshirt and t-shirt sales. Show your school colors with pride!*

SINCE THE ATHLETIC BOOSTER'S INCEPTION IN 1997, WE HAVE PUT OVER \$39,000 BACK INTO OUR ATHLETIC PROGRAMS INCLUDING WEIGHT ROOM EQUIPMENT, SCHOLARSHIPS, PROGRAM EQUIPMENT, CROW'S NEST, BFS CLINIC EXPENSES, ICE MACHINE, WRESTLING MAT AND MUCH MORE!!! ALL THE MONEY THAT OUR CLUB RAISES GOES BACK INTO OUR ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT. PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES!! BECOME A PONCA ATHLETIC BOOSTER TODAY!!!

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A STOCKING STUFFER FOR YOUR TEENAGER, DON'T FORGET WE HAVE LICENSE PLATE BRACKETS FOR SALE FOR \$5.00!

**\* REMINDER \*  
2006-2007 DUES ARE NOW DUE  
\$20.00 - COUPLE  
\$15.00 - SINGLE**

**PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO DEB KRAUSE-TREASURER**



**GO BIG BLUE!!!**



2006-2007



## WINTER SEASON ATHLETIC TICKETS

BASKETBALL/WRESTLING  
(12 HOME GAMES)

ADULT \$24.00  
STUDENT \$18.00



PLEASE PURCHASE IN  
THE BUSINESS OFFICE



## Please Save Pop Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House



Ponca and Jackson Elementary Schools will collect pop tabs and pull-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux City, IA, again, as service-learning project. There will be plastic tubs located at each school building in which to place the tabs. These tabs can be collected all year. They are taken to the Ronald McDonald House by May 1<sup>st</sup> each year. far, almost a thousand pounds have been collected over the past four years!

Aluminum pull-tabs can be added to the collection along with the pop tabs. Please make sure they are clean and free of food items. Thank you for your help in providing assistance in this project.

*Cindy Anderson-Elementary Guidance Counselor*

## From the desk of Mrs. Herfel, RN

Dear Parents,

Due to the large numbers of students who have been ill with the stomach flu and colds, Ponca Public School has decided to try to reduce the number of ill students by trying a couple of things in the elementary classes.

1. After they use the restroom and wash their hands for lunch, their teacher will be applying a small amount of antibacterial hand sanitizer to each student's hands. This will be done prior to eating lunch and before milk breaks.
2. We would like each student to use a Clorox disinfectant wipe on his or her own desk and chair at the end of each school day.
3. We are encouraging the students to wash their hands after using the restroom, and even more frequently if they are coughing, sneezing or blowing their noses. We are also encouraging them to spend more time washing their hands, and reminding them to use soap and warm water.



### Here's how you can help:

1. We ask that you reinforce these behaviors at home, by having your child wash their hands before meals and after using the restroom.
2. We are also asking for any donations of Clorox disinfectant wipes and/or antibacterial hand sanitizer (such as Purell), for your child's classroom. We hope these things will help reduce the number of sick kids, and save the parents money at the doctor's office.

Thank you for your help with this project.

Mrs. Herfel and the Elementary Teaching Staff

## **Olweus Bullying Prevention Work Continues with Our Students & Staff...**

As a reminder one of the school improvement team goals for the 2006-2007 school year was to implement the Olweus Bully Prevention Program at school. Each week Ponca School dedicates 15 minutes per week for bully prevention curriculum. Class meetings are held school wide on Wednesdays from 9:13 AM to 9:28 AM. During this time staff members share a bully prevention lesson that the students and staff work on each week. Topics have included:

### High School Topics include:

- \*Bullying – defined
- \*Bullying - prevention rules
- \*Role of the Bystander
- \*Bullying – defined
- \*Assisting the Victim
- \*Non-Verbal Communications
- \*Verbal Communications
- \*School Safety Issues
- \*Positive School Environment
- \*Counting your Blessings



### Elementary Topics include:

- \*Bullying – defined
- \*Student expectations of adults when they either witness bullying or it is reported to them
- \*Places in school where students feel safe/unsafe
- \*Bystander-defined and \*Courage-defined
- \*Role of Bystander
- \*Rough and tumble play vs. bullying
- \*Respect to veterans
- \*Bullying and Peer-pressure
- \*Thankfulness-defined/discussed

Upcoming 7-12 lessons include: Bullying myths, Cultural Stereotyping, Race Relations, Cyberbullying, Listening Skills, I-Messages, Anger Management

Upcoming K-6 lessons include: Problem solving, diversity, assertive vs. aggressive behavior, anger and responsiveness to anger, respect, trustworthiness, caring, cooperation, responsibility, citizenship, fairness

# PONCA HIGH SCHOOL INDIANS

## 2006-2007 WINTER ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

### BOYS BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	VENUE
Nov. 30	Hartington	7pm	A
Dec. 2	Crofton	7pm	H
Dec. 7	Randolph	7pm	A
Dec. 12	Laurel-Concord	7pm	H
Dec. 15	Emerson-H	7:45pm	H
Dec. 18	Coleridge	7pm	H
Dec. 28	Wisner Tourn.	TBA	A
Dec. 29	Wisner Tourn.	TBA	A
Jan. 5	Allen	7pm	A
Jan. 9	Wakefield	7pm	H
Jan. 13	Eik Point-Jeff	7:15pm	A
Jan. 16	Winnebago	7pm	A
Jan. 19	Bancroft-R	7pm	H
Jan. 23	Hartington CC	7pm	A
Jan. 26	Newcastle	7:45pm	H
Jan. 29	Conf. Tourn.	7pm	H
Feb. 1	Conf. Tourn.	TBA	TBA
Feb. 2	Conf. Tourn.	TBA	TBA
Feb. 5	Conf. Tourn.	TBA	TBA
Feb. 9	Homer	7:45pm	A
Feb. 16	Creighton	7:30pm	A
Feb. 19	Sub District	TBA	TBA
Feb. 20	Sub District	TBA	TBA
Feb. 22	Sub Dist. Final	7pm	TBA
Feb. 26	District Final	7pm	TBA
Mar. 8	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A
Mar. 9	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A
Mar. 10	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	VENUE
Nov. 30	Hartington	6:15pm	A
Dec. 5	Eik Point-Jeff	7:15pm	A
Dec. 7	Randolph	7pm	A
Dec. 12	Laurel-Concord	7pm	H
Dec. 18	Coleridge	7pm	H
Dec. 28	Wisner Tourn.	TBA	A
Dec. 29	Wisner Tourn.	TBA	A
Jan. 5	Allen	7pm	H
Jan. 9	Wakefield	7pm	A
Jan. 12	Emerson-H	7:45pm	H
Jan. 16	Winnebago	7pm	H
Jan. 19	Bancroft-R	7pm	A
Jan. 23	Hartington CC	7pm	A
Jan. 25	Newcastle	7:45pm	A
Jan. 27	Conf. Tourn.	7:45pm	TBA
Jan. 30	Conf. Tourn.	TBA	TBA
Feb. 2	Conf. Tourn.	TBA	TBA
Feb. 5	Conf. Tourn.	TBA	TBA
Feb. 6	Pender	7:45pm	H
Feb. 8	Homer	7:45pm	A
Feb. 12	Sub District	TBA	TBA
Feb. 13	Sub District	TBA	TBA
Feb. 15	Sub District	TBA	TBA
Feb. 23	District Final	7pm	TBA
Mar. 1	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A
Mar. 2	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A
Mar. 3	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A

### GIRLS & BOYS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	VENUE
Dec. 16	Ponca Inv.	Boys 9am	H
Jan. 6	Wakefield	Girls 9am	A
Jan. 8	Allen	Boys 7pm	A
Jan. 11	Laurel-Concord	Girls 4pm	H
Jan. 13	Hartington CC	Girls 9am	H
Jan. 15	Allen	Girls 7pm	A
Jan. 20	Homer	Girls 9am	A
Jan. 22	Crofton	Girls 7pm	A
Jan. 27	Ponca Inv.	Girls 9am	H
Feb. 3	Hartington	Girls 9am	A
Feb. 10	Newcastle	Girls 9am	A
Feb. 17	Newcastle Inv.	Girls/TBA	A

### WRESTLING

Nov. 30	Dakota Valley Quad	McCook Lake/6:30pm
Dec. 2	Howells Invite	Howells/10am
Dec. 10	Akron Invite	Akron/10am
Dec. 16	Osmond Invite	Osmond/10am
Jan. 2	Heelan	Ponca 7pm
Jan. 6	Eigin Invite	Eigin/10am
Jan. 13	West Hoyt Invite	Adrian/9:30am
Jan. 20	Oakland-Craig Invite	Oakland/9am
Jan. 23	Ponca Triangular	Ponca/6:30pm
Jan. 26	Greeley Invite	Creeley/7pm
Jan. 30	Conference Quad	TBA/6:30pm
Feb. 9	District Tournament	TBA
Feb. 10	District Tournament	TBA
Feb. 16-17	State Tournament	Lincoln

### GIRLS & BOYS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	VENUE
9th/10th GRADE			
Jan. 13	Wakefield Inv.	Girls 9am	A
Jan. 27	Homer Inv.	Boys 9am	A
Feb. 10	Emerson-H Inv.	Girls 9am	A

Ponca School Newsletter  
Ponca Public School  
Ponca, Nebraska 68770

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*Merry  
Christmas*

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