

Ponca Public School  
505 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, P O Box 568  
Ponca, NE 68770  
[www.poncaschool.org](http://www.poncaschool.org)  
May Newsletter 2008

Here Comes  
Summer Vacation!!



---

---

## From the desk of the Superintendent:

Welcome to May, 2008, and the end of another great school year for the Ponca Public School District. Commencement exercises are scheduled for **Friday, May 9th, at 7:00pm, in the high school gymnasium**. While this is an exciting time for all students, it is especially so for our graduating seniors. As their graduation approaches, they are not only looking to their future and dreaming of what may be in store for them, but they are also beginning to reflect on their days and years spent in our school. Everyone associated with Ponca Public Schools wishes the Class of 2008 the very best for a bright future.

**Last Day of School for Elementary Grades: May 16<sup>th</sup>:** As the school district prepares to change its elementary grade patterns for next school year – grades K-2 at Jackson, grades 3-6 at Ponca - district personnel will be busy moving classroom material and equipment to the new centers. Elementary teachers at both Jackson and Ponca Elementary building will be working on this transition **Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**. As a result, there will be no school for elementary students on these days. The last day for all district elementary students will be **Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**. I realize this is a departure from the District's calendar, and may be an inconvenience for some parents, but I hope that everyone will understand the need.

**Have A Good Summer:** While most of the students, faculty and staff are out of the building during June, July, and early August, several of us are will be in the building throughout the summer months. Meetings, building maintenance, budgets, and preparation activities for the 2008-09 school year dominate time during the summer. Do not hesitate to stop in, or call as any questions or concerns may arise. This has been a terrific year at Ponca Public Schools with some wonderful accomplishments coming as the result of the leadership of the Class of 2008. They will be missed, but in August we will welcome to our schools the Class of 2021.

Have a terrific and safe summer.

William F. Thompson

## "Lost and Found"

Parents: Our lost and found "pile" has grown quite large. Please make a point to have your child or yourself check the box for lost items.

We have acquired winter coats, boots, sweatshirts & many gloves!!

**Items that are not claimed are donated at the end of the year.**

---

---

### LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Please try to close-out your student's lunch account at the end of the school year. If you need to add money to your account, please send only enough for the remainder of the year. With our accounting system, money that is left in your account will remain there and will be carried over for the next school year. We would prefer, however, that you try to spend all of the money that is in your account so we can close the account for the summer. Unless a family is moving out of the area and/or the students will not be returning to Ponca School, we will not issue refunds.



# *From the Principal's*

## *Pen....Ms. Rinas*

Each spring the "Best of Class" programming appears on KCAU-TV. The "Best of Class" honors the top students from high schools in Nebraska, South Dakota and Iowa. These students are featured on KCAU-TV throughout the graduation season. This year look for senior, Crystal Rush as she represents Ponca School's "Best of Class". Congratulations Crystal for achieving this honor!

The 2007-08 Academic Honors Program is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 1. Students in grades 7-12 will be recognized for their achievements in academics, FBLA, National Honor Society, Student Council, and as class officers. Please join us in honoring our students and congratulating them for their dedication and achievements throughout this school year.

Check-out the semester testing schedule printed in this newsletter. Semester tests will be administered May 19 and 20. Students in grades 9-11 who have an 85% or better grade average in a class and have not exceeded the allowable eight absences for second semester are exempt from writing semester tests in the qualified classes. During semester testing days, students who meet the criteria may be released from their semester testing periods with a parental note. Grades 9-11 students may also be released from study halls with parental permission, during semester testing days. Note that the 2007-08 semester schedule will end at 1:30 on both days. School lunch will not be served on the semester testing days.

On Friday, May 9, the graduation ceremony for the class of 2008 will begin at 7:00 p.m. Members of the class of 2008 have been exemplary role models and leaders for our student body. We will miss the talents and contributions each individual brought to our school. I am confident that each member of this class is ready to make a positive contribution to the next school, community, or profession of which they choose to be a member. Congratulations class of 2008!

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**



**Crystal Rush  
KCAU -TV  
"Best of Class"**



# Semester 2 Test Schedule 2007-2008

## Monday (May 19)

8:25-9:25 Period 3 Test  
9:25-9:35 Break  
9:35-10:35 Period 5 Test  
10:35-11:05 Brunch  
11:05-12:05 Period 7 Test  
12:05-12:15 Break  
12:15-1:15 Period 8 Test  
1:15-1:30 Final Check-out

## Tuesday (May 20)

8:25-9:25 Period 1 Test  
9:25-9:35 Break  
9:35-10:35 Period 2 Test  
10:35-11:05 Brunch  
11:05-12:05 Period 4 Test  
12:05-12:15 Break  
12:15-1:15 Period 6 Test  
1:15-1:30 Final Check-out

STUDENTS WHO HAVE FEWER THEN NINE ABSENCES FOR THE SEMESTER AND A SEMESTER GRADE OF 85% OR BETTER IN A CLASS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WRITE SECOND SEMESTER TESTS IN CLASSES THAT MEET TWO SEMESTERS OR IN SINGLE SEMESTER CLASSES THAT ONLY MEET SECOND SEMESTER.

9-12 STUDENTS WHO HAVE A SCHEDULED STUDY HALL OR ARE EXEMPT FROM WRITING SEMESTER TESTS MAY BE EXCUSED WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM A PARENT/GUARDIAN.



# Ponca Golf Camp

## June 2<sup>nd</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup>



Grades 4-6<sup>th</sup> boy/girl 9:00-11:00

Grades 7-12<sup>th</sup> boy/girl 11:00-1:00

**Cost:** With membership---\$10

Without membership---\$45

**(Grade the student will be in during the 2008-2009 school year)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-register by filling out the following form and returning it to Coach John Stroud, PO Box 334 Ponca, NE 68770 or to Adam Sprakel at the Golf Course. It is important that you pre-register in order to guarantee a t-shirt. If you have any questions, please call

John Stroud(755-2382)

Adam Sprakel(755-4222)

**Youth Sm**\_\_\_ **Youth Med**\_\_\_ **Youth Lg**\_\_\_ **Youth XL**\_\_\_

**Adult Sm**\_\_\_ **Adult Med**\_\_\_ **Adult Lg**\_\_\_ **Adult XL**\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

## From the Guidance Office... Mrs. Hassler

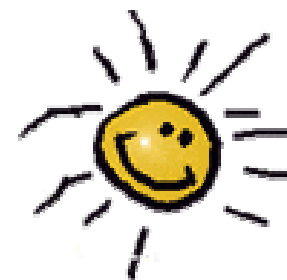
### SENIORS OF 2009

## Student and Parent Meeting Scheduled

The Seniors of 2009 and their parents are invited to attend an informational meeting scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2008, at 7:00 P.M. in the gymnasium. The purpose of this meeting is to update students and their parents on graduation requirements, college credit opportunities, career education/scholarship options available to seniors as they begin their final year of high school. Important college information will also be shared. We urge all 2008 seniors and their parents to attend! If you have questions please contact Ms. Rinas or Mrs. Hassler.

*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.*

# Happy Summer!!!



# Ponca Boys Basketball Camp

June 10th -  
June 12th



Cost \$25.00

Grades 3-5

8:30 – 10:30

Grades 6-8

10:30 – 12:30

(Grade the student will be in during the  
2008-2009 school year)

Pre-register by filling out the following form  
and returning it to Coach Bob Hayes,  
P O Box 275, Ponca, NE 68770 by May 23, 2008.  
It is important that you pre-register in order  
to guarantee a t-shirt. If you have any  
questions, please call (402) 755-2764.

Youth Sm \_\_\_ Youth Med \_\_\_ Youth Lg \_\_\_ Youth XL \_\_\_

Adult Sm \_\_\_ Adult Med \_\_\_ Adult Lg \_\_\_ Adult XL \_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

# Ponca Girls Basketball Camp

June 16th -  
June 18th



Cost \$25.00

Grades 3-5

8:30

- 10:30

Grades 6-8

10:30 – 12:30

(Grade the student will be in during the  
2008-2009 school year)

Pre-register by filling out the following form and  
returning it to Coach Kylee Kephart  
59093 879 Road, Ponca, NE 68770 by May 30, 2008.  
It is important that you pre-register in order  
to guarantee a t-shirt. If you have any  
questions, please call (402) 755-4127.

Youth Sm \_\_\_ Youth Med \_\_\_ Youth Lg \_\_\_ Youth XL \_\_\_

Adult Sm \_\_\_ Adult Med \_\_\_ Adult Lg \_\_\_ Adult XL \_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

# Attention...School Physicals at the Ponca Medical Clinic!!

Ponca Medical Clinic is offering a special rate of \$30.00 during the months of May, June, and July. Please call for appointment. No insurance will be filed. Payment is expected at time of service.

A percentage of all physicals will be donated to the Ponca School Athletic Department to use at their discretion.

Please call 755-2231 to schedule your physical!



## Wellness Window

May is a Good Month to...

- cultivate a new plant
- visit a conservatory or garden in the area
- make lunch for Mom on Mother's Day



## Save Your Box Tops & Pop Tabs This Summer!!!!



Receipts will be collected all summer!!!

TO ALL PARENTS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED AT PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

As a parent of a student at Ponca School, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teachers, and requires us to give you this information in a timely manner if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

1. Whether the Nebraska Department of Education has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
2. Whether the Nebraska Department of Education has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
3. The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
4. Whether any teachers' aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact the Superintendent's Office.

The Ponca Public School requests your help in locating handicapped children. The school implements the Federal Handicapped Children's 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.





## Camp Courage 2008



Hospice of Siouxland is offering Camp Courage, a summer grief camp for youth ages 6 to 17 who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Camp Courage offers young people a supportive environment in which they can gain an understanding of grief and loss with peers going through similar experiences. Participants will learn ways to cope with their grief through a variety of physical activities, crafts and rituals. Swimming and other recreational activities balance grief with just plain fun!!

Camp Courage will be held June 20-22. Funds raised from the Carrie Mach Memorial Golf Outing make it possible to offer Camp Courage for a minimal registration fee of \$15 per family. Pre-registration is required as camp size is limited.

For information or for a registration packet, please call John at 712-233-4144 or 800-383-4545.

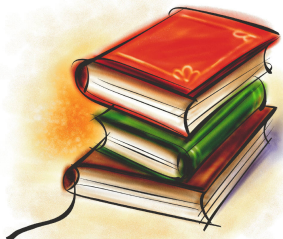
## *Library Receives Grants*

*Great Plains Communication has awarded the school library a grant of \$3,295.00 to purchase library reference resources. In addition to purchasing books to update the library reference material, the school purchased **World Book Online**. This resource is available to our students, teachers, staff, and parents both at school and at home. To access this resource, follow these steps:*

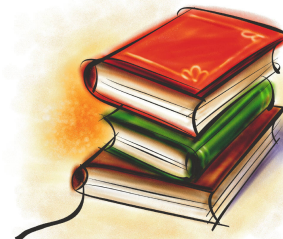
1. [www.poncaschool.org](http://www.poncaschool.org)
2. *In the right column click on "Online World Book"*
3. *Enter username: winners password: ponca*

*A grant of \$250.00 was also received from The Northeast Nebraska Library System in Columbus. A set of books to encourage reluctant readers in the middle grades has been purchased with this grant.*

***Thank you to the following people who donated books to the school library.  
Many students benefit from donated books!!!***



*Jeanne Brandt  
Jamie Hamar  
Chip Watchorn*



*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 INDIANS FOOTBALL  
TEAM CAMP**

**Monday July 21 - Friday July 25**

**7:00 - 11:00 am**

**Grades 9-12**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency # \_\_\_\_\_  
T-Shirt Size: M L XL XXL other: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Cost is \$25 and includes a camp t-shirt. In order to ensure the correct size t-shirt please send this registration in by July 1 to Joe Kvidera or the Ponca school office. Please make checks payable to Ponca Public School. Helmets will be provided for camp participants. If you have any questions call Joe Kvidera at 755-2111.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Display

Midbell Music Store will be at Ponca School Tuesday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade band display. Any Ponca and Jackson 4<sup>th</sup> grade student interested in being in band next year, should be present on the 6<sup>th</sup> to buy a lesson book.

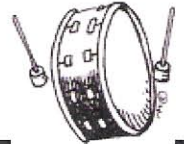
Midbell will also have instruments to buy or rent available that night. Please come with your questions about rental and be prepared to purchase that night!

I have met with the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and will be allowing them to look at the instruments and try them to see what they would like to play.



This is an exciting time for the band program.

Help us keep the Ponca music program strong!!



## Summer Band Lessons

Summer band lessons will be offered on Tuesday & Thursday mornings, May 27-June 12. Beginning 5<sup>th</sup> Graders will meet on Wednesday mornings.



**Elementary Spring Concert**  
**May 15, 2008**  
**7:00 p.m.**



## PONCA T-BALL PROGRAM 2008

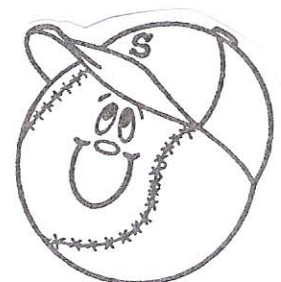
It's time to start thinking about Summer T-Ball. In order to organize teams, we would like you to fill out the bottom portion of this form and return it to: City of Ponca, PO Box 465, Ponca, NE 68770 **by FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2008**. PLEASE USE ONE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH CHILD. To be eligible to play, your child must be age five (5) or entering kindergarten in the 2008-2009 school year, and not old enough to participate in the Ponca Summer Recreation softball or baseball programs. To help defray expenses, there will be a \$15 registration fee PER CHILD, including t-shirt which must be returned with the registration form(s). Your child will not be registered until this fee is paid. Once teams are determined, the coaches will contact you regarding further details and game schedules. Thank you, Ponca Park and Recreation Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone



# May

<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b> Academic Honors Program 7:00 Cheer Tryouts 3:30	<b>2</b> Jr Hi Dance 7:00-10:00 Elem Field Day 1:00 DISMISS 1:00 Buses will run at 3:30	<b>3</b> GO @ Wake Inv. 9:00
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Field Trip to Sioux Falls 4 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Band Display- 7:00	<b>7</b> GO-Ponca Tri-4:00 JV-V	<b>8</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Field Trip to Yankton Dist Track @ Hart-12:00	<b>9</b> Commencement 7:00 DISMISS @ 1:00	<b>10</b> 
<b>12</b> Class '09/Parent Mtg- 7:00 Dist Golf @ Norfolk 9:00	<b>13</b> Elem Field Day— (Raindate) Spring Activities Program 7:00	<b>14</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip to Sioux Falls	<b>15</b> Elem Concert 7:00 Jackson "K" Graduation 7:00	<b>16</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Lincoln ----State Track @	<b>17</b> Kingsbury Dance Recital 4:00-7:00-Auditorium Burke Stadium-Omaha----
<b>19</b> Board Mtg- 7:30  <b>NO SCHOOL FOR K-6 STUDENTS Sem Tests 3,5,7,8</b>	<b>20 Last Day of School</b> End 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr-48 da End 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem-94 da <b>NO SCHOOL FOR K-6 STUDENTS Sem Tests 1,2,4,6</b> ----- State Golf @	<b>21</b> Teacher In-Service  Hospice Mtg-Elem Lib- 4:00 Kearney----	<b>22</b> Teacher In-Service  PCEF Luncheon @ Golf Course 12:00	<b>23</b> Vocal/Band Trip to Denver Leave 3:00 A.M.	<b>24</b> Vocal/Band Trip to Denver (Return May 25th)
<b>26</b>  Memorial Day	<b>27</b> Driver's Ed Begins 8:00-12:00	<b>28</b> Driver's Ed 8:00-12:00 7-12 Pick Up Report Cards- Prin Office— 9:00-3:00	<b>29</b> Driver's Ed 8:00-12:00	<b>30</b> Driver's Ed 8:00-12:00	<b>31</b>
<b>2</b> Driver's Ed 8:00-12:00	<b>3</b> Driver's Ed -8:00-12:00	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

## 2008

# Ponca High School

## Graduation

Friday, May 9, 2008  
7:00 p.m.



Ponca School Newsletter  
Ponca Public School  
Ponca, Nebraska 68770

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit #1  
Ponca, NE 68770

**Congratulations,  
Class of 2008!!**

E C R W S S  
Postal Patron

