

Ponca Public Schools

www.poncaschool.org

October Newsletter 2006



Homecoming '06



From the desk of:

William F. Thompson, Superintendent

For the safety and security of students, faculty, and staff, the following procedures will be in effect.

Visitors to Ponca Public School buildings must first report to the Administrative Office upon entering either the secondary or elementary buildings. Once in the office, you will be asked to sign in, and then issued a Visitor's Pass, if you wish to visit a classroom. We will not send parents to the classrooms or to the playground to pick up their children, unless they have signed in at the office and have been issued the Visitor's Pass. Teachers and playground supervisors should not be put into a position to determine the validity of a request to release a student. That will be done from the office. When a parent comes to the office to pick up a child, office personnel will contact the teacher to release that student to the office. If a parent, or other adult enters the building and goes to a classroom, or to the playground or other area of the school to pick up a child, school personnel have been instructed to direct that person to the office.

This is not a question of trusting parents that we know, and not trusting those that we don't. We don't know all of the backgrounds and situations that exist with some of our students. We do not want to put a child in a situation that may be inappropriate. This is a matter of student safety and security.

Your cooperation would be most welcome concerning the matter.

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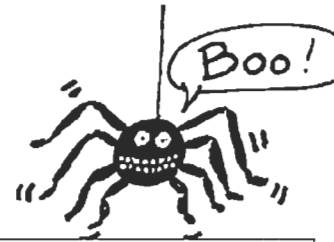
Schools Meals Verification

One of the requirements for the Ponca School District is to take part in the federal governments' free and reduced price meal program is to conduct a verification process of selected applications. Simply put, verification is the confirmation of eligibility for free and reduced price meals under the rules of the National School Lunch Program.

The verification process must include either the confirmation of a family's income eligibility or confirmation that a child is included in a household currently certified to receive benefits from food stamps or other state or federal programs. Even though families did submit documentation of eligibility with their initial application, additional documentation is required for the verification process.

Three (3) percent of the total approved applications received by the District on October 31st are required to be verified. Applications chosen for verification are done so through a random sampling process. The District will notify families chosen for verification by mail beginning in early November. According to federal guidelines, the verification process must be completed by December 15.

From the Guidance Center...Mrs. Hassler



P.S.A.T. Test for Juniors

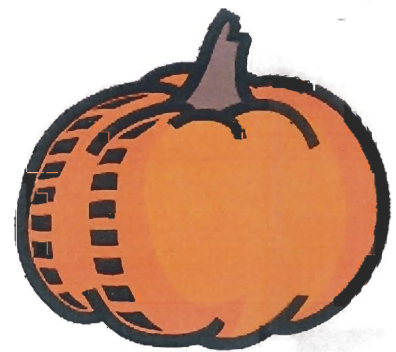
The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) is scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, October 18, 2006.

This test is administered annually through the guidance office to those juniors who have voluntarily registered (and paid) for it. The purpose of the PSAT is twofold: 1. The test is designed for students who plan to enroll in a four-year college. It provides them with practice for the Scholastic Aptitude Test-S.A.T. (a college entrance test) which they may take during their senior year. 2. The PSAT serves as a predeterminant in qualifying for the National Merit Scholarship. In the event a student scores high enough on the PSAT he/she is then eligible to apply for the National Merit Scholarship. If your son or daughter has registered for the PSAT, please remind them that a good night's sleep and breakfast prior to the test are helpful test-taking tips over which they have control! If you have questions or comments concerning the PSAT contact Mrs. Hassler at the school.



Red Ribbon Week Plans are Being Finalized

The National Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week "Red Ribbon Week" will be celebrated at Ponca School during the week of October 23-26. Be sure to watch the newspaper for the finalized schedule of events.



TRI-STATE COLLEGE FAIR

Make plans to attend the Tri-State College Fair with your high school-age student! The College Fair is scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2006, at the Marina Inn in South Sioux City, NE. The program will be from 1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Over 100 college, vocational, and military representatives will be available. Additionally, Financial Aid planning sessions are scheduled. This is an excellent opportunity for high school students to begin their college searches. Make plans to attend!

Seniors to Begin Application/Scholarship Writing Unit

This semester all the seniors at PHS will partake in a scholarship/job application writing unit in their English classes. As part of their coursework, the students will be developing their writing skills while working on class requirements. A series of 10-15 application/scholarship questions were developed through the English department and the guidance office. The seniors will be expected to complete two rough drafts and a final copy for class evaluation. Not only will the students earn a grade for their written work; they will also be able to use their final drafts as a starting block for job and scholarship applications which they will soon be completing. Be sure to ask your senior about this project!

Career Information:

Plan your career with the Career Information System (CIS) via the Internet!

- Check out more than 450 occupations.
- Match occupations to your interests.
- Learn about colleges and universities.
- Discover where to get an apprenticeship or degree.
- Find scholarships and financial aid.

Your access for the 2006-2007 school year is provided by:

PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

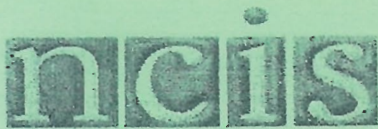
The CIS Web site address is:
<http://necis.intocareers.org>

Your user name is: **poncahs06**

Your password is: **H0254**

(Your Password is case sensitive)

Enjoy exploring careers through the CIS!



Nebraska Career Information System
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
(402) 472-2570
E-Mail: ncis2@unl.edu
<http://www.ncis.unl.edu>



Ponca Cheerleaders Fundraiser

WHO: Ponca Cheerleaders

WHAT: Younkers Coupon Book

WHERE: Any Younkers Store

WHEN: Sat. November 11, 2006

WHY: Raise money for portable sound system.

HOW: Buy a \$5 coupon book that has a \$10 off coupon plus 8 other coupons

- Contact one of our PHS cheerleaders or call Christy Schweers or Patti Boyle for more information!



Thanks for supporting the
Ponca High School Cheerleaders!!

Homecoming '06 - '07

"Sweet Emotions"

October 2-6, 2006

See the Nebraska Journal Leader
for complete Homecoming details.

HOMECOMING CORONATION:



Saturday evening,
September 30, 2006



8:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium

Dress Up Days:

Monday	Oct. 2 nd	Pajama Day
Tuesday	Oct. 3 rd	Camouflage/Redneck Day Students and all fans..... (Come to the volleyball game that night in costume and receive \$1.00 off the admission price.)
Wednesday	Oct. 4 th	Twin Day
Thursday	Oct. 5 th	Traitor Day (dress as an opposing team or mascot)
Friday	Oct 6 th	Blue & White "Like 'Em" Day Tattoo and sucker sales for K-12 students

Volleyball/CC Community Pep Rally

- Tuesday, Oct. 3 @ 2:45 pm in the Gym
@ 3:15 pm K-12 Students & "Staff enjoy Victory Cake"
@ 6:00 pm Volleyball teams to host Lutheran High NE

Thursday, Oct. 5 "Grill 'Em Up" Night (Weather permitting)

Starting at 6:00 p.m. Meet at the Football Field for a grilled hot dog, bag of chips, and Hot chocolate for \$3.00/person....

7:00 pm Girls' Powder Puff Football Games

Freshmen vs. Sophomores

Juniors vs. Seniors

The PHS Band will showcase their new band uniforms between the preliminary games and the championship Powder Puff football games.

8:00 pm Ponca Volunteer Firemen to start the Bonfire

The public is invited to hear from the coaches and players at the bonfire.

Activity to end by 10:00 PM.

***In case of bad weather the grill out and marching show will take place at the Auditorium.
Serving time will still be 6:00 P.M. followed by the marching show at 7:00 P.M.

Friday, Oct. 6 (Weather permitting)

1:15 K-12 & Community Victory March to the Football field

1:35 Pep Rally at the field

2:15 K-6 Students to return to school

7-12 Students compete in Little Olympics

7:00 Football Game Vs. Laurel

half-time: Royalty recognition

10:00 pm - 1:00 am Homecoming Dance 9-12 grades

Homecoming Tattoos and Suckers!!

Fundraiser for the P.H.S.
Cheerleaders and
Student Council.



Tattoos.....\$.75 each

BAD
TO THE
BONE

Friday, October 6th
7:45 a.m. until school
starts!!



Suckers.....\$.50 each
(one per student)

FEAR
US!

The Cheerleaders and Student Council Members will go to each elementary classroom to sell tattoos and sucker during first period.

Pride Walk 2

The 2006 Ponca Indians Football Team and coaches invite all Ponca Football alumni to join us in walking to the football field for the homecoming game. Interested alumni can meet the team in front of the Ponca Medical Clinic around 5:50 pm and escort the team to the field. The football alumni will be invited to join the team on the field for pre-game warm ups. Get out your old jersey's and letterman's jackets and show your Ponca Pride. If you have questions contact Coach Kvidera.



HOMECOMING

Friday October 7 Ponca Indians vs. Laurel-Concord Bears 7:00 p.m.



Ponca Band - Homecoming Activities!!

Ponca Bands are back in the swing of it all! We are preparing for a busy Homecoming week with Pep Rallies and performances. There will be a Powder Puff Football Game on Thursday, October 5th at 7:00p.m. The High School Band will perform our Marching Show at Half Time of the Powder Puff Game.

This year the PHS Band pays tribute to 60's Rock featuring "Gimmie' Some Lovin'" by Spencer Davis Group and "I Feel Good" by James Brown. If rain should be a problem that night, the festivities will be moved to the High School Gym.

The Marching Show will also be performed Friday afternoon during the Pep Rally at the Football Field. We will wind up the week by performing at Wayne State College's Homecoming and Band Day Parade on Sat. Oct. 7th.

Notes from Ms. Rinas...

If you have a student attending Ponca School, get ready! You may hear your student talking about writing papers in math, science, physical education, art, Family and Consumer Science, Industrial Technology, social studies music, and business classes. Yes, students at Ponca School will be writing in more than English classes.

Why is all of this writing going on at Ponca School? During the 2005-06 school year the Ponca School Improvement Team worked with the K-12 instructional staff to select an academic goal to work on school wide. Several ideas were presented and discussed. In the end, the School Improvement Team chose writing as the goal on which to work. The goal states—Students will demonstrate improvement of ideas and content after revising and editing their compositions.

In order to provide teachers the necessary tools to work on this goal, the district purchased a variety of resources for K-12 teachers. Teachers also attended a workshop on how to score writing using the Six Traits Writing model. This is the model used to score student writing for the Nebraska State Standards.

Now that the staff is ready, it is time to get the students involved. Students K-12 will write one to two page papers for local assessment three times per year. The time of the year determines the class in which the students write their papers. The students will be given a prompt on which to write. The papers will be scored by two teachers. A third teacher will score a paper if the first two scores do not agree.

Students wrote their first papers the end of August. The scores of these first papers will be used as the baseline to which future papers will be compared. Through this process we will determine if our students are improving their writing. This will also help us determine the areas in writing in which our students need more instruction and practice. So if you hear your student talking about having to write more, talk about the importance of being a good writer and encourage your child to do his/her best!

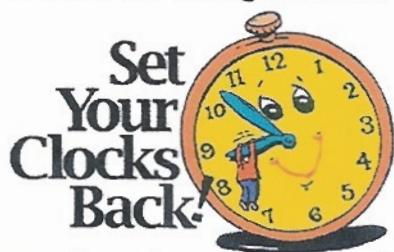


National School Lunch Week

National School Lunch Week is scheduled for the week of October 9-13, 2006. A special invitation is extended to all citizens to join our students for lunch at school.

Meals are served daily from 11:00 A.M. to 12:45 P.M. Cost for adults = \$2.75 with children under school age, free. The menu is included elsewhere in the newsletter.

If you will be joining us for lunch, please call the school (755-2241) by 9:30 A.M. each day.



Remember to set your clocks back on October 29th!

Wellness Window

ACTIVITY CORNER

A walk a day

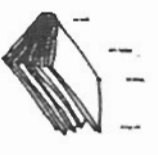
A daily family walk is a great way to get your child—and you—moving. Some families take a walk after dinner. Others plan a morning walk on the weekends. For parents who are home after school, that's often a great time to walk.

Figure out the best time for your family's schedule, and use the time to walk and talk—you'll be helping everyone get healthier, and you'll be spending special time together. Make the walk more fun by mixing it up: walk one block and skip for the next, or alternate walking fast and slow.

You can even sneak in some learning time on your walk. For example, have your child count how many trees you pass or read the signs along the way. 🍎



Sharing Resources @ Your Library

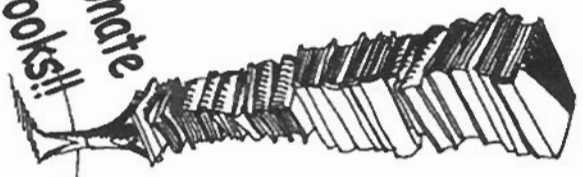


Libraries provide better services when resources are shared. We use a nation-wide service called Interlibrary Loan to provide books for students and teachers that are not available in our library. Let us know if we can help you find a particular book!

Another way of sharing resources is by donating used books to the library. If you have gently-used, school-age appropriate books that you are finished with, consider donating them to the library. We can either add them to the library collection or give them as awards in library classes.

Thank you to Dr. and Mrs. Phil Krammer and family who donated books to the elementary library this month. Money given by The Ponca Community Education Foundation will allow us to purchase the Accelerated Reader Quizzes to accompany these donated books.

Donate Books!!



Post-Prom Planning Meeting

Who: Jr.-Sr. Parents

What: Post Prom Organizational Meeting.

We will be discussing the entertainment and location of the 2007 post prom party.

When: October 11th, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

Where: Ponca School Elementary Library



MUSIC BOOSTER MEETING

OCT. 16TH @ 7:00 P.M.

IN THE BAND ROOM.

Big Bucks

Turn in your receipts to your school to help your school earn **CASH!!**

Your School receives for every **\$100** in receipts

AMV Receipt from these: Hy-Vee Stores, 29th & Hamilton, Southern Hills Mall, Gordon Drive, South Sioux, Gas, Pharmacy, Cafeteria, etc.

Ponca Elementary Student Council

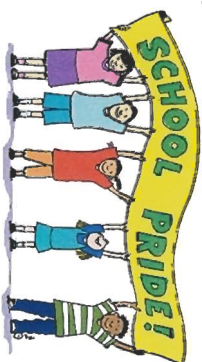


Ponca Elementary Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth graders have experienced the process of campaigning and the election process to become student council representatives. Students made campaign posters after filling out permission forms to run for student council representative. A primary election was held to narrow the candidate field after which the candidates each wrote and gave a campaign speech to their classmates telling why they would be the person to vote for to be the classroom representative on student council. Each classroom then held a general election and voted two representatives onto the council board. The representatives met Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2006 from 3:30 to 5:30 for training and held their first meeting using parliamentary procedure and elected four people to the offices of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Parents, community members and school staff attended the installation ceremony held in the elementary library at 5:30. The following students are the 2006-2007 student council representatives:

Mr. Stroud-4th
 Hannah Albrecht
 Kianna Kremper
 Taylor O'Neill
 Alex Rickett
 Ethan Swick
 Michael Walsh

Mrs. Carnell-6th
 Tanner Boyle
 Jacob Oswald

Ms. White-6th
 Isaac Bennett
 Josh Masin



I would like to thank Mr. Thompson, Ms Rinas, teachers/staff, parents, community members, and students for their help and support given to our Ponca Elementary Student Council organization.

Cindy Anderson
 Elementary Counselor

Eddie Eagle Gun Safe Program

An Eddie Eagle Gun Safe Program Assembly will be presented to K-6 Ponca and Jackson students by Dixon County Law Enforcement. The assembly will be held in the Ponca School Gymnasium at 2:00 P.M. , on October 19, 2006.

The purpose of the Eddie Eagle Gun Safe program sponsored by the National Rifle Association is to promote gun accident prevention for children in kindergarten through sixth grade by teaching them a simple safety message, so they know what to do if they see a firearm:

- STOP!
- LEAVE THE AREA.
- DON'T TOUCH.
- TELL AN ADULT.

The program teaches children that guns are not toys and makes no value judgment about whether guns are good or bad, but promises safe behavior.

Parents are encouraged to attend this assembly, if they wish. If there are any concerns about their child/children attending this assembly, please talk to Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Thompson, or Mr. Hayes.





Fall Activities Picture Day

Fall Activities Picture Day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11, with Bobber Studio. Pictures will be taken of both the junior high and senior high football, volleyball, chorus, class officers, student council, plus FBLA, yearbook, and cheerleaders.

Envelopes will be available from Mrs. Noll for picture orders to be paid for in advance. Please make sure you discuss with your student what pictures you want him/her to have taken and send the money that day.

Students need to have all their equipment, uniforms, etc. at school that day as they will not be allowed to run home to get things. Thanks for your cooperation in helping make fall picture day run smoothly!

NEWS FROM THE THIRD GRADE

Our class has been on quite an adventure since the beginning of school. We have visited the desert and are now becoming familiar with the tropical rain forests. We have learned about the climate of each, the animals that live there, and how plants and animals protect themselves from the elements. Our next adventurous habitat will be the wetlands.



Addition and subtraction have been the concepts that we are studying in Math. Each day we have some type of game for a review and then take timed tests. Our goal is to do 50 problems in less than 3 minutes. We will also be introduced to decimals. By the end of the month we should be able to match simple decimals with their fractional names.



Attention 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!

Tuesday, October 3 (5:30pm) Volleyball vs. Lutheran High NE

Steve and Mary Husen
Kent and Sherry Stark
Contact person: Kandis Conrad 755-4287

Friday, October 6 (7:00pm) Football vs. Laurel (Homecoming)

Troy and Brenda Koeppe
Larry and Paula Larsen
Tom and Paula Torson
Contact person: Maureen Anderson 755-4193

Thursday, October 12 (5:30 p.m.) Volleyball – Ponca Triangular

Gary and Beth Duffy
Joan O'Neil
Marianne Christiansen
Contact person: Ken and Teresa Pavlushik 755-2906

Thursday, October 17 (5:30pm) Volleyball vs. Laurel

Kevin and Jeanie Hohenstein
Deb Jones
Denise Peterson
Contact person: Sandy Jensen 632-4588

Physical Education

Mr. Hayes

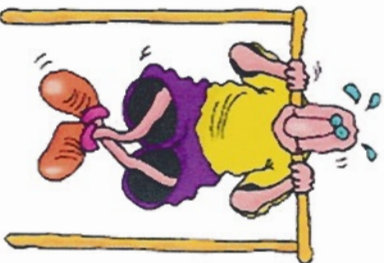
PE: K, 1st, 6th

The school year has started off very smoothly. Students have been very eager to participate in PE. We have had a lot of enthusiasm and excitement in PE thus far.

The kindergarten and 1st grade are learning movement activities. We are learning to skip, hop, gallop, and various crawling movements. Some of these are very easy and some are more difficult than they look. We are also working on coordination and fitness activities. Our primary activity this month has been kicking. We are learning proper techniques of kicking and different styles of kicking. Each month we will emphasize a different skill. In October we will concentrate on throwing.

The 6th grade began the year swimming at the State Park. Everyone enjoyed cooling off during the 1st couple weeks of school. The 6th grade is being split into two groups, boys and girls. The boys are learning to play flag football and the girls are learning volleyball skills. Mrs. Taylor is working with the girls in the gym and I am taking the boys to the athletic field. The 6th grade will work on skill development throughout the year along with coordination and fitness. So far things have gone very smoothly.

The PE department would like to thank Jeff Fields and his staff for allowing us to use the pool. The students really enjoyed themselves.



Mr. Evans
PE: High School

All physical education classes began the year swimming at the State Park. Students enjoyed swimming laps, competing in relays, playing water polo, and diving off the boards.

After swimming students started working on volleyball skills such as returning a serve, passing, setting, spiking, and the rotation of players. Once players became proficient at these skills, they were divided into teams and the teams played a three-day volleyball tournament. The main focus for the teams was to score points. The tournament champion was determined by points and not number of wins. The winning team for the third hour was Jared Duffy, Michael Hassler, Eli Markworth, Rachel Ketter, Haley Brown, Hanna Hohenstein, Amber Stark and Chris Dohma. The winning team from the fourth hour was Sarah Crossgrove, Amira Mark, Ryan Goetz, Seth Scollard, Jeff Markworth, Dan Richards and John Keller. The winning team from fifth hour was Lana Daniels, Heather Bennett, Andi Pavlushnik, Jason Jones, Adam Stark, Josh Crossgrove, Tony Bostwick, and Shea Scollard. Congrats to the winning teams and players.

Next the students are going to spend a couple of weeks at the golf course using the driving range as well as the golf course. Students will first learn about club selection and then they will practice hitting different clubs at the driving range as well as the golf course. Students will first learn about club selection and then they will practice hitting different clubs at the driving range before we move over to the golf course. We will wrap up the golfing unit by playing a couple holes, practicing scoring, and using proper golf etiquette.

As weather permits, when we are done with golfing we will try to get some archery in. When we are finally stuck inside due to weather the students will be taught and will apply circuit and standard weight training sessions to improve strength and flexibility. They will record their progress through the sessions to check for any gains. During the second semester, these students will be introduced to various other sports and activities as well as taught strategies to help them compete in the activities.

The Physical Education Department would like to thank the Ponca State Park Staff for the use of the pool. We would also like to thank Mr. Sprakel, and the golf course for letting us use the driving range and golf course, his patience and hospitality is greatly appreciated.

Art 2 Students Explore the Art of Papermaking



Because it is in such abundant supply and is so inexpensive, we think nothing of discarding paper once it has been used, and vast amounts of reclaimable waste paper are thrown away each year. The next time that you are about to throw out some used paper, just stop and think. With relatively little expense you could recycle it and produce your own sheets of handmade paper, combining the pleasure of creating something original with the satisfaction of utilizing waste materials.

The Art 2 class is beginning to create handmade paper from recycled and natural materials. They will design a work of art from the paper that they make that will be on display outside the art room sometime soon.



Keep Saving
Box Tops!!!

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.

5th & 6th Graders

On the Move

A whole month has flown by and so much has been taught with a lot more to go. The students in fifth and sixth are off to a great start. They are handling the rotations between classes well. They seem to like it and are learning a lot since each teacher is able to concentrate on a specific area.

As for the areas of Math, the students are getting back to basics by reviewing previous concepts and learning new skills.

The Social Studies department has been traveling back in history with fifth grade learning about the European Explorers and the sixth grade is learning about Mesopotamia the early civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere.

The Science department has been investigating the animal and plant cells in fifth and sixth with fifth graders learning how scientists classify living organisms, as the sixth graders are learning the functions of the individual parts of the cells.

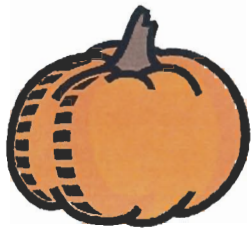
As for Reading, all three classes are each reading a favorite classroom novel and doing activities that review their reading skills.

We want to make you aware of an upcoming event hosted by the fifth and sixth grades. They will be presenting their annual wax museum the end of October. The date will be announced soon. The museum will be featuring famous people through the decades of the 50's, 60's and the 70's. The students look forward to this event, along with their teachers. Also there may be a special appearance that day from a special "Trio".

HAVE A GREAT OCTOBER!!!

Ms. White, Mrs. Carnell and Mrs. Stewart





Kindergarten - Mrs. Dickens



The Kindergarten students in the Ponca School District were asked two very important questions about a very important upcoming holiday...

- (1.) What are you going to be for Halloween?
- (2.) What is your favorite Halloween treat?

Read on to find out what you might see on your doorstep on Halloween night.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Joel | - Spiderman |
| Kelsey | - a princess |
| Graci | - a princess |
| Evan | - I don't know because I've been every costume...maybe a Power Ranger |
| Sydni | - I think I will be a bride |
| Morgan | - I'll probably be Dora |
| Quest | - a witch |
| Cole | - a blue Power Ranger with gold all over it |
| Katy | - a rodeo queen or a scary witch |
| Gage | - I don't know yet. Last year I was a rodeo clown. I want to be an M&M. |
| Andrew | - An alien because I already have the costume |
| DJ | - Darth Vader |
| Logan | - a vampire |
| Jadee | - a blue bedtime Care Bear |
| Olivia | - a princess |
| Michael | - Batman, I already have the costume |
| Tosha | - a kitty cat |
| Kaitlyn | - a butterfly |
| Colson | - I want to wear my Fantastic Four costume |
| MaKayla | - Robin, not Batman |
| Autumn | - a princess because I grew out of my Tinker Bell costume |
| Cody | - I'm already Batman |
| Claire | - a witch with a hat and shoes |
| Garrett | - a rabbit |
| Brooklyn | - Tinker Bell |
| Katie | - The Little Mermaid |
| Brenden | - Harry Potter |
| Noma | - Tinker Bell |
| Kelby | - a Power Ranger |
| Adam | - a Power Ranger |
| Jayde | - a cowboy |
| Grace | - a butterfly |
| Alec | - a ninja |



The results are in...here is a list of our favorite treats!!

1. candy bars (12 votes)
2. gum (8 votes)
3. suckers (5 votes)
4. Tootsie Rolls (3 votes)
5. candy corn (2 votes)
6. honey candy (1 vote)
7. popcorn balls (1 vote)
8. juice (1 vote)
9. pop (1 vote)



