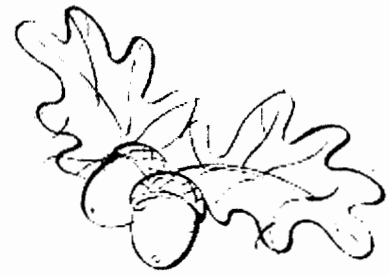


# Ponca Public Schools

[www.poncaschool.org](http://www.poncaschool.org)

## September Newsletter

### 2006



---

---

#### From the desk of:

**William F. Thompson, Superintendent**

The safety of students is always a concern especially as they arrive and leave the school each day. There is a large amount of traffic on the streets at the beginning of the school day and again at dismissal time and safety must be everyone's concern. The following reminders are given to parents and community members who drive in the vicinity of the school during the school day:

1. If you do not need to drive by the school from 7:45 to 8:15 in the morning and again from 3:15 to 3:45 in the afternoon, it would be less congested and safer for everyone.
2. Washington Street is barricaded every school day for recess. **PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE AROUND THE BARRICADES!** The students are not looking for cars as they head for the playground.
3. If dropping off or picking up students from school, try to avoid Washington Street. The buses unload students in the morning there and double-park there in the afternoon. It is much safer to meet your children around the corner or other agreed-upon spot on one of the other streets.
4. Court Street is also a dangerous street especially in the afternoons. Cars parked along this street must back out into the street and it is very congested.
5. Please do not park in the crosswalks the city has painted on the streets. We have many students who walk to and from school and those crosswalks need to be kept clear for those students.
6. During the fall, football players walk to the ball field for practice and in the spring, the track athletes practice on the streets. Your consideration for these students is appreciated.

School will return to regular schedule on Monday, September 11, 2006. School will begin at 8:25 a.m. and dismissal will be at 3:25 p.m. for elementary grades and 3:30 p.m. for secondary students. Bus pick-up and drop-off times will be adjusted accordingly.



## From the Principal's Pen...Ms. Rinas...

*Thank-you is extended to our parents who attended "Parents Night at School." The parent attendance for students in grades 7-12 was the best we have ever had! Remember you can check your student's grades and attendance through our on-line student management system. If you never had or forgot your password you can contact Mrs. Hayes or Miss Rinas at school and we will get you set-up. If you have a concern about your child's grades or school work, please contact the teacher. Attendance concerns can be directed to your child's principal.*

*If you are a parent of a senior or sophomore student, mark Tuesday, September 26, on your calendar. On this date a Josten's representative will be at Ponca School. The representative will meet with the Sophomore Class at 10:30 concerning class rings. At 11:00 he will meet with the Senior Class concerning announcements and graduation products. The representative will return to Ponca School on Tuesday, October 3, for orders. Senior orders will be taken at 10:30 and sophomore orders at 11:00. Students placing orders will be allowed to attend the second meeting. Parents are welcomed to attend any of the meetings.*

*The middle of our first quarter is September 21. Midterm Reports will be processed and sent home with students on September 27, 2006. After you review the Midterm Report with your child, please sign it and have your child return it to school. If you do not receive your child's Midterm Report contact the school and one will be mailed to you.*

*New at the 7-12 level this year is a change in how student detentions are managed. A student who earns a detention will have 24 hours to serve the detention. The student may serve it on the day it is issued or the next school day. All detentions are served after school at 3:35 p.m. Students in detention are required to complete a behavior learning packet and or reflection form related to the infraction. The learning packet and reflection form are designed to have the student reflect on their misbehavior and identify changes s/he might make to avoid earning detention time again. A student will not be allowed to practice or participate in school activities until the detention is served. When a student earns a detention a notice will be sent home to the parents informing them of the reason for the detention and the date by which it is to be served. A student who does not serve detention by the due date will earn a second detention or may be referred to the principal.*

## Wellness Window

### A good start

Did you know that breakfast is the most important meal of your child's day? It provides the nutrients and energy he needs to concentrate in school. Research even shows that kids who eat breakfast get better grades, pay more attention in class, and behave better. Help your youngster begin his day on the right foot.

### Make time

Set the alarm to allow 10-15 unhurried minutes for breakfast. Suggest several healthy breakfast items, and let your child choose. Tip: If your youngster doesn't like to make decisions first thing in the morning, give him breakfast choices the night before.



### Make it healthy

Give your child a mix of protein (such as milk, eggs, cheese, or meat) and carbohydrates (whole-grain cereal, fruit, or whole-wheat bread). The carbohydrates boost energy and help your child jump-start his day, while the protein keeps his body going strong until lunchtime.

# MUSIC BOOSTER'S

## MEETING

September 11<sup>th</sup>

7:00 Band Room



### *Who is a music booster?*

1. Anyone who has a student in one of the junior high or high school ensembles. JH and HS Band, JH and HS Chorus.
2. Any parent, friend, or community member who supports the Ponca Music program by donating their time, money or talents.



### *What is the purpose of the music boosters?*

1. Support the music education program at Ponca Public School.
2. Organize fund raisers with the purpose of purchasing equipment and classroom materials that the school district is not able to provide.
3. Operate the concession stand at sporting events with the proceeds going towards items such as music trips, instruments, uniforms and robes.
4. Sponsor music activities such as Band Day, Conference Clinics, Contests, Musicals and Dinner Theaters.



**PLEASE JOIN US AT THE NEXT  
MUSIC BOOSTER'S MEETING!!**

## A note from Carol Conrad/SLP Speech-Language and Hearing Services



On Monday, September 11, 2006 all of Ponca's elementary and secondary students will have had their hearing screened and or tested. The ESU's audiologist (Vernae Luhr) and several of the speech language pathologists, either screened and/or tested the entire student body's hearing. Those parents, whose children have a known hearing loss, as well as those with possible medical concerns will receive a letter, sent on that day, stating such. Any child who was discovered on the 11<sup>th</sup>, to have a possible new hearing loss will have their hearing tested again, to confirm the new hearing loss, within one month. If a loss is confirmed, at that time, a letter will go out to the parents informing them of their child's hearing loss. If you did not receive a letter by the end of September concerning your child's hearing difficulties, you may assume he/she has passed the hearing screen and has normal hearing levels. I am, again, in the Ponca School on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. If you have any questions concerning your child's hearing or speech/language development, please feel free to contact me.

The Ponca Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age in admission or access to, or treatment of employment in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures, or the application of these policies of nondiscrimination:

Ponca Public Schools  
Superintendent of Schools  
505 3rd Street  
Ponca, NE 68770  
(402) 755-2241

Appeal procedures beyond the local level need to be addressed to the following office:

Office for Civil Rights  
8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037  
Kansas City, MO 64114  
(816) 268-0550

# PHS CHEERLEADING

Purchase a PHS garden flag  
and show your school  
spirit!!!!

Stop by the business office  
or ask a cheerleader!!!  
Clearance priced @  
\$10.00 per flag !!!!!



## ATTENTION PHS FANS!!!

The cheerleaders are planning to paint  
driveways again this fall.

Contact Christy Schweers or Patti Boyle, if you  
would like your driveway painted!!



## Support Ponca Athletics!!



## Picture Day Scheduled....



CLASS PICTURE DAY IS  
COMING SOON!

Picture Day for all students in Kindergarten  
through 11<sup>th</sup> grade is scheduled for Thursday,  
September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Bobier Studios will be the photographers this year.  
Pre-school pictures may be taken from 8:00 a.m.  
through 8:30 a.m. on that day.

### **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. It also 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.

# Homecoming '06 - '07

Plans are being finalized for  
exciting Homecoming activities!!  
Watch the Ponca School Website  
& Nebraska Journal Leader for details.



## HOMECOMING CORONATION:

Saturday evening,  
September 30, 2006

8:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium



### "Sweet Emotions" Homecoming Week Schedule October 2 - 6, 2006

Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Volleyball Game vs. Lutheran High NE  
Tentative Bonfire Night  
Tentative Victory March & Activities  
-Cross Country races at Bloomfield Invite  
-Football team plays Laurel @ 7:00 p.m.  
-Homecoming Dance 10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m

# GO BIG BLUE!!

**PLEASE HELP KEEP A.S.K. ALIVE!!!!  
(ALWAYS SAY KNOW TO DRUGS &  
ALCOHOL)**

Students at P.H.S. are excited about beginning the school year by organizing fun events for the A.S.K. group. If you are interested in helping with this outstanding program, please contact Ponca School, Bill Thompson or Chip Watchorn @ 755-2241.

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!!!**

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!!!**

**WITHOUT ADDITIONAL ADULT SUPPORT  
A.S.K. WILL NO LONGER  
BE AVAILABLE FOR OUR STUDENTS.  
PLEASE HELP SUPPORT A GREAT  
ORGANIZATION!!!**

Ponca Public School is an asbestos-free facility except for the old art building which has some asbestos in the floor tile in the bathroom. This building which is located south of the Tech Building, is used only for storage and there are no classes which meet there.

In the remainder of the school facilities, materials thought possibly containing asbestos were analyzed and no asbestos were analyzed and no asbestos was found. Contact the Superintendent's office for more information.

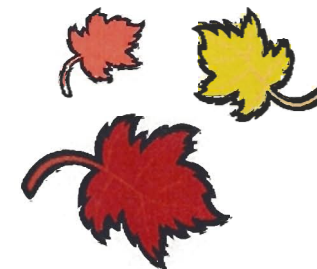
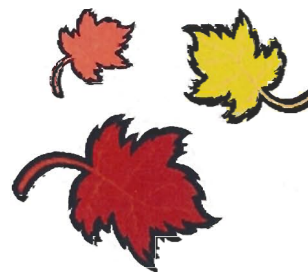
As part of Public Law 107-107 and No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, all public schools are required to provide names, addresses, and phone numbers of all secondary students to military recruiters and to post secondary educational institutions. Parents or guardians may ask that this information not be released.

Ponca School will comply with this law and release names, addresses, and phone numbers of secondary students unless parents or guardians notify us in writing that this information should not be released.

## HUNTER SAFETY CLASSES



A twelve hour Hunter Safety class will be held in Martinsburg from 7-10 p.m., September 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Students must be at least 12 years old to attend. If you are interested please contact Doug Smith @ 945-2833 or Bruce Blatchford @ 755-4184.



*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.*

# 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 sending in your Hy-Vee receipts!!!*



## **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 a 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. So 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*

# PONCA HIGH SCHOOL

# INDIANS

## 2006 FALL ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

### FOOTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	VENUE
SEP 1	Harlington CC	A	_____
SEP 8	Plainview	H	_____
SEP 15	Randolph	H	_____
SEP 22	Wakefield	A	_____
SEP 29	Homer	H	_____
OCT 6	Laurel	H	_____
OCT 13	Emerson-Hubbard	A	_____
OCT 20	Pender	A	_____
OCT 26	Playoffs	1st Round	_____
NOV 1	Playoffs	2nd Round	_____
NOV 6	Playoffs	3rd Round	_____
NOV 11	Semi-Finals	A	_____
NOV 17	State Finals	Lincoln	_____
JV VARSITY			
SEP 11	Wakefield	JH-4pm	A
SEP 11	Wakefield	JV-5:45pm	A
SEP 18	Laurel	JH-4pm	H
SEP 18	Laurel	JV-6:30pm	H
SEP 25	Homer	JH-4pm	A
SEP 25	Homer	JV-5:45pm	A
OCT 2	Emerson-H	JH-4pm	H
OCT 2	Emerson-H	JV-5:45pm	H

### GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	VENUE
AUG 31	Tri *Homer	5:15pm	A
SEP 5	Coleridge	V-JV 5:30pm	A
SEP 7	Bancroft-R	V-JV 5:30pm	H
SEP 12	Tri *Winnebago	5:15pm	A
SEP 14	Homer	V-JV 5:30pm	A
SEP 19	Emerson-H	V-JV 5:30pm	H
SEP 21	Wakefield	V-JV 5:30pm	A
SEP 25	Newcastle Inv.	5pm	A
SEP 26	Newcastle Inv.	5pm	A
OCT 3	Lutheran High	V-JV 5:30pm	H
OCT 12	Tri *Ponca	5:30pm	H
OCT 14	Harlington Inv.	10am	A
OCT 17	Laurel	V-JV 5:30pm	H
OCT 23	Conf. Tourn.	A	_____
OCT 24	Conf. Tourn.	H	_____
OCT 30	Sub-District	A	_____
OCT 31	Sub-District	A	_____
NOV 2	District Final	A	_____
NOV 10	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A
NOV 11	State Tourn.	Lincoln	A

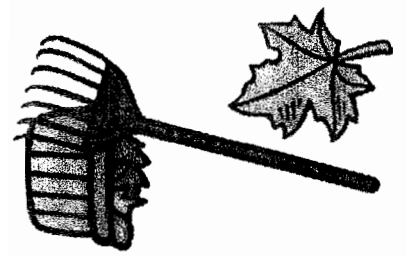
### CROSS COUNTRY

AUG 31	Wisner Invite	5:30pm	_____
SEP 8	Norfolk Catholic Invite	3pm	_____
SEP 12	Wayne Invite	5pm	_____
SEP 22	Crofton Invite	4:15pm	_____
SEP 28	South Sioux City Invite	4:30pm	_____
OCT 6	Bloomfield Invite	4pm	_____
OCT 12	District Meet	TBA	_____
OCT 20	State Meet	TBA	_____
SEP 2	Emerson Tri	9am	A
OCT 7	Heelan Invite	9am	A
OCT 9	Homer	5:30pm	A
SEPT 19	Emerson-H	3pm	H
SEPT 23	Ponca Inv.	9am	H
OCT 2	Alien	2pm	A
OCT 7	Ponca Inv.	9am	H
OCT 9	Homer	3pm	A
OCT 10	Laurel	3pm	A
OCT 17	Wakefield	3pm	H

Ponca School Newsletter  
 Ponca Public School  
 Ponca, Nebraska 68770

ECRWSS  
 Postal Patron

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







# Student Bulletin

Visit [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) to search over 1.3 million scholarships!

High School Edition  
Aug./Sept. 2006

## Fall 2006/Winter 2007 High School Planner

### Freshman/Sophomore

- Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss classes and available activities.
- Plan which classes to take during high school. Challenge yourself to take more difficult courses.
- Join clubs and activities. Take the lead when possible.
- Keep in contact with teachers, counselors and activity advisors who you connect with. They can write recommendations and serve as mentors later.
- Talk about saving for college with your parents/family.
- Search for scholarships and colleges on [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).

### Junior

- Explore financial aid options and college planning with your parents/family.
- Take the most challenging courses you can. Admissions offices look for challenging coursework.
- Research prospective colleges using FastWeb's College Search. Find and contact a matching college at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).
- Use your FastWeb results to visit prospective colleges' Web sites.
- Attend college fairs and speak to campus representatives.
- Sign up for college entrance exams - the SAT and/or ACT. Find test prep information through CollegeBoard, ACT and [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).
- Go to [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) to search for scholarships and part-time jobs.
- Take leadership roles in clubs, activities and other volunteer and service organizations.
- From which teachers, advisors or counselors might you want a recommendation? Provide a list of activities and accomplishments as a reminder of your work.

**Get a custom search of  
\$3 billion in scholarships  
and over 4,000 colleges  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)**

- Volunteer -- it's great experience!
- Sophomores: Take the PSAT. If you can, take a peek at the SAT/ACT to get familiar with it.
- Begin to think about a future college choice. Remember that you have time to explore what you want in a college before you commit.
- Ask your high school counselor about contacting former students about picking a school.
- Research summer programs. Ask your counselor or teachers about any academic, internship or work opportunities in your community.

### Senior

- Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid as soon as you can after January 1, 2007. Find the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You'll need a PIN ([www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)) to sign the FAFSA online.
- Request applications and brochures from your target colleges. Use FastWeb's College Search at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) to help narrow your college choice.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT in the fall, if you haven't already.
- Take honors or advanced classes. Challenging courses show that you are prepared for college coursework.
- Schedule interviews with prospective colleges. Practice your interview skills before heading in for the actual interview.
- If possible, visit your prospective colleges before you make your final decision. If you cannot travel, see if any schools offer a virtual tour online.
- Set up a budget for college and application costs.
- Get your applications in order by creating files for target schools. Make a list of application requirements (essays, transcripts, recommendations, etc.) and deadlines for each.
- Create your own personal timeline or use the calendar on [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) for this process.
- Request letters of recommendation from teachers and employers at least three weeks before you need them. Provide a list of accomplishments for their reference.
- Work on college application essays.
- Look for part-time jobs and internships on [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com). Find volunteer work in your community or through your school.



# Student Bulletin

Visit [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) to search over 1.3 million scholarships!

High School Edition  
Aug./Sept. 2006

## Scholarship Scams Tip Sheet

### 10 Scam Warning Signs

Several of these red flags could be an indication that you're dealing with a scholarship scammer:

- 1. Fees:** Scammers use bogus fees such as "application," "disbursement," "redemption," and "processing fees" as a way to take your money. Scholarships should *not* require any fees. Check out the *free* search at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).
- 2. Credit card or bank account information needed:** Never give credit card or bank account info to receive aid. If you have, call your bank or credit card issuer immediately.
- 3. Scholarship guarantee:** No one controls judges' decisions. Be wary of "high success rates," which often refer to award matches, not award winners.
- 4. No work involved:** Legitimate scholarship applications require time and energy. No one can complete them for you.
- 5. No contact information:** Before you apply, confirm the sponsor's contact info. The sponsor should supply a valid e-mail address, phone number or mailing address (not a PO box) upon request.
- 6. Unsolicited scholarships:** If you are called to receive an award for which you never applied, be alert. Ask where the sponsor got your name and number. Then follow up.
- 7. Pressure tactics:** Don't allow yourself to be pressured into applying for a scholarship, especially if the sponsor is asking you to pay money up front.
- 8. Claims of "exclusive" scholarships:** Legitimate sponsors won't restrict knowledge about their award to a single service.
- 9. An official-sounding name or endorsement doesn't automatically mean legitimacy:** A sponsor may use words like "national," "education" or "federal" or have an official-looking seal, but might still be a scammer.
- 10. Your questions aren't answered directly:** Can't get a straight answer from a sponsor regarding their application, what will be done with your information (e.g., if it will be sent to a third party) or other questions? Proceed with caution.

### Scam-Spotting Rules of Thumb

- ✓ Don't pay money to get money.
- ✓ Too good to be true? It probably is.
- ✓ Spend time, not money.
- ✓ Legit scholarships are *never* guaranteed.
- ✓ Feel suspicious? Trust your instinct.

### Suspect a Scam?

If you think you may be dealing with a scammer, follow the directions below:

1. Save everything you receive from the suspected scammer. Include all correspondence, e-mails or other paperwork. Make sure everything is dated.
2. Take notes during any seminar or phone conversations. Record the date, time, phone number and the person's name with whom you spoke. Also include a detailed account of your conversation.
3. Report the suspected scammer to local law enforcement, your guidance counselor and any of the following organizations:

#### Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

Fill out an online complaint form or call toll-free:  
Ph: 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357)  
Web: [www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams](http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams)

#### National Fraud Information Center (NFIC)

Ph: 1-800-876-7060, Web: [www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org)

#### Better Business Bureau (BBB)

Be sure to have the address of the company about whom you are filing the complaint.  
Ph: 1-703-276-0100, Web: [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)

#### United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)

Ph: 1-800-654-8896  
Web: [www.usps.com/postalinspectors/fraud](http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/fraud)

**FastTip:** Applying for financial aid should never cost more than a postage stamp!

**Bonus Tip:** An upfront fee is not needed for scholarship or loan applications!

**Free search!  
1.3 million scholarships  
and over 4,000 colleges  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)**