

September 2009

# PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL



505 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, P O Box 568  
Ponca, NE 68770

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

223 North John Street, P O Box 67  
Jackson, NE 68743

## Notes from our Principal, Ms. Rinas

Ponca School students kicked off the school year on August 19. The students were welcomed back by the 2009 Student Council with a “Game Day” bottle of Dr. Pepper. We have made it through the first few days of class schedule changes and have successfully transitioned to the routine of the new school year.

Members of the junior class will be meeting with the QSP magazine representative on September 3, for the annual magazine sales. The class uses the magazine sales money earned for the Junior Prom, Senior Trip and graduation expenses. The juniors would love to renew current subscriptions and/or sell new ones to you. Contact the school if you would like a junior class member to call on you.

Before the end of September, “Midterm Reports” for the first quarter will be processed. Students will receive the reports on Tuesday, September 22. Parents please review and sign your child’s report. In order to participate in or attend school activities, students are required to return the signed report to the school by Monday, September 28. Contact the school if you do not receive your child’s progress report so one may be mailed to you. You can also access you child’s grades on PowerSchool, the student management system. Contact the school if you need your web login and password.

Because the school is concerned with the safety and welfare of our students and spectators at school events, we will not allow children of any age to play unorganized football and group games in the open area surrounding the football fields at home or away events. Parents please supervise your children and do not allow them to bring footballs and other sports balls to football games. Thank-you for helping to keep our sporting events safe for people of all ages!

The Jostens Ring and Announcement Company will be at school on Tuesday, September 22, to present their products to sophomores and seniors. They will meet with seniors at 10:30 A.M. concerning announcements and sophomores at 11:15 A.M. concerning class rings. Jostens will return to school on Tuesday, September 29, to take orders. Senior orders are scheduled for 10:45 A.M. and sophomore orders for 11:15 A.M. Senior and sophomore parents are welcome to attend the meetings. Stop in the Principal’s office so we can give you a visitor’s pass and direct you to the room in which the class is meeting.

We hope your child’s school year is off to a great start! We look forward to seeing you throughout the school year and especially at our first Parent Teacher Conferences scheduled for grades 3-12 on September 29. Our first conferences are scheduled after the midterm, but before the end of the first quarter. This will give our teachers and parents an opportunity to discuss any concerns they have about a student’s academic progress and work together with the student on a plan for success before the first quarter ends.

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# Jackson News

Notes from the principal,

The school year is off and running! We had a very good start and everyone is settling into a routine. The students and teachers seemed very eager to get school underway. I hope we can say this in April!

Like last year students will enter the building through the south doors at the beginning of the day. Parents, please be sure to use the correct driveway entrance when entering the parking lot. The north drive is the entrance and the south drive is an exit only. Please make it a priority to pick students up after school on time. School is dismissed at Jackson at 3:10. If a student has other arrangements for pick-up after school other than their normal routine please notify the school by phone call or a written note. Please do not leave it up to the student to relay the message.

When regular school hours begin on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> the entrance bell will ring at 8:15am. The tardy bell will ring at 8:30am, any students that are not in their desk at 8:30 are considered tardy. It is very helpful to have students here at 8:20, by arriving at 8:20 they can get things taken care of before 8:30 and classes can start on time without interruption.

We look forward to a successful and exciting school year!

## Jackson Preschool Calendar

| M                                     | T               | W              | TH              | F   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---|
|                                       | 1<br>Angelfish  | 2<br>Starfish  | 3<br>Angelfish  | 4<br>Starfish                               |
| 7<br><b>No<br/>School<br/>Holiday</b> | 8<br>Angelfish  | 9<br>Starfish  | 10<br>Angelfish | 11<br>Angelfish                             |
| 14<br>Starfish                        | 15<br>Angelfish | 16<br>Starfish | 17<br>Angelfish | 18<br>Starfish                              |
| 21<br>Starfish                        | 22<br>Angelfish | 23<br>Starfish | 24<br>Angelfish | 25<br><b>No PreK<br/>Assessment<br/>Day</b> |
| 28<br>Starfish                        | 29<br>Angelfish | 30<br>Starfish |                 |   |

### Dates to Remember

Sept. 4 – End of Heat Schedule

Sept. 7 – No School – Labor Day

Sept. 25 – No PreK Assessment Day

### Tuition

For the month of September tuition is:

Regular: \$160.00

20% Discount for Free/Reduced: \$128.00

Please mail in your tuition by the first preschool day of the month to:

Jackson Elementary  
223 N John St POB 67  
Jackson, NE 68743

# PHS to Celebrate Homecoming!!!!



"The Climb" is the theme for Homecoming 2009-2010!  
7-12 Grade classes will decorate hallways at PHS  
using a variety of music genres.



Coronation is scheduled for Saturday evening,  
September 12th, 2009, 8:00 p.m. in the  
Ponca High School Auditorium. The public is invited to attend.  
Immediately following coronation audience members will have an  
opportunity to vote for their favorite hallways. Student Council  
members will be modeling dress up day attire at that time, as well!

Homecoming week begins Monday, Sept. 14 through Friday, Sept. 18.

Dress up Days include:

Monday.....Crazy Fan Day  
Tuesday..... Hallway (Music) Day  
Wednesday.....Disney Character Day  
Thursday.....Black Tie Day (Formal Dress)  
Friday.....Blue and White Day

## Homecoming Tattoos and Suckers!!

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

Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:45 a.m. until school starts!!

*Tattoos.....\$.75 each*

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

The Cheerleaders and Student Council Members  
will go to Ponca and Jackson classrooms to  
sell tattoos and suckers during the morning.

# Save! Save! Save!

## Keep Saving Your Pop Tabs!!!

Students are once again collecting tabs, so please save pop/pull tabs and bring them to either school.

## Turn in Your Box Tops!

Box Tops has helped America's schools earn **over \$250 million** in the past 12 years.

You can make a difference for your school every time you shop for groceries! Just clip the Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products and send them to your child's school.

*Thank  
You  
For  
Helping  
Our  
School!!*

# Ponca Music Department

## 2009-2010 Fall Fund Raiser

Dear Parents,

On September 17<sup>th</sup> we will kick-off our 2009-2010 Band and Chorus Fall Fund Raiser.

### "For the Love of Food"!

Band and Chorus students in grades 7-12 will be involved in this fundraiser. Although many of the items are similar to previous years, (cookie dough, braided breads, pizzas and funnel cakes), we are also excited to bring you many new delicious food items like the breakfast burrito, the Italian stromboli, and the pineapple macadamia loaf cake, just to name a few.

We appreciate the generous support of our community, families and friends. The proceeds from these fundraisers will go to the music department to purchase items that we would otherwise have to go without. Thanks for your continued support.

Thanks so much,

**Kari Lowe-Vocal Instructor**  
**Amy Hansen-Band Director**



### 2009 FALL CONCESSION STAND SCHEDULE

(Check newsletter calendar for game times)

#### September 8<sup>th</sup>—VB vs. Coleridge

Contact Person: Wendy Masin  
Mike and Jeanne Brandt  
Patti Echtenkamp  
Sheila Herfel

#### September 17<sup>th</sup>—VB vs. Homer

Contact Person: Wendy Masin  
Chip and Melissa Watchorn  
Max and Lana Oswald

#### September 18<sup>th</sup>—FB vs. Stanton

Contact Person: Julie Kramper  
Les and Cheri Albrecht  
Ray and Karen Anderson  
Bob and Wilma Logue

#### September 24<sup>th</sup>—VB vs. Wakefield

Contact Person: Kari Richards  
Larry and Paula Larsen  
Doug and Lynette Bauman

#### September 25<sup>th</sup>—FB vs. Homer

Contact Person: Carol Conrad  
Kristin McDonald  
Gail and Leslie Reece  
Deb Gibbs  
Rhonda Criddle

#### October 9<sup>th</sup>—FB vs. Laurel

Contact Person: Dawn Bostwick  
Joe and Debbie O'Neill  
Rick and Marcella Schweers  
Dan and Lauri Krause

#### October 15<sup>th</sup>—VB Triangular

Contact Person: Julie Kramper  
George and Amy Watchorn  
Doug and Terssa Markworth

#### October 22<sup>nd</sup>—FB vs. Randolph

Contact Person: Dawn Bostwick  
Doug and Jaime Watchorn  
Dean and Kelli Lieber  
Matt and Theresa Brockhaus

#### October 23<sup>rd</sup>—VB vs. Elk Point

Contact Person: Kari Richards  
Kevin and Amy Crosgrove  
Chris and Deanna Bennett

### Swing Choir Auditions

Monday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.

PPS vocal music department offers a Show Choir, a second vocal ensemble. This is a smaller, mixed voice ensemble that is open to students in grades nine through twelve. This ensemble is often invited to participate in local community performances, and will compete at least three times per year at festivals or contests to be determined by the Director.



Each student will be required to sing our National Anthem, "*The Star Spangled Banner*", as the audition music. You will be expected to sing unaccompanied, from memory. For the harmony check, the director will sing a second harmony line while you sing the melody.

#### **FINAL NOTE:**

*This is an advanced ensemble, designed for students with a high level of ability. That integrity must be maintained. Students who audition and are not accepted should not become despondent, but should join concert choir and work hard for a year on improving his or her vocal technique.*

## MUSIC BOOSTER'S MEETING

### September 16th

### Wednesday

### 6:00 p.m.

# HUNTER SAFETY CLASS

A twelve hour Hunter Safety class will be held in Martinsburg from 7-10 p.m., September 8th, 10th, 15th & 17th.

Students must be at least 12 years old to attend.

This class is free of charge. If you are interested, please contact Doug Smith @ 945-2833 or Bruce Blatchford @ 755-2172.



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

On Thursday afternoon, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday morning, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 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, will either screen and/or test 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 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 do 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 in the Ponca School and Jackson School full-time. If you have any questions concerning your child's hearing or speech/language development, please feel free to contact me.

Please note: If your child receives a Medical referral, it means the audiologist recommends that a medical doctor examine your child's ear(s).

### **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.

Go Big Blue!!



*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.*



## Senior Citizen Passes Available...

Passes are available in the Business Office for those patrons of the district who are over 65. The passes are good for any activities at the school.



# Nurse Notes

## *Notes from the School Nurse, Sheila Herfel, RN*

A quick reminder that all students must meet state requirements for immunizations, birth certificates, physicals and eye exams. If you have received notice from the school that your child is missing these items, please bring these records to the school as soon as possible. If your child received any immunizations over the summer, please send a copy, so we can update our records.

### BACK TO SCHOOL TIME TO CHECK FOR HEAD LICE

Now that school has started, parents are encouraged to check for head lice as part of their family's regular routine. Families should make checking for lice as basic an activity as brushing their teeth or washing their hands. Head lice are common among elementary school students because young children have a lot of contact with their classmates.

Lice are reddish-brown wingless insects; lice eggs, or nits, are grayish-white, always oval shaped and are attached at an angle to the side of the hair shaft.

Products over the counter can be purchased to control the lice. If it continues to be a problem, you should see your physician.

### Some tips in combating head lice are:

- \*Check children and watch for signs of head lice, such as frequent head scratching
- \*Remove all nits with a comb or fingernails to assure total lice treatment
- \*Use a medicated shampoo, lotion or cream rinse, but remember that all lice-killing products are pesticides and label directions should be followed.
- \*Check with your physician before using lice treatment pesticides if the child has allergies, asthma or epilepsy.
- \*Wash bedding and clothing in hot water and dry in a hot dryer.
- \*Articles that cannot be washed can be vacuumed or placed into a plastic bag and sealed for two weeks to kill all lice and nits.

# Library Notes...

Ponca School students now have access to **Teen Health & Wellness** online ([www.teenhealthandwellness.com](http://www.teenhealthandwellness.com)). "This information-rich, attractive, and easily used database has solid information....Perfect for work done in health classes, family living classes, and for reports in English, social studies and language arts." -*Library Media Connection*

**Teen Health & Wellness: Real Life, Real Answers**, the inaugural database from Rosen Publishing Online, provides students with comprehensive curricular support and self-help tools on topics including diseases, drugs, alcohol, nutrition, fitness, mental health, diversity, family life, and more.

Developed for teens, with their unique concerns and perspective in mind, **Teen Health & Wellness: Real Life, Real Answers** draws on Rosen's award-winning series, including *Coping*, *Need to Know*, and others. Thoroughly updated and revised for online use, all content is reviewed by leading professionals in medicine, mental health, nutrition, guidance, and career counseling

Contact Beth Foulks at the Ponca Public School library for a username and password.



Thank you for library book donations:  
Michael Hegge; Keith Trusty, Mary Husen

