

PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

505 3rd Street, P O Box 568
Ponca, NE 68770

www.poncaschool.org

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



Information from Joan M. Reznicek, Superintendent of Schools

As we continue with the second semester, it is the most important time of the school year with our students in the majority of grade levels taking numerous tests ranging from the Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) tests for writing, reading, math, and science. Plus, selected grades of students will also take the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) tests. The eighth graders have already completed the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) test. During the spring semester from the end of January to the beginning of May, the academic progress of our students is measured. These are the tests scores we will read about next fall in the major State Newspapers.

All of the tests mentioned in the above paragraph are extremely important for our school district because many of the tests are also connected to Federal and State dollars (resources) for our school district. As a school district, we must have our students take every test with extreme high expectations. Every student should strive to do their best because it reflects their learning process at Ponca Public Schools.

As parents, please be sure that your child is getting at least 9 hours of sleep plus eating breakfast prior to coming to school prepared for the day. With the annual tests that a school district takes, it is the responsibility of both the school and the parents.

Just as a reminder, if school is dismissed due to the weather, those days may have to be completed at the end of the year.

Reminder Dates:

Monday, March 4th - NO School - Teacher Professional Development Day

Friday, March 8th - NO School - Winter Break

Thursday, March 14th - K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:00 - 8:00 1:30 Dismissal

Thursday, March 28th - 1:30 Dismissal

Friday, March 29th - NO School - Good Friday

Monday, April 1st - Spring Break

Friday, May 10th - Graduation 1:00 Dismissal

ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS

**If you are not receiving SchoolReach announcements on your answering machines,
you may need to change your greeting.**

**If there is a pause on your greeting, the computer generated message system believes
it is not talking to a machine and begins the message.**

**So please try setting your personal greeting without a pause,
this should allow the system to leave a message on your answering machine.**

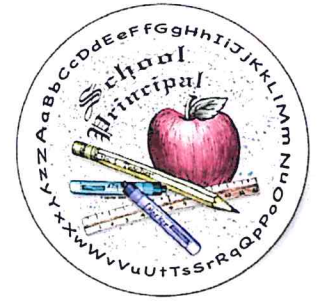
In accordance with the Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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.

Notes from our High School Principal, Ms. Rinas

Congratulations to Jonathan Larsen for qualifying for the Nebraska State Wrestling Tournament in the 132 weight bracket. It takes determination, hard work, and dedication to make it to the state level. We are proud of Jonathan for his accomplishments and thank him for representing our school and community at state!



Ponca Public School is the 2013 host for the Dixon County Health Fair. The fair will be March 12, and begins at 1:00 p.m. Ponca 9th grade Health and PE students will be attending this event. Secondary students from Wakefield, Newcastle, Allen and Ponca will rotate through four sessions centered on topics for teenagers. The 2013 teen topics are— **STD's - Sexually Transmitted Diseases** – Dr. Melissa Dobbins, Wayne-Wakefield Mercy Medical; **Does what I Post to Twitter or Facebook Matter?** - Chris Good - Technology and Staff Development, ESU #1; **Making Sure Relationships are Healthy BRAVO Team** from O'Neill, Nebraska. Students also will have the opportunity to participate in the various booths and screenings. Programs for adults include **Ask a Doc Session** and **Your Questions about Medicare Answered**.

Parent Teacher Conferences for students in grades PK-12 are scheduled for Ponca School on March 14, from 2:00-8:00 p.m. The 7-12 conferences will take place in the commons area. We hope you will take time to attend your child's conferences. This is a great opportunity to connect with your child's teachers, ask questions and pick-up your child's third quarter report card. Students + parents + teachers working together make a complete team for student success!

The Ponca Community Educational Foundation (PCEF) announces it's 2013 Funding Opportunities for Ponca Graduates and Patrons of the District.

One of the purposes of the PCEF is to promote and support educational opportunities for the students of the Ponca Public School District. The main avenue of support has always been funding scholarships to Ponca High School graduating seniors.

Because of recent growth from the generous support of its members, the PCEF is excited to sponsor additional funding opportunities. Listed below is a brief description of those opportunities. After reading these descriptions be sure to encourage a P.H.S. connected student, parent, or community member to apply for these resources.

Guideline information, cover sheets, and applications for each program may be found on the school website: www.poncaschool.org. (Click on Foundation icon; then click on Grant-Scholarship Opportunities). Additionally, the information and forms may be obtained by contacting the high school guidance office at Ponca Public School (402-755-5702).

Completed applications and supporting documentation must be returned to Fran Hassler, PCEF Scholarship Selection Committee Chairperson by Friday, March 15, 2013, 4:00 P.M., in person or via email at: fhassler@esu1.org (Please note: Due date deadlines will not be adjusted in the event of technology difficulties.)

Funding categories presently include:

1. Awards for P.H.S. Graduating Seniors
2. Awards for P.H.S. Alumni
3. Awards for Certified Staff Members at Ponca Public School
4. Awards for Non-Certified Staff at Ponca Public School

Should an individual, family or business wish to contribute to the PCEF, please contact **Foundation President Lionel Froseth**, Sioux Falls, SD, #605-357-8086. Thank you.

Funding Opportunities Article
(updated: 1-14-2013)

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2013 Funding Opportunities

Elementary News

March has finally arrived although it seems like we have been in early March since January. March is a busy month at Ponca/Jackson Elementary. MAP tests will be given, parent teachers conferences are being conducted, and the end of the 3rd quarter has come.

MAP testing is scheduled for February 28th thru March 14th. The MAP tests are given to the 2nd grade through 6th grade. These tests are very important for two reasons: the test will measure your child's ability compared with other students throughout the country and help the school compare how we are doing compared with other schools. It is important your child gets plenty of rest before and during the testing schedule. Children should eat a good breakfast to give them a good start to the day.

Parent- teachers conferences are scheduled for March 14th. A schedule will be sent home with your child. Report cards for the 3rd quarter can be picked up at parent- teacher conferences. Please be on time for your appointment and be prepared with questions you might have for the teacher. Remember your appointment is 10 minutes, please be prepared! Jackson will be dismissed at 1:10pm and Ponca at 1:30 on March 14th.

The deadline for open enrollment forms is March 15th. The forms must be in the superintendent's office by March 15th if you wish to open enroll your child into the Ponca School District. Open enrollment is determined on an individual basis and not according to families.

Kindergarten roundup will be March 27th. There will be no school for the kindergarten on March 27th.

It's time to start thinking about Pre-school. The Pre-school open house will be Thurs., April 4th at 6:00 pm.

The next School Board meeting is scheduled for March 18th at 7:30pm in Jackson Elementary commons.

PONCA SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM 2013 REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for baseball and softball, and we would like you to fill out the bottom portion and return to: Ponca Summer Recreation, P O Box 465, Ponca, NE 68770 by **WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2013.** **PLEASE USE ONE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH CHILD.**

To be eligible, your child must be the following age:

GIRLS: Age 8 by 12/31/12

BOYS: Age 8 by 1-1-13

To help defray expenses, there will be a \$40 registration fee for a SINGLE CHILD or a \$60 registration fee PER FAMILY, which must be returned with the registration form(s). Your child will not be registered until this fee is paid. A late registration fee of \$20 will be charged and the late registration must be returned by **April 1, 2013. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY REGISTRATIONS AFTER APRIL 1, 2013/NO EXCEPTIONS! NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED THIS YEAR.** Please note T-ball registration will be held at a later date.

Child's Name

____/____/____
Birth Date

Age

GIRLS: AGE AS OF 12-31-12 BOYS: AGE AS OF 1-1-13

Parent/Guardian Signature

Telephone #



UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS:

February 26- Pop's Concert-HS Jazz Band, Swing Choir and Soloists
March 5-JH/Middle School Contest at WSC
March 13-Music Booster Meeting at Outlaw Pizza @ 6:00
March 14-USD Jazz Festival-Swing Choir and Jazz Band
March 22-23-Class C All-State Band @ Kearney
March 25-Northeast Jazz Festival-Swing Choir and Jazz Band
April 8-HS Pre-Contest Concert and AWARDS
April 19-District Music Contest at SSC



Sioux City Art Center 24th Annual Youth Art Exhibition: Featuring Work of Art by Middle School Students

I am very proud to announce the seventh and eighth grade students who have been selected by the Sioux City Art Center to display their artwork in the annual youth art exhibition. This year the exhibit features works of art by Siouxland middle school students from the tri-state area. Please visit the Sioux City Art Center and support Ponca's talented junior high art students, Sophie Kramper 7th grade, Jessica Buckles 7th grade, Michael Hegge 7th grade, Sadie Finnegan 8th grade, and Joel Beacom 8th grade.



The exhibit starts February 16th and goes through April 7th. The Exhibit is open to the public for viewing during Sioux City Art Center's regular hours. Sioux City Art Center is Located at 225 Nebraska Street in downtown Sioux City.

Lewis and Clark 2013 Conference Art Exhibit

Congratulations to all the art students who participated in the 2013 Lewis and Clark Conference Art Exhibit held at Osmond Community Schools on February 22-23rd. Only 15-entries per school could be submitted for display. Entries could be K-12, but only 9-12th was being judged for awards. The following students were selected to participate in the exhibit.

Laikyn Libby, 12th grade: placed 1st and 3rd, Heather Markworth 12 grade, Brady Krusemark 10th grade, Tara Millard 10th grade: placed 1st, Hannah Cook 11th grade: placed 3rd, Lorena Carmona 11th grade, Alisha Sullivan 10th grade, Connor Brandt 11th grade: placed 3rd, Lindsey Kvidera 10th grade: placed 3rd, Ethan Swick 10th grade and Lauren Sullivan 8th grade.

A **Scholastic Book Fair** will be held in the school library during the week of March 11-15. Information is available at www.scholastic.com/bookfairs. **Parents and grandparents are invited to visit the fair with your children.**



Kindergarten ROUNDUP



Parents who have children five years of age on or before July 31, 2013, may wish to send their son/daughter to kindergarten during the 2013/2014 school year.

Kindergarten Roundup for these students is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th at Jackson Elementary. Parents may register their child for roundup by returning the form below or calling the Jackson Elementary School office at 632-4276. More information concerning Kindergarten Roundup will be provided as we get closer to that date.

Please return this form to:
Jackson Elementary P.O. Box 67 Jackson, NE 68743

Child will attend _____ Child will NOT attend _____ Kindergarten in 2013/2014

Student Name: _____ Boy _____ Girl _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone Number: _____

Parents or Guardian: _____

Address: _____

The following children are eligible to attend Kindergarten at Jackson Elementary during the 2013/2014 school year. This list is according to the current census and current preschool students. If your child is not listed and is eligible to attend, please contact the office at 632-4276 or return this form to the school address listed above.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Carson Beer | Jaeden Hughes | Gannon Pfister |
| Addison Bostwick | Cora Jackson | Josi Pinkelman |
| Zyan Conrad | Nolan Jent | Samantha Rastede * |
| Arwyn Craven | Mia Krusemark | Kolton Rogers * |
| Lucas Dendinger * | Joey Lyle | Lane Rohan |
| Liam DeRoin | Avery McAfee | Grant Sievers |
| Jordyn Fleury | Caden Merial | Kendall Solomon |
| Gage Fowler | Garrett Millard | Kaylee Sprakel |
| Olivia Hassler | Claire Mitchell | Olivia Taylor |
| James Hogancamp | Parker Morton | Jaelen Templeman |
| Mickenon Hohenstein | Isaac Nelson * | Taylor Tibbetts |
| Charlotte Hughes | Chance Perkins | |

* Enrollment Option Required



Congratulations

Sweethart Mallory Sullivan and Beau Jacob Oswald
who were crowned Saturday evening,
February 23, in the 2013 Sweethart Coronation
ceremony at Ponca School!



Juniors Experience Job Interviews at Ponca School...

with the help of several interested educationally-minded volunteers, the juniors in English 11 classes participated in 15-20 minute videotaped job interviews on February 21, 2013, at Ponca High School. Three interview teams were used and consisted of a receptionist and an interviewer. Interviews were conducted by community volunteers Richard Dohma, Heather Craig-Oldsen and Christina Luebe. Wendy Masin, Julie Kniefel, and Nancy Walsh served as receptionists for this authentic interview practice. Students were offered the opportunity to practice job acquisition skills necessary to obtain employment and received valuable feedback regarding their resumes and personal presentation skills. Prior to interview day Mrs. Balvantin helped the students prepare their resumes and practice interviewing skills. This unit, created by PHS Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Fran Hassler, has been a part of the English curriculum for twenty years.

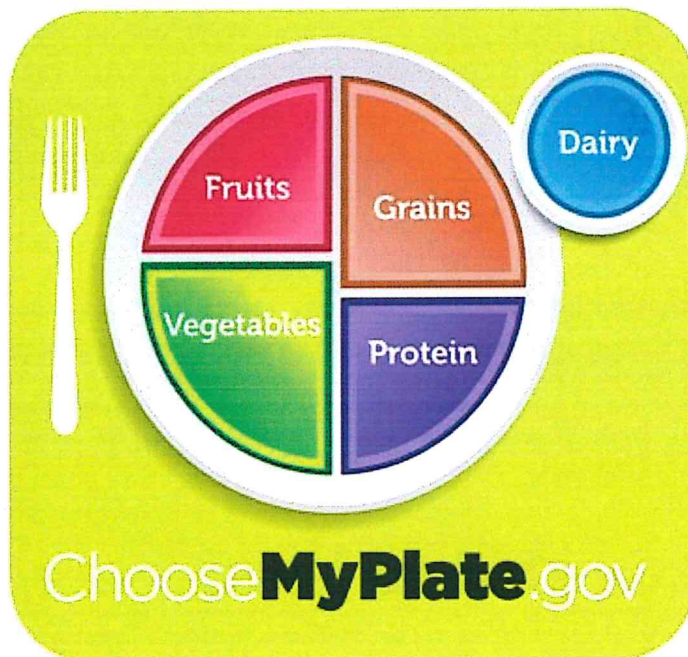


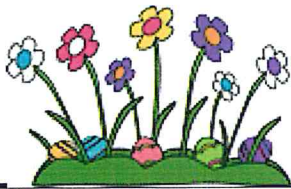
SCHOOL SPIRIT



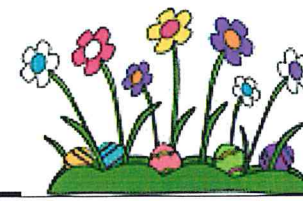
All Students interested in trying out for cheerleading (school year 2013-2014).
There will be an informational meeting
Tuesday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Ponca's wrestling room.



The 2011-2012
State of the
Schools Report
is available
via a link
(State Report
Card) on the
Ponca School
District Website.

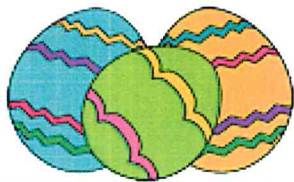




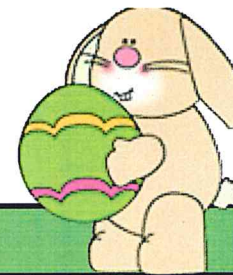
March 2013





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Girls State Basketball 2/28-3/2	
3	4 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service	5 Wayne State College Middle School Music Festival Informational Cheer Meeting 7:00	6	7 End of 3rd Quarter	8 NO SCHOOL	9
					Boys State Basketball 3/7-3/9	
10 Daylight Savings	11 Parent Meeting for 6th Grade Orientation 6:30 p.m.	12 Dixon County Health Fair @ Ponca 1:00-3:00 Speech Night 6:30 p.m.	13 Music Booster Meeting 6:00 p.m. @ Outlaw Pizza District Speech @ Stanton	14 USD Jazz Festival Jackson Dismissal @ 1:10 Ponca Dismissal @ 1:30 K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:00—8:00	15 PCEF Scholarship and Grant Deadline 4:00 p.m.	16
					Senior Trip 3/15-16	
17 	18 School Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. @ Jackson	19 Winter Awards Night 7:00 Fine Arts	20	21 State Speech @ Kearney	22	23 Varsity Golf 9:00 am @ Crofton Invite
					Class C All State Band @ Kearney 3/22 & 23	
24	25 Northeast Jazz Festival	26 PCEF SSC Meeting 1:00 p.m. Track @ Laurel L-C-C Relays 1:00 p.m.	27	28 Early Dismissal Jackson Dismissal @ 1:10 Ponca Dismissal @ 1:30	29 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	30
31 	NO SCHOOL Spring Break	2 Track @ Elk Point Huskie Invite 3:30 Golf vs. Pender 4:00 @ Home	3 4th Grade Field Trip To Lincoln	4	5 Track @ Home Ivan Krumweide 1:00 p.m.	6 PROM



March 2013

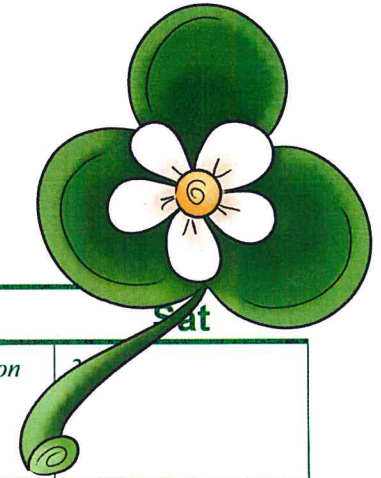


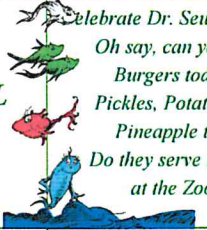
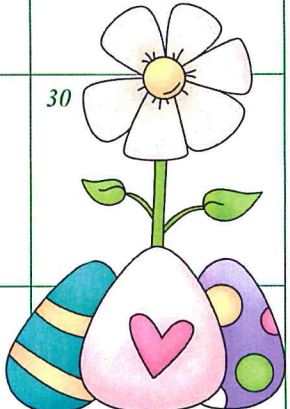
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Fish Portion Cheesy Potatoes Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	2
3	4 NO SCHOOL	5 Crispito Chili/Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar	6 Chicken & Biscuit Peas Fruit & Veggie Bar	7 Pork Fritter Mashed Potato & Gravy Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	8 NO SCHOOL	9
10	11 Scalloped Potato & Ham Corn Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	12 Hot Dog/Bun Nacho/Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar 	13 Chicken Potato Casserole Green Beans Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	14 Beef Taco Tri Taters Refried Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	15 Cheese Pizza Chips Krispy Bar Fruit & Veggie Bar	16
17 	18 Goulash Corn Cheese Bread Fruit & Veggie Bar	19 Shredded Pork Sandwich Fries Fruit & Veggie Bar	20 Chicken Fajita Potato Cubes Fruit & Veggie Bar	21 Ham Sandwich Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	22 Shrimp Poppers Scalloped Potatoes Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	23
24	25 Turkey Wrap Macaroni & Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar	26 Chili/Crackers Cinnamon Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	27 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potato & Gravy Roll Fruit & Veggie Bar	28 Hamburger./Bun Green Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	29 NO SCHOOL	30
31						

May your pockets be heavy
and your heart be light.
May good luck pursue you
each morning and night.

Jackson Elementary

March 2013



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	March 4 - NO SCHOOL March 8 - NO SCHOOL March 29 - NO SCHOOL March 14 - K - 12 Conferences Early Dismiss: Jackson @ 1:10, Ponca @ 1:30 March 27 - Kindergarten Roundup (No Kindergarten class today)				1 Egg & Cheese on a Biscuit Hashbrowns	2
3	4 NO SCHOOL	 Celebrate Dr. Seuss Day! Oh say, can you say Burgers today? Pickles, Potatoes, and Pineapple too? Do they serve Ice Cream at the Zoo?	6 Corn Dog Tri-Tater Pears	7 Popcorn Chicken Sweet Potato Fries Strawberries	8 NO SCHOOL	9
10	11 Fajita Bean Salsa & Chips Mandarin Oranges	12 KFC Casserole Iceberg Lettuce Wheat Roll Pineapple	13 Hot Dog on a Bun Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Salad	14 Pizza Green Beans Banana <small>Conferences - Early Dismissal</small>	15 Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Jello Grapes	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Mac & Cheese Peas Spinach Apples	19 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Navy Beans Pineapple	20 Chili Cinnamon Roll Corn Carrots & Ranch Dip	21 Turkey Mashed Potatoes With Gravy Roll Celery & P.B. Oranges	22 Omelet Banana Muffin Tater Tots Strawberries	23
24	25 Beef & Noodles Romaine Lettuce Raspberry Applesauce	26 Cheeseburger French Fries Sweet Peppers Apple	27 Chicken Strips Cucumbers & Celery Potatoes & Gravy Tangerines Kindergarten Roundup	28 Pizza Green Beans Banana Ice Cream Early Dismissal	29 NO SCHOOL	30 
31 HAPPY EASTER	APRIL 1 NO SCHOOL					

Ponca School Newsletter
Ponca Public School
P O Box 568
Ponca, Nebraska 68770

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PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

MARCH 2013



**NOTICE TO PARENTS OF PONCA SCHOOL
PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENTS
WHO MAY BE CONSIDERING ENROLLMENT OPTIONS
FOR THE 2013 – 2014 SCHOOL YEAR**

Parents or guardians considering the use of the enrollment options program to enroll their child/ren in another public school district in the state of Nebraska should be aware of the following date:

March 15, 2013 - Deadline for filing enrollment option application for the 2013-2014 school year unless a waiver of dates is granted.

Limitation - The enrollment option shall be available only once to each student prior to graduation unless:

- (a) the student relocates in a different resident school district,
- (b) the option school district merges with another district.

Eligibility – Eligibility will be considered for transfer students who have transferred from one school to another when there is not a change of domicile by the parents. Those students who have their transfer papers signed and filed on or before March 15 shall be eligible immediately in the fall. Those students who do not have their transfer applications signed and filed on or before March 15 shall be ineligible for 90 school days.

Transportation – The parents of the optioned student shall be responsible for required transportation to the option district.

If you have questions regarding the enrollment option program, please contact the Ponca Superintendent's Office at (402) 755-5700.