

May 2016

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

Every spring we are asked the question, "When is the last day of school?" With all of the snow days this past winter, the school year has been extended for the required amount of time students and staff must fulfill.

The official last day of school for grades PK – 6 is Monday, May 23rd. The last day of school for grades 7 – 12 is Tuesday, May 24th. Both days of school on May 23rd and May 24th, school will be dismissed early at 1:30.

On the original 2015-2016 school calendar, additional snow days were added for excessive snow days.

The Commencement Exercises are scheduled for Friday, May 6th at 7:00PM in the West High School Gymnasium. **On behalf of the Ponca Public Schools Board, Administration, Teachers, and Staff, I would like to extend our most sincere congratulations to the Class of 2016 and to the parents/guardians of the graduates.** Seniors, please do not hesitate to call us in the future for assistance or come back to visit us at Ponca Public Schools.

The Baccalaureate Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 1st at 7:00 PM in the Fine Arts Theatre.

Quick Reminders:

If you have changed your cell phone number or your landline number, please notify the school so we can change your contact number on our School Messenger emergency calling system.

Incoming Kindergarteners and 7th graders MUST have a physical completed prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year.

With the summer vacation starting soon, please make sure your child reads throughout the summer months. It is proven research that reading during the summer months leads to better academic performance when the child returns to school in the fall.

The First Day of School for the 2016-2017 school year is Thursday, August 18th with a 1:30 early dismissal.

**Enjoy a Safe and
Relaxing Summer Break!!!**

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.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with 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 Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Notes from Ms. Rinas, High School Principal

BEST OF CLASS- On Thursday, May 5, Rachael Lux will be traveling to Sioux City to participate in the "Best of Class" taping. Rachael along with other top students from Nebraska, South Dakota and Iowa will be recognized and featured on KCAU-TV throughout the graduation season. Congratulations to Rachael for achieving the "Best of Class" honors and representing Ponca Public School!

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON- The class of 2016 is busy finishing their school days at Ponca Public Schools. Ponca High School diplomas will be conferred to the students of the class of 2016 at the commencement ceremony at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 6, 2016. Each member of the class is commended for his/her academic and activity achievements and wished a bright future as post high school plans are pursued.

2016-2017 CLASS PRE-REGISTRATION- Before this school year ends, students in grades 8-11 will be scheduled to pre-register for classes for the 2016-2017 school year. Each student is required to show a parent the completed pre-registration form. The pre-registration form must then be returned to the school with the parent's signature before the classes selected by the student will be considered for his/her 2016-2017 class schedule.

SEMESTER TESTING SCHEDULE- Check-out the semester testing schedule printed in this newsletter. Semester tests will be administered May 23 and 24. Students in grades 9-11 who have an 85% or better grade average in a class and have not exceeded the allowable eight absences for second semester are exempt from writing semester tests in the qualified classes. During semester testing days, students who meet the criteria may be released from their semester testing periods with a parental note. Grades 9-11 students may also be released from study halls with parental permission, during semester testing days.

Congratulations, Rachael Lux KCAU-TV's "Best of Class"

SEMESTER 2

TEST SCHEDULE

2016 - 2017

Monday (May 23)

8:10-9:10 Period 1 Test
9:10-9:25 Break
9:25-10:25 Period 3 Test
10:25-10:40 Break
10:40-11:40 Period 5 Test
11:40-12:15 Lunch
12:15-1:15 Period 7 Test
1:15-1:30 Final Check-out

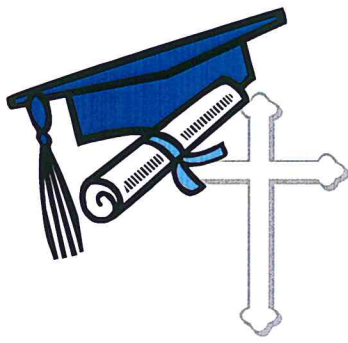
Tuesday (May 24)

8:10-9:10 Period 2 Test
9:10-9:25 Break
9:25-10:25 Period 4 Test
10:25-10:40 Break
10:40-11:40 Period 6 Test
11:40-12:15 Lunch
12:15-1:15 Period 8 Test
1:15-1:30 Final Check-out

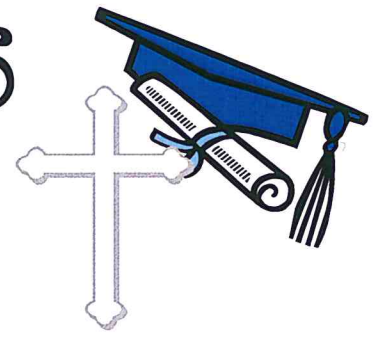
STUDENTS WHO HAVE FEWER THEN NINE ABSENCES FOR THE SEMESTER AND A SEMESTER GRADE OF 85% OR BETTER IN A CLASS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WRITE SECOND SEMESTER TESTS IN CLASSES THAT MEET TWO SEMESTERS OR IN SINGLE SEMESTER CLASSES THAT ONLY MEET SECOND SEMESTER.

9-12 STUDENTS WHO HAVE A SCHEDULED STUDY HALL OR ARE EXEMPT FROM WRITING SEMESTER TESTS MAY BE EXCUSED WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM A PARENT/GUARDIAN. STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT WRITING SEMESTER TESTS MAY ONLY BE IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING OR ON SCHOOL GROUNDS IF THEY ARE UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

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Class of 2016



Baccalaureate Service
Sunday, May 1st @ 7:00 p.m.
Ponca Fine Arts Theater

Public is welcome to attend the baccalaureate service which is organized by the parents of the Class of 2016.

Senior students and parents please arrive at 6:15 p.m. if possible to help set up. Tables will be available to display two items such as your graduate's senior picture and baby picture.

For more information, please contact Staci Fethkenher or Roni Lundin

Parents of the Class of 2017...

Please make plans to attend the Class of 2017 and Parents' Meeting scheduled for Monday evening, May 2, 2016, at 6:00 P.M. at Ponca School in the Commons Area. The purpose of the meeting is to provide the 2017 Seniors and their parents with vital information regarding their senior year. Topics include senior year timeline of events, senior trip and fundraising, graduation details, college visits and scholarship information. Ms. Rinas, Mrs. Hassler, and Mrs. Balvantin will be presenting that evening. We look forward to seeing you then!



Congratulations to the 2016 National Honor Society Inductees



Alison Brennan, Casey Brentlinger, Sophie Krampfer,
Russell McLean, and Abby Schwzers

Are you new to the Ponca School District or have a new baby in your household?

The school district is required to conduct an annual census every June for children age 0-21. These census numbers are used by the Nebraska Department of Education for State Aid and for federal funding.



This list is also used to invite children who are at the age to begin school to the Spring Kindergarten Roundup.



Please contact Sue Gill (402) 632-4276 or
Lisa Hohenstein at (402)755-5700 with the children's names, birth dates and genders.

CAMPS ..CAMPS ..CAMPS

Below is a list of camps available this summer. Please check the Ponca website for registration forms.

Boys Fundamental Basketball Camp - \$20

DATES: Wednesday June 1st, Thursday June 2nd, and Friday June 3rd
TIMES: Boys entering 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 8:00-9:30 A.M.
Boys entering 6th, 7th and 8th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Ponca Basketball Shooting School- \$20

DATES: Mondays this summer...June 6th, June 13th, June 20th, June 27th, July 11th and July 18th
TIMES: 9th-12th grade Boys and Girls (2016-2017 school year) 8:00-9:00 A.M.
5th-8th grade Boys and Girls (2016-2017 school year) 9:00-10:00 A.M.

Girls Fundamental Basketball Camp - \$25

DATES: Wednesday June 8th, Thursday June 9th and Friday June 10th
TIMES: Girls entering 3rd - 5th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 8:30-10:15 A.M.
Girls entering 6th - 8th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 10:15 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Golf Camp \$20 (with Highland Oaks Golf membership) \$50 (without membership)

DATES: Tuesday, May 31st – Friday, June 3rd
TIMES: 6th - 12th Grade Boys/Girls (2016-2017 school year) 8:00-9:30 A.M.
4th - 5th Grade Boys/Girls (2016-2017 school year) 9:30-11:00 P.M.

Girls Fundamental Volleyball Camp - \$25

DATES: Thursday, July 14th and Friday, July 15th
TIMES: Girls entering 3rd - 5th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 9:00-11:00 A.M.
Girls entering 6th - 8th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 12:00 P.M.-2:30 P.M.

Ponca Elementary Football Camp - \$25

DATES: Monday, July 25th, Tuesday, July 26th, Wednesday, July 27th
TIMES: Grades 5th – 8th Grade (2016-2017 school year) 6:00 – 7:30 P.M.



ATTENTION....Sports, Kindergarten and 7th Grade Physicals at Ponca Medical Clinic

Ponca Medical Clinic is offering a special rate of \$35.00 Please call for appointment. No insurance will be filed.

Payment is expected at time of service.

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

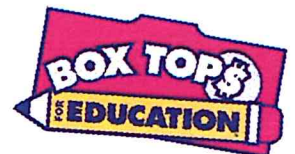
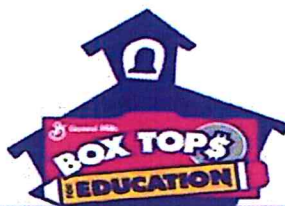
Please call (402) 755-2231 to schedule your physical.

Thank You for Saving Box Tops!!

We are trying to reach our goal of saving over \$1000.00 in Box Tops this school year. So send them in ASAP!

AND.....Please keep saving all summer long.

We will continue our competition next school year!!!



Earn Cash for Our School!

Notes from the Elementary

The last day of school for elementary will be Monday, May 23rd!!

We have come to the end of another school year and it just doesn't seem possible. The year has gone by so quickly. It has been a very smooth year for Jackson & Ponca Elementary. We hope you have seen the progress we have seen throughout the year. On behalf of the elementary staff thank-you for sharing your children with us, it is so rewarding to see them grow and succeed!

We have many events coming in May:

* The last day of school for elementary will be Monday, May 23rd, dismissal @ 1:30!!

*May 18th is Pre-school graduation @ 7:00pm in Jackson.

*May 19th is Kindergarten graduation @ 7:00pm in Jackson.

Summer School will begin June 1st and end June 21st. You will receive a letter in the mail if your child has been recommended for summer school. Summer school will begin at 8:30am and end at 11:30am every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. A snack will be provided each day. The Kindergarten and 1st grade will have summer school in Jackson, transportation will be provided from Ponca. Students must have perfect attendance during summer school, if a student misses a day it must be made up! Please call Mr. Hayes if you have any questions.

Classroom assignments for the 2016-2017 school year will be sent out in the August newsletter. Parents will sometimes request a certain teacher for their child for various reasons. It is impossible to grant these requests and keep a balance in the classrooms. We use the following criteria when splitting a class: a balance of girls and boys in each section, an academic balance of students, and a balance of Title students and special education students.

Final Report Cards can be picked up in the elementary offices from 8:00 to 1:00 in Jackson and from 8:00am to 4:00pm in Ponca beginning May 31st. If you can't make these times the offices at both buildings will be open from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on June 1st.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the students, the staff, the parents, and the community for all their support and hard work to make this year so successful. I truly enjoy my time as elementary principal. You could not pick a better student body or staff to work with, thank-you!

Have a great summer and we will see you August 18th!!

Mr. Hayes
Elementary Principal

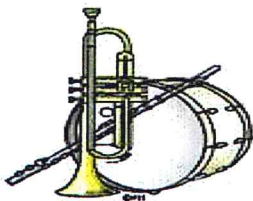
2016 District Music Results

Concert Band – 1, 1, 1
Jazz Band – 1, 1, 2
Brass Ensemble – 1
Joel B. Snare Solo – 1
Saxophone Trio (Claire Hoelsing, Katie Meister, Sami Coffin) – 1
Trumpet Duet (Morgan Janssen, Sam Brickett) – 2
Morgan Janssen. Trumpet Solo – 1
Clarinet Duet (Rachael Lux, Alexis Anderson) – 2
Clarinet Duet (Rachel Bentz, Sadie Finnegan) – 1
Flute Trio (Carin Mellick, Sophie Kramper, Alison Brennan) – 1
Flute Duet (Sadie Finnegan, Abigail VanDyke) - 1

Band

Choir

Mixed Choir – 1, 1, 1
Women's Choir – 1, 1, 1
Swing Choir – 1, 1, 2
Mixed Duet (Sophie Kramper, Sam Brickett) – 2
Girls Duet (MacKenzie Boyle, Kari Rooney) – 1
Kelsea Fethkenher. Solo – 1
Claire Hoelsing. Solo – 1
Colson Watchorn. Solo – 2
Sami Coffin Solo – 2
Jacob Brockhaus Solo – 2
Carin Mellick Solo – 2



Upcoming Events

May 3rd High School Concert with Awards Night
7:00 p.m. Fine Arts Theater
May 6th Graduation (Chorus and Band) 7:00 p.m.
May 17th 3-6 Elementary Music and Band Concert @ 7:00 p.m.



THANKS SO MUCH!

The **PONCA AFTER PROM** Committee would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation to all of the businesses, individuals, and parents that supported the AFTER PROM activities. We sincerely thank you for your prizes, and/or monetary donations. The attendance of students to AFTER PROM was fantastic, and many parent volunteers stayed up through the night right along with them. The students enjoyed giant inflatables, the IZZON photo booth, a hypnotist, food and prizes! We couldn't have done it without you, and your support made this fun, safe evening possible!

Thank you again! (If your name was inadvertently left off this list, we apologize!)

Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Van Dyke	Central Valley Ag	American Legion Auxiliary
Mr. and Mrs. Justin Hamar	Dr. Phil and Julie Kramper	Dakota City Volunteer Fire
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bennett	Willis Animal Clinic	Ponca Coop
Mr. and Mrs. John Gill	Murray White Construction	Mr. and Mrs. Doug Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Schweers	Jerry's Body Shop	Bank of Dixon County
Mr. and Mrs. Troy Fethkenher	Quality Motors of Vermillion	Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Rush
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Brewer	Knights of Columbus/St. Joseph's	Mr. and Mrs. Chris Keller
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Lamprecht	Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hassler	Mr. and Mrs. Sean Masin
Chirsty Schweers	Midstates Electric	Mr. and Mrs. Randy Tremayne
Mr. and Mrs. Adam McLean	Keller's Pharmacy	Mr. and Mrs. Mike Paden
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Kneifl	Rob Davey	Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Salmen	Dave Lane	Mr. and Mrs. Trevin Wimmer
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Finnegan	Sara Bye Insurance Agency	Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt Mellick
Mr. and Mrs. Blane Bennett	Mr. and Mrs. Dan Krause	Mr. and Mrs. Chad Kneifl
Mr. and Mrs. George Watchorn	Great West Casualty	Mr. and Mrs. Mike Carlson
Gina Touney	Rush Trucking	Mr. and Mrs. Chris Stewart
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Boyle	Highway 9 Auto Sales	Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Voss
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Charlson	St. Joseph's Church	Clearview Windshield
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hayes	Highlands Oak Golf Course	Mr. and Mrs. Chris Logue
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Rush	Ponca Family Dentistry	Mr. and Mrs. Todd Brennan
Mr. and Mrs. Brad Conrad	Walmart of Vermillion	Mr. and Mrs. Brad Krohn
Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Fethkneher	Walmart of South Sioux	Judy Beacom
Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Sullivan	Hyvee in Vermillion	Mr. and Mrs. Tyson Bodlak
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kastning	Hyvee in South Sioux	Mr. and Mrs. Treff Deroin
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Janssen	Bobier's Studio	Loretta Heiner
Mr. and Mrs. Justin Woltman	McDonald's of Vermillion	Mr. and Mrs. James Manning
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Bentz	Burger King of Vermillion	Mr. and Mrs. Brad Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Rickett	Great Plains Telephone Co.	Heather Dowling
Mr. and Mrs. Blake Bostwick	Wayne State College	Mr. and Mrs. Eric Goodier
Steven Schweers	Morningside College	Chance Hall
Chirs Rooney	Jackson Express	Tonya Nelson
Koni Lundin	Dr. Buttermore	Jillian Koch
Heather Logue	Iowa/NE State Bank	Marcia Millard
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stowe	Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Nancy Walsh	Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Niemeier
Vermillion Ford	Diane Neill	Mr. and Mrs. Nick Sullivan Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Schweers	NE Journal Leader	Pepsi Cola of Siouxland
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ferry	LP Gill	Gavilon
Cook's Country Store	Gill Hauling	Jessica Steckly
Thrivent	Elms Health Care	Chip Watchorn
Evan Uthof Farm	Mr. and Mrs. Dan Coughlin	Caleb Foulks
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dohma	Salem Lutheran Church	Ponca Public Schools
Dr. Jeff and Kathie Knerl	Conrad's Kitchen	Junior Class
Martha Albrecht	Mr. and Mrs. Nick Sullivan	Lisa Balvantin
Marron Service	Judy Curry	Dixon County Fair board
Siouxland Federal Credit Union	D.C. Repair	St. Joseph's Altar Society
Mohr Funeral Home	Family 1st Chiropractic	Outdoor Environments
McArdles' Bar	NNTC	Ponca Community Club
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Dohma	Better Ponca Foundation	



Iowa Offices

4300 Hamilton Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51104
Phone: (712) 233-4144
Toll Free: (800) 383-4545
Fax: (712) 233-1123

Staff Work Site:
115 Plymouth Street NW
Le Mars, IA 51031
Phone: (712) 546-4848
Fax: (712) 233-1123

Nebraska Office

3220 Plaza Drive, Suite D
South Sioux City, NE 68776
Phone: (402) 404-8323
(855) 402-3656
Fax: (402) 404-8460

CAMP COURAGE 2016

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Hospice of Siouxland is once again offering Camp Courage for young people grieving the death of a loved one. One of the cornerstones of Camp Courage is to provide an age-appropriate environment and activities which promote healthy grieving for all campers. This year we will do so by offering three different programs within the weekend of June 17-19. They are as follows:

Children ages 6-7: We will have a day camp program Saturday June 18th. They will take part in a schedule tailored to their needs. They will get to go swimming and have some free-play in addition to grief-focused activities.

Children ages 8-11: Our traditional camp program will be Friday evening until Sunday morning. This age range will enjoy swimming, games, and evening free-time as well as grief-focused activities.

12-17 year olds: These campers will also stay from Friday until Sunday. They will take part in some of our traditional program, but will spend part of Saturday at the STARS Horse Barn in a program which will empower them to face the changes and challenges that grief often brings to teens.

There is a \$25 processing fee per family. **Pre-registration is required so that we can plan accurately.** Please fill out and return the enclosed form to receive a registration packet. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call at **712-233-4144**.

John Giorgio, MS
Bereavement Coordinator and Camp Director

Your Comfort. Our Strength.

A partnership of Mercy Medical Center-Sioux City & UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's
Non-Profit

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

MAY 2016



Congratulations to the Class of 2016!!

***Ponca High School
Graduation***

Friday, May 6, 2016

7:00 p.m.

