

October 2016

# 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



## Information from Joan M. Reznicek, Superintendent of Schools

The month of October is quickly approaching which means temperatures will cool off, the fall colors will show off their beauty, and the combines will be rolling down the highways getting into those fields of corn and soybeans. October is also the time we start to think about getting our flu shots, finding gloves/mittens, along with the winter coat from last year. October is also the month we end the first grading period and start the last quarter of the first semester.

**The first grading period ends on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.**

If you were not able to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade **Parent/Teacher Conferences** due to a conflict in schedules, I stress that you call your son or daughter's teacher(s) and discuss grades, motivation in the classroom, and/or any improvements that could take place to solve any problems or call the teacher(s) to hear all of the positive remarks the teacher(s) makes regarding your child!!! If we take care of small problems now, the difference could improve motivation, attitude, and grades. Your son or daughter's grades today may affect their entrance into college later. So let's make sure your son or daughter has a great start to the school year with outstanding grades!!

**Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 5:00 to 7:00PM and Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 8:00PM.**

**SCHOOL MESSENGER CALLING SYSTEM:** With the fall season starting on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, the thought of winter cold, wind, ice, and snow can cause shivers just thinking about it. As a student or parent, the phone calls, texts, and/or emails through the School Messenger calling system to inform students and parents of late starts, early dismissals, or no school could be coming soon. With the School Messenger system, the recorded message may take a few seconds to deliver the important message. So instead of calling the school immediately, please be patient and wait for your message allowing the school phone lines to remain open for our emergency needs. **ALSO, if your answering machine is set to record for a short 15 second message, you may want to increase the time so the entire message will be heard. This will also eliminate the need to call the school.**

**If you have changed your phone numbers, changed emergency contact people, or someone has asked you to take them off of your contact list, please let us know for the School Messenger calling system.**

**As the cold weather approaches, please make sure your elementary child is dressed appropriately for recess.** The elementary children should have a coat, mittens, and boots. The high school students need to have necessary coats, gloves, etc when they are driving to school in case they have vehicle problems.

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>: **EARLY DISMISSAL** – Professional Development

Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> & Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>: **K – 6 Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>: **NO SCHOOL** – Fall Break

Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>: **EARLY DISMISSAL** – Professional Development

Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>: **EARLY DISMISSAL at 1:00** – Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup> & Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>: **NO SCHOOL** – Thanksgiving Break

Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>: **EARLY DISMISSAL** – Professional Development

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>: **Last Day of School for First Semester**

Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> through Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>: **NSAA Moratorium**

Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>: **First Day of School for Second Semester**



# OCTOBER INFORMATION FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE...MRS. HASSLER

## P.S.A.T. TEST FOR JUNIORS

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) is scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, October 19, 2016. 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 pre-determinant 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.

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## 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 24-28.

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## 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, at the Marina Center in South Sioux City, NE. The program will be from 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM. 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/career searches.

This year students attending the Tri-State College Fair should pre-register for a "barcode admissions ticket" prior to coming to the college fair. They need to go to the following web site and answer demographic information. Then, they can print their barcode ticket and bring that ticket to the college fair. When they visit with the colleges, the admissions representatives will scan their barcode tickets to obtain the students' name and contact information.

Here is that web site:

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

Please make plans to attend the Tri-State College Fair. Hope to see you there!

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# ATTENTION: JR. AND SR. PARENTS



**Post Prom Planning Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:00 p.m. @ Ponca Public School**

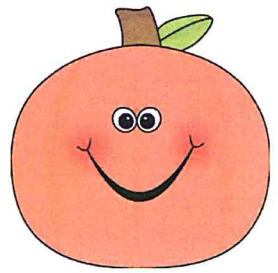


**Non-Discrimination Statement:** This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. 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."

*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 the High School



A great big thank-you to our Student Council, cheerleaders, band, athletes, student body, sponsors, coaches, parents, Ponca Indian fans and the "Poncasauruses" for making Homecoming 2016 "one for the books." It was a spirit filled week with a lot of student participation!

October 19, is the last day of our first quarter. Students will receive their first quarter report cards on October 24. If your child does not bring a report card home, please contact the school and one can be mailed or picked up in the office.

The Red Ribbon Campaign® is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation, reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week. Ponca Schools will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week, October 24-28. On Thursday, of Red Ribbon Week (October 27) our Ponca School Student Council will be hosting a blood drive from 9:00-2:00. Please take time to donate blood to the Life Serve Blood Center. Throughout Red Ribbon Week students will be participating in a variety of activities which promote healthy and drug free lifestyles. This year's theme is "YOLO. Be Drug Free." Visit [www.redribbon.org](http://www.redribbon.org) to learn more about Red Ribbon Week and get tips for talking to your kids about drugs. The life you save may be that of your own child or a dear friend.





# Elementary News

The first month of school has passed and everything is going smoothly. The students and staff have settled into their routines and everyone is working hard. Midterm grades have been sent and Halloween decorations are popping up around the building, October must be here.

On October 5<sup>th</sup> we will be dismissing school early for teacher in-service. School in Jackson will be dismissed at 1:55 and school in Ponca will be dismissed at 2:15. Please make the necessary arrangements for after school care for your child.

As the weather begins to change indoor activities become more prevalent. Organizations and individuals wanting to use the school building should make sure their events are on the school calendar and they have the school usage forms filled out in advance. **Please remember that the elementary coaches are not responsible for other children coming to practices. If siblings or friends are coming with the elementary athletes they must have adult supervision and are not allowed to run around the building.**

A reminder; if you have a membership and a FOB to the weight room and west gym, students are not allowed to use the facilities without adult supervision. Abusing this privilege could mean the FOB will be deactivated and no refund will be granted.

The Hy Vee receipt program has been very good to us the past couple of years. We have received nearly \$1000 dollars from the program. The proceeds from this program have purchased books, playground equipment, and help fund our spring field trip. Please save your receipts and bring them to school.

Even though school is going smoothly there are some areas that need to be tweaked. If you are picking students up after school in Jackson please realize the east side of the street has been changed to a No Parking Zone by the City of Jackson. Parents are welcome to park and wait in the parking lot in front of the school; the busses now load on the north end of the school so you will not get blocked in. Parents please do not enter the building during the dismissal period. Please wait for your child outside the building.

Please check into the office when entering the building. We are having problems with parents entering the building without checking in. We are trying to make sure our buildings are safe and secure. Checking into the building helps us keep track of who is in the building. Please pick up your children outside the building when school is dismissed there is enough congestion in the halls without adding more people.

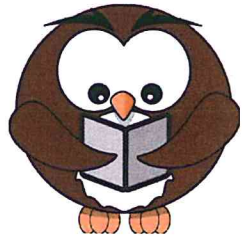
Homework is a necessary part of the education process. It is not busy work or punishment. Homework is a practice of the concepts learned during the day and a review of concepts from previous days. Many students are not using their study time in school to work on home work assignments. Please visit with your child about using their time in school wisely and effectively.

**Parent-teacher conferences are Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm to 8:00pm in Ponca.** We are asking parents to please be on time for your appointment and remember your allotted time is 10 minutes. If you need more time please make arrangements with the teacher. Make sure you come prepared for conferences, have questions you want to ask written down and make good use of the conference. It is difficult to have an effective conference with the student present.

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## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING WHO DONATED BOOKS TO OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY

KORTNEY FETHKENHER



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## Title I Informational Meetings

There will be two Title I informational meetings during the upcoming parent-teacher conferences.

**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>** grade parents will meet in the Ponca School Title I Classroom  
on **October 19<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-6:45

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>** grade parents will meet in the Ponca School Title I Classroom  
on **October 20<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-6:45

Bring your questions! Ms. Leslie will be available for individual conferences on a drop-in basis at Jackson on October 19 and Ponca on October 20. I am looking forward to seeing you!





# JR. HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL PEP BAND SCHEDULE

All junior high and high school band students are required  
to be at the following games:

- October 6<sup>th</sup> – Volleyball Be at school by 6:30
- October 11<sup>th</sup> – Volleyball Be at school by 6:30
- October 14<sup>th</sup> – Football Be at field by 6:25
- October 18<sup>th</sup> – Volleyball Be at school by 6:30



## Music Booster Meeting

Wednesday,

October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00

in the Fine Arts Theater.



# CONCESSION STAND



## Worker Schedule

### JV Football Oct 3

Contact Julie Kramper Cell# 712 223-4277  
Chris and Jayna Keller

### Volleyball Oct 11

Contact: Tina Brennan Cell# 712 259-0809  
Brian & Angie Fernau Joe & Barb Hayes Candice Hanson

### Volleyball Oct 18

Contact: Christina Luebe Cell# 712 899-2520  
Burl and Lori Arbuthnot Barry Anderson

### Volleyball Oct 6

Contact: Wendy Masin Cell# 402 312-9042  
Chris & Stephani Richards Gina Touney

### Varsity Football Oct 14

Contact: Stacey Swick Cell# 402 380-6170  
Jeff & Hallie Salmen Doyle & Jenny VanDyke

*Need Volunteers!*



## Good luck to the Following Vocal Music Students!! All-State Chorus Auditions October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8th, 2016

The Nebraska Music Educators Association is now requiring an audio audition for all students auditioning for one of the All-State ensembles. This audition will be uploaded to a website where they will be judged against other singers across the state of Nebraska. This year Ponca Public School has 17 students auditioning for the 2016 All-State Chorus. The designated audition clips will be announced to all participating students at noon on Friday, October 7th. Auditions may begin at that time and then will close at midnight on Saturday October 8th. So we have 36 hours to make a quality recording of each student's audition and upload it to the website for submission.

## GOOD LUCK PONCA ALL-STATERS!

Sopranos: Rachel Kneifl, Brianna Scott-Rodriguez, Carin Mellick, Alison Brennan, Claire Hoelsing and Olivia Hrouda

Altos: Rachel Bentz, Cassandra Stowe, Sophie Kramper, Kelsey Fields, Alexa Van Dyke, Abby Schweers, Morgan Janssen, and Katie Meister

Tenors: Garrett Anderson

Basses: Sam Brickett and Colson Watchorn





**10 tips**  
Nutrition  
Education Series

# physical activity at home, work, and play



## 10 tips to make physical activity a regular part of the day

**Adding activity into your day is possible.** Choose activities that you enjoy. Adults should aim for at least 2½ hours or 150 minutes of physical activity each week. Every little bit adds up, and doing something is better than doing nothing. Most important—have fun while being active!

**1 take 10**  
Do at least 10 minutes of activity at a time to reach your weekly goal. Walk the dog for 10 minutes before and after work and add a 10-minute walk at lunchtime.

**6 be an active parent**  
Instead of standing on the sidelines, walk up and down the soccer, football, or softball field while the kids play their game.

**2 mix it up**  
Start the week with a swim at the pool, take a yoga class during a weekday lunch, lift weights in the evening, and end the week by working in the garden.



**7 find support**  
Join a walking group, play wheelchair sports, practice martial arts, or sign up for an exercise class in your community. Recruit family or friends for support.

**3 be ready anytime**  
Keep comfortable clothes and walking or running shoes in the car and at the office.

**8 enjoy the great outdoors**  
Tumble in the leaves, build a snowman with your kids, or ski cross-country. Visit a county or national park and spend time hiking, canoeing, or boating.

**4 find ways to move**  
Take a brisk walk around the parking lot, jog to the bus stop, or ride your bike to the subway station. If you have an infant or toddler, take a long walk using the stroller and everyone gets some fresh air.



**9 look for wellness at work**  
Find a softball, basketball, or volleyball team at your job. You can also take the lead by starting a wellness or exercise group in your office.

**5 work out during TV time**  
Watch a movie while you jog on a treadmill or download a video on your phone and watch while you ride a stationary bike.

**10 the chores count, too!**  
Clean the house, wash the car, or mow the lawn with a push mower. Know that these activities count toward your goal of at least 150 minutes each week.





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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ECRWSS  
Postal Patron

**PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL**  

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**OCTOBER 2016**



*Congratulations!*

*2016-2017 Homecoming*

*King Joel Beacom*

*and*

*Queen Bailie Bodlak*

