

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

Welcome back to the 2016-2017 school year. Thank you to the patrons of the Ponca School District for your commitment and support to a quality education at Ponca Public Schools. We appreciate your continued support of our school district and most importantly our students.

Do you know that Ponca Public School could get additional **REDUCED** rates on our long distance telephone charges? Do you know that Ponca Public School could receive **FREE** grant money from the State of Nebraska and the Federal Government to purchase equipment and supplies for our school? How can this happen? Put in an application for **free or reduced lunches**. Yes, **our school could benefit financially by having more families or individuals apply for free or reduced lunches**. All information is kept strictly confidential. Each student enters their own lunch number into the lunch computer confidentially. If you have not filled out your application, please fill out the form. If you need an additional lunch form from the school, please give us a call and we will gladly send one out to you.

We have had several families this school year that have not yet applied for **free or reduced lunches**. Please don't wait for the last minute to get your application into the school to see if you qualify for the free or reduced lunches. If you qualified last year, yes, you have approximately one month on this new school year to continue on the 2015-2016 status. But, when the one month time period has expired, you will be paying full price for lunches. The school district cannot continue to give the free or reduced lunch price.

PLEASE APPLY FOR FREE OR REDUCED LUNCHES!!

All visitors are required to check in at the high school office. **Visitors will be required to sign in at the High School Principal's Office, leave their car keys, and then will be given a visitor pass to wear while in the building. If a parent arrives at school to get their child due to sickness or an appointment, the parent will wait in the high school office for school personnel to get their child from his/her classroom.** We understand that many of our parents have gone to the classrooms in previous years to get your child, but we are trying to cut down on the classroom distractions plus we always want our students and staff to be safe.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping our school safe.

Parent/Teacher Conferences for grades 7 – 12 are scheduled for Thursday, September 22nd from 2:00 to 8:00. All students will be dismissed at the early dismissal times of 1:10 for Jackson and 1:30 for Ponca.

Parent/Teacher Conferences for grades K – 6 are scheduled for Wednesday, October 19th and Thursday, October 20th from 5:00 to 8:00 on both evenings. School will not be dismissed early.

NO SCHOOL OR EARLY DISMISSAL ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Monday, September 5th – NO SCHOOL – Labor Day Vacation

Thursday, September 22nd – EARLY DISMISSAL – Parent/Teacher Conferences 7 – 12 grades

Monday, September 26th – NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day for Teachers

Wednesday, October 5th – EARLY DISMISSAL – Professional Development

Friday, October 21st – NO SCHOOL – Fall Break

Wednesday, November 2nd – EARLY DISMISSAL – Professional Development

Wednesday, November 23rd – EARLY DISMISSAL at 1:00 – Thanksgiving Vacation

Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th – NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Vacation

Wednesday, December 7th – EARLY DISMISSAL – Professional Development

Wednesday, December 21st – LAST DAY OF THE FIRST SEMESTER

Thursday, December 22nd – Tuesday, January 3rd – NO SCHOOL – Christmas Break

Friday, December 23 – Tuesday, December 27th – NSAA MORATORIUM

UPDATES FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL

IMPORTANT MAILING! Parents please watch for an important mailing from Ponca School. In September you will be receiving a mailing that includes the Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) test scores in reading and math for students in grades 3-8 and 11. If your child was in grade 5, 8 or 11 last year you will also see a NeSA score for your child in science. These scores are from the NeSA tests administered to your child last spring. This mailing will also include the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) scores for your child.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT MAILING! If you did not attend the elementary or secondary "Parents Night at School" you will also find in your mailbox a form to verify your child's information and update the school message system information. Please update the "Student/Parent Information Sheet" and return it to the school. It is important that the school has the correct information for your child.

HELP KEEP OUR SPORTING EVENTS SAFE! 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 areas 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!

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK REMINDER

Printed copies of the "Ponca School Student/Parent Handbook" are available in the school office for people who do not have online access to it or simply prefer a printed copy.

MAP TESTING

Each year students in grades K-11 take the MAP test in the fall and spring. Elementary students are also tested in the winter. MAP is the acronym for Measure of Academic Progress. MAP is an "adaptive" measure of the learning needs of every student. At the completion of the test students receive immediate feedback on their results. Teachers use the information from MAP throughout the school year to plan learning for the students in their classrooms. Students in each grade level are assessed in reading, math, language arts, and science. Administering the fall MAP test at the beginning of the school year gives teachers the opportunity to find out early the learning needs of each student and gives students information on areas they need to focus on to grow their own learning.

SENIORS AND SOPHOMORES TO MEET WITH JOSTENS! The Jostens Ring and Announcement Company will be at school on Wednesday, September 14, to present their products to seniors and sophomores. The senior meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. with information about announcements and graduation products. They will meet with the sophomores about class rings at 12:09 p.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.

FIRST QUARTER MIDTERM REPORTS! Before the end of September, "Midterm Reports" for the first quarter will be processed. Students will receive the reports on Friday, September 16. Parents are asked to review and sign their child's report. In order to participate in or attend school activities, students are required to return the signed report to the school by Wednesday, September 21. Contact the school if you do not receive your child's midterm report so one may be mailed to you. You can also access your child's grades on PowerSchool, the student management system. Contact the school if you need your web login and password.

7-12 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES!

Mark your September calendar for Parent/Teacher conferences on Thursday, September 22. Conferences are scheduled for 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. The conference time is for you to learn about your child's progress in school and for the teacher to learn from you about their child. Although grades are important, they are only a piece of data. Good parent-teacher conferences focus on learning and how the child can grow and improve. Teachers like parents want each child to succeed. Be prepared to ask questions or talk about ways you and the teacher can help your child.

HOMECOMING 2016

"An Olympic Homecoming: This One is for the Books"

Coronation of the king and queen is scheduled for Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Performing Arts Center of Ponca High School. The public is invited to attend coronation. Immediately following coronation will be the Homecoming Dance which will run from 8:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. in the West Gym. Scott Delperdang will be the DJ for the dance. Students in grades 9-12 are invited to attend the dance. Cost is \$7.00/person (if the student is dressed up – no shorts/no jeans) and \$10.00 /person if they are not dressed up).

Homecoming week runs from Monday, September 19 through Friday, September 23. Arrangements are being finalized for the full week of activities. Currently, dress up days include

Dress Up Days Include:

Monday:	Olympian Day
Tuesday:	USA Day
Wednesday:	Competitive Sleeping Day (Pajama Day)
Thursday:	Synchronized Twinning Day (Twin Day)
Friday:	Blue and White Day

The Homecoming Volleyball Game against Emerson-Hubbard is Tuesday, September 20 and students and fans are invited to wear USA gear. The Homecoming football game is scheduled for Friday, September 23rd when the Indians host the Crofton Warriors. Everyone should wear blue and white to support PHS!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

LifeTouch Studios will take individual school pictures on Wednesday, September 7th at Jackson and at Ponca.

Picture packets will be sent home prior to picture day. **ALL** students will have their pictures taken for the yearbook.

Hunter Education Class

September. 12th, 19th, 26th, & October 3rd from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

New Martinsburg Fire Hall

Students must register online @ www.HuntSafeNebraska.Org

Students must have the parental release form filled out & bring it to 1st session

Students must be 12 years or older and must attend all 4 sessions

For more information call one of the following :

Monte Roeber 402-945-2334

Doug Smith office 402-635-2129 or at home 402-945-2833

Bob Kumm 712-253-9807

Charlie Mahler 402-945-2951

Doug Ellis 402-635-1636



PONCA ELEMENTARY NEWS

The school year is off and running! We had a very good start and everyone is settling into a routine. The first two weeks have been smooth; I hope this is an indication of how the whole year will be.

Elementary students will be taking the fall MAP tests the week of Sept. 12th. These are very important tests to help us measure growth and compare how we are doing academically. Results of the MAPS Tests will be with your child's report card in October. Parents can help by making sure your children get plenty of rest and eat a good breakfast before coming to school.

Speaking of rest, there was an article in the Sioux City Journal in early July that addressed the guidelines for the amount of sleep children should receive. The article prescribed children from ages 6 to 12 should get between 9 to 12 hours of sleep each night. The article went on to say children that do not receive the proper amount of sleep can develop health problems such as obesity, depression, and hypertension. The article recommended all electronic devices be shut off one half hour before a child's bedtime.

The athletic season is getting under way and we anticipate another exciting year. A couple of reminders as we begin the athletic season, if a student goes home ill from school or is absent from school they are not permitted to attend an event that same evening without permission from the administration. **Students are expected to sit and watch the event they are attending, not run around.** If a student is given a second warning to sit down at an event they will be required to sit with their parents or guardian the remainder of the year. If a parent or guardian is not at the event they will be sent home. Students should **not bring footballs or any type of ball to football games.** If a student brings a ball to a game it will be confiscated.

The school board is in the process of looking at plans to remodel the playground at Jackson next summer. It is a large undertaking but something that is necessary. In order to help with the cause the elementary staff and students will be having various fundraising efforts throughout the year. We will keep you informed as the year progresses.

If you are dropping off or picking up students, please do not enter the building. For safety reasons it is important that students enter the building on their own. It is fine to walk them to the door but students need to learn to enter the building on their own.

The elementary will attend the Homecoming victory march September 23rd @ Ponca. The Jackson students will do their annual dance on Main Street choreographed by Mrs. Lamprecht. The Ponca students will attend the pep rally at the sports complex. Elementary students will not participate in other activities such as dress-up days. Elementary students will be allowed to participate in blue and white day on Friday.

Reminder: There will be NO School for the Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd grades on Monday, Sept. 19

Reminder: No school September 5th Labor Day and September 26th Professional Development

Reminder: Parent-Teacher conferences will be October 19th & 20th for PK through 6 in Ponca.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing 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. As stated above, all protected bases do not apply to all programs. The first six protected bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex are the six protected bases for all applicants and recipients of the Child Nutrition Programs.

Music Notes

ATTENTION: Music Boosters: (*Parents of all junior high and high school students in band & chorus*). The concession stand work schedule will be posted on the school website under the band tab each month. The proceeds from the concession stand sales support your music student and programs. Your support is very much appreciated.

Kari Lowe and Jessica Steckly

High School Pep Band Schedule

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

September 2/Football

September 9/Football

September 20/Volleyball

September 23/Football

September 30 Football

First Music Booster

Meeting is on

September 14th at

6:00 p.m. in the

Fine Arts Theater.

CONCESSION STAND WORK SCHEDULE

Varsity Football Sept 2

Contact: Julie Krampfer Cell# 712 223-4277
Brad & Codi Hrouda Shawn & Staci Fethkenher
Eric & Patti Goodier

Varsity Football Sept 9

Contact: Stacey Swick Cell# 402 380-6170
Dean & Robin Watchorn Ty & Tamara Schram
Doug & Lynette Bauman

Varsity VB Triangular Sept 13

Contact: Tina Brennan Cell# 712 259-0809
Christy Schweers Stacie Kingsbury
Sheryl Persinger

JV Football Sept 19

Contact: Cheri Janssen Cell# 612 749-2398
Mishelle Fields Marcella Schweers

Varsity Football Sept 23

Contact: Julie Harding Cell# 402 404-0017
Jim & Jessica Kastning Jeff & Heidi Rush
Aaron and Rachel Dutcher-Bessmer

JrHi Football Sept 29

Contact: Wendy Masin Cell# 402 312-9042
* VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Pop & Candy Only!

JV Football Oct 3

Contact Julie Krampfer Cell# 712 223-4277
Brian & Kerrie Lentz

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 Chip & Melissa Watchorn
Barry Anderson

JV Football Sept 6

Contact: Wendy Masin Cell# 402 312-9042
Troy & Darcy Fethkenher Will & Kelly Kastning

JrHi Football Sept 12

Contact: Wendy Masin Cell # 402 312-9042
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Selling Pop & Candy only

JrHi Football Sept 15

Contact: Wendy Masin Cell# 402 312-9042
***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Selling Pop & Candy only**

Volleyball Sept 20

Contact: Christina Luebe Cell# 712 899-2520
Rhonda Criddle Stacia Hoelsing
Craig & Melissa Ruhrer

Varsity Volleyball Sept 27

Contact: Wendy Masin Cell# 402 312-9042
Reed & Amy McGill Chris & Jayna Keller
Manjula & Upali Seneviratne

Varsity Football Sept 30

Contact: Cheri Janssen Cell# 612 749-2398
Ron & Desiree Kneiff Tyson & Beth Bodlak
Roger & Becky Bentz

Volleyball Oct 6

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

Varsity Football Oct 14

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

The Ponca Public School library would like to thank the following for their book donations:

Brailie Brummond, Mrs. Reuter and Mrs. Fields.

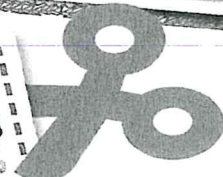
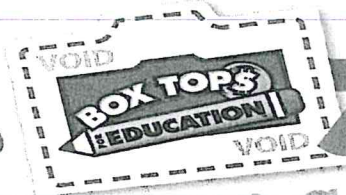
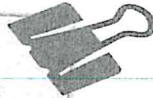
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BIGGEST
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Please send your Box Tops to Ponca Schools with your students. Last year we raised nearly \$1000.00.

Don't Forget To Turn In Your Hy-Vee Receipts
FOR EVERY \$100 SCHOOL RECEIVES \$1

--Receipts must be from the Sioux City or South Sioux City Hy-Vee Stores or the Hy-Vee Drug Store on Pierce St.
--Receipts dated /August 1, 2016 – May 1, 2017

Groceries - Prescriptions - Floral - Photo Shop - Catering & more
(No - gas, fuel, stamp, money order, Western Union, lottery, or gift cards)



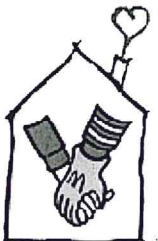
KEEP SAVING YOUR PULL TABS!!!

Ponca Schools collects pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux City.

Last year we collected over 180,000 tabs.

We have collected over 2 million pull tabs since Ponca Schools

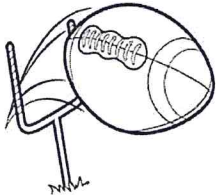
Started saving for the Ronald McDonald House in 2002!!!



(Pull tabs can be found on beverage cans, fruit, vegetable and pet food cans, etc.)

Athletic Director Information

- **REMINDER: THE MEMBERSHIP FOBS** will expire on September 1st. If you wish to continue using the weight room and the west gym you must renew your membership.
- **PRESS BOX AND LOFT:** Fans may begin bidding on seating in the press box or the loft above the concession stand for the first home game September 2nd. The press box will seat 10 fans and the loft approximately 20 fans. Bids can be dropped off at the school in a sealed envelope addressed to Bob Hayes or e-mailed to Bob Hayes @ bobhayes@poncaschool.org. Bidding will cease at 12:00 noon September 1st. Bidding will be posted on the school web page, the name of the top bid will be kept confidential. You may increase your bid at anytime! The winner will be notified Thursday afternoon September 1st.
- **Sports Complex Playground:** The playground equipment at the sports complex belongs to the City of Ponca and is not regulated by the school. During athletic contests at the sports complex the school is not liable and will not be supervising the equipment. Children using the equipment will be at their own risk and the school will not be responsible for any accidents that may occur.
- **Elementary Fundraiser:** The elementary is doing fundraising events during the school year in an effort to raise funds to help with the cost of remodeling the Jackson Playground. One of the fundraising events is called "**Buy a Yard Line**". You can buy a yard line at the table before the first home game on September 2nd for \$25 dollars. If the line of scrimmage at halftime or the end of the game is on your yard line you win \$50 dollars.
- **We are still in need of an announcer for volleyball and basketball games. If you have aspired to be an announcer this could be your stepping stone to a new career! You receive a free pass to home games and a guaranteed front row seat to all the action. If you are interested, please contact Athletic Director Bob Hayes @ school 402-755-5700 or cell number 712-490-4713 or e-mail bobhayes@poncaschool.org.**



Fall 2016 Season **Athletic Passes**



Passes are good for all Ponca home regular season athletic events for the FALL 2016 Season.

Students	\$45.00	Adult	\$55.00
Family		\$100.00	

The passes cannot be used for playoff football or conference tournament events. Passes can be purchased during school hours 8:00am to 4:00pm in the business office at Ponca School.

Senior Citizen Passes Available...

As in the past we have senior citizen passes available for those patrons of the district who are over 65. The passes are free of charge and are good for any activities at the school.

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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 2016



Ponca Athletic Boosters Tailgate

Tuesday, September 20th – Ponca Volleyball vs. Emerson
5:00 – 7:00

Ponca High School



Friday, September 23rd –
Homecoming Game Football vs. Crofton
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Ponca Sports Complex

Please let us know, if you are able to help with the tailgates.

You may pay dues at our tail gate
or mail to Cheri Albrecht 1645 Hwy 20, Jackson, NE 68743
\$30.00 Family/Business \$20.00 Single

Clothing sales will begin at the September 9th
home football game dues will also be collected that night.