

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



Welcome back to the 2013-2014 school year. It has been a great start of the new school year. Again, we have appreciated the air conditioning in our school as the last week of August has really been sizzling. Again, thank you to the patrons of the school district for your commitment to education at Ponca.

*****Something new this year*****

All visitors are required to check in at the high school office. Visitors will be required to sign in at the Principal's Office, leave a personal item such as car keys or license, and then will be given a visitor pass to wear while in the building. Visitors who do not have a legitimate reason to be at school will be asked to leave the school grounds by the superintendent, principal, or any teacher. If that person refuses to leave, the Ponca Police Department and Dixon County Sherriff's Office will be notified immediately.

*****Something new this year*****

All administrators, teachers, and staff members of Ponca Public Schools will be involved in the process of Professional Learning Communities (PLC). What is a PLC? Professional Learning Communities will allow all employees to learn such areas as safety, differentiated learning, elementary instruction, secondary instruction, school culture, and mentoring to name a few. PLC's also allow for collaboration between teachers and staff members to enhance the learning environment for our students. The dates for the PLC's are the second Wednesday of the following months: Wednesday, September 11th, Wednesday, October 9th, Wednesday, November 13th, Wednesday, December 11th, Wednesday, February 12th, Wednesday, March 12th, and Wednesday, April 9th. We will have an early dismissal with the times listed on the school calendar.

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 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.

Student, adult, and family athletic ticket passes may be purchased from the school for your convenience. These passes would be used for Ponca Public School regular season athletic events for the 2013-2014 school year. More information about the athletic passes is in this newsletter.

A day to remember: Tuesday, September 17th – United States Constitution Day!

Parent/Teacher Conferences for ALL grades K – 12 are scheduled for Thursday, September 26th from 2:00 to 8:00PM. The early dismissal times are 1:10 for Jackson and 1:30 for Ponca. **All conferences will be held at the Ponca campus.**

Some dates to remember:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH: PLC TEACHER/STAFF IN-SERVICE – EARLY DISMISSAL

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH: PARENT /TEACHER CONFERENCES 2:00 TO 8:00pm

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH: NO SCHOOL – TEACHER IN-SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9TH: PLC TEACHER/STAFF IN-SERVICE – EARLY DISMISSAL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH: END OF THE 1ST QUARTER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH: NO SCHOOL – FALL BREAK

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH: PLC TEACHER/STAFF IN-SERVICE – EARLY DISMISSAL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH: NOON DISMISSAL FOR THANKSGIVING VACATION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH: NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING BREAK

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH: PLC TEACHER/STAFF IN-SERVICE – EARLY DISMISSAL

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH: END OF THE 2ND QUARTER & 1ST SEMESTER – EARLY DISMISSAL

DECEMBER 23RD – JANUARY 3RD: CHRISTMAS BREAK

MONDAY, JANUARY 6TH: START OF 2ND SEMESTER



Ponca 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. For the past two years, students in grades 2-11 have taken the MAP test in the fall and spring terms. Included in this mailing are the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) scores for your child. If you did not attend the elementary or secondary "Parents Night at School" you will also find in your mailing the "Internet Access Code and Password" for PowerSchool, a form to verify your child's information and a form to update "SchoolReach Contact Information. Please update the school information and SchoolReach forms and return them 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!

SENIORS AND SOPHOMORES TO MEET WITH JOSTENS! The Jostens Ring and Announcement Company will be at school on Wednesday, September 18, to present their products to seniors and sophomores. They will meet with the sophomores about class rings at 11:00 a.m. The senior meeting will begin at 11:45 a.m. with information about announcements and graduation products. Jostens will return to school on Wednesday, September 25, to take orders. Senior orders are scheduled for 10:30 A.M. followed by the sophomore ring orders. 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 Wednesday, September 18. Parents are asked to 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 Tuesday, September 24. 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.

GRADES 2-11 MAP TESTING! The last week in September and first week in October students in grades 2-11 will be administered the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment. MAP assessments are used to measure a student's academic growth. Students in grades 3-11 will be assessed in the areas of reading, math, language usage, and science. Second grade students will be assessed in reading and math. Map tests are important to teachers because they keep track of progress and growth in basic skills. Teachers use this information to help guide instruction in the classroom. Encourage your child to do his or her best work on MAP tests.

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.

PONCA ELEMENTARY NEWS

The school year is off and running! We had a very good start and everyone is settling into a routine. We have to be thankful to have the entire campus air conditioned!! The students and teachers seemed very eager to get school underway. Hopefully in April they have the same eagerness!

The bus pickup/drop-off area in Jackson is an area of concern. We have situations in which parents picking up students in the parking area try to leave the area before the buses leave. This creates a dangerous situation for students. If you choose to park in the bus pickup/drop-off area please remain parked until the buses leave. Remember it is illegal to pass a bus while it is being loaded or unloaded.

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. We had a number of younger elementary students unsupervised at the football scrimmage which created a dangerous situation, please supervise your children at activities!** 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.

Reminder, students at Jackson should not arrive before 8:15am. We are having a number of students arriving early. Students dropped off by the route buses are fine but students dropped off by their parents or guardians should not get to school before 8:15!

We have noticed that some students have not quite gotten onto the school routine yet. Please make sure students are keeping up on homework and assignments. Homework and daily assignments are practice for the concepts introduced during the academic lessons. If a student is not completing their work they are not getting the practice they need to master the concept. Please monitor your child to make sure they are keeping up. Parents can check on power school on-line and check lesson plans on-line to monitor student progress.

Reminder: Hearing screenings will be Monday, September 9th.

Reminder: Parent-Teacher conferences will be September 26th.

Reminder: No school September 2nd Labor Day and September 30th Professional Development



Hunter Education Class

September 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Martinsburg Community Hall "Old school house"

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

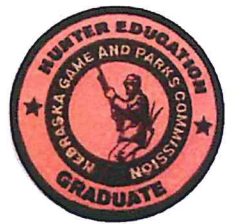
For more info call one of the following :

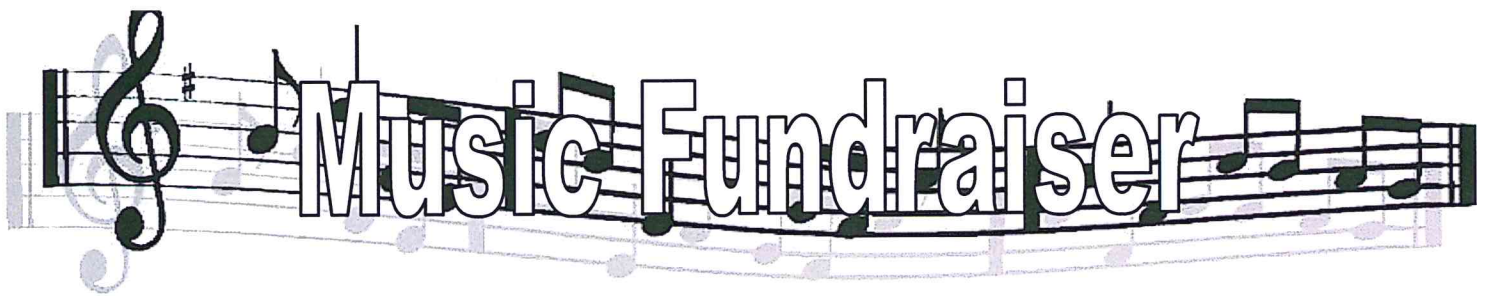
Monte Roeber 402-635-2334

Charlie Mahler 402-945-2951

Doug Smith office 402-635-2129 or Home 402-945-2833

Bob Kumm 712-253-9807





Music Fundraiser

Every year we appreciate the support that the Ponca community offers our band and chorus programs at Ponca Public School. We are pleased to have many quality students in our programs. We also understand that encouragement from home often helps keep students involved in music classes, so thank you very much!

We will be kicking off our music fundraiser on September 4th. Funds for music programs are hard to come by and fundraising is a key component to help give our students a great musical experience. The money raised from this fundraiser will first help pay for the band and choral music trip in 2016, and also help pay for band and chorus related expenses. These expenses include things such as uniforms, swing choir outfits, robes, educational experiences, honor choirs, and instruments.

We are asking students to help raise funds by selling items from a frozen food brochure that has many great items, and from a fall brochure that includes a delightful collection of gifts for every season of your life. Many people appreciate these great items and the product quality is top notch.

The kickoff will be on Wednesday September 4th during school with Mr. Scott Sievers. Students can take orders from Wednesday, September 4th through Wednesday, September 18th. All orders and money are due by September 18th. Checks should be made payable to PHS. Delivery of the items will take place during the beginning to middle of October. This is a frozen food fundraiser so it will be important that orders are picked up quickly and either delivered or stored in the freezer.

As an additional incentive to sell, students will have an opportunity to earn cash prizes based on the number of items sold. Mr. Sievers will go through incentives during the kick off.

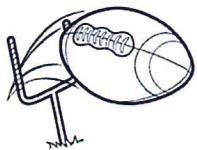
Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Ponca Music Programs. Please contact us with any question you may have.

Kari Lowe and Joe Keefe

The Nebraska Choral Directors Association is proud to sponsor the 2013 Singing Youth of Nebraska Junior High Honor Choir. The event will be held on January 24th and 25th in Holdrege, Nebraska at their performing arts center, "The Tassel". The choir of 150 seventh, eighth and ninth students will be selected from across the state through an audition process.



Auditions are due September 23, 2013. – Encourage your young student musicians to audition.



Fall Season Athletic



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

Students \$30.00

Adult \$40.00

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.

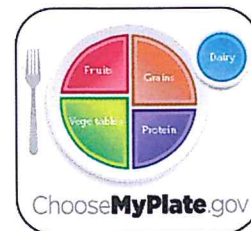
Bob Hayes, Athletic Director

10 tips

Nutrition Education Series



the **School Day**
just got
Healthier
United States Department of Agriculture



Nearly 32 million children receive meals throughout the school day. These meals are based on nutrition standards from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. New nutrition standards for schools increase access to healthy food and encourage kids to make smart choices. Schools are working to make meals more nutritious, keep all students hunger-free, and help children maintain or reach a healthy weight.

1 healthier school meals for your children

Your children benefit from healthier meals that include more whole grains, fruits and vegetables, low-fat dairy products, lower sodium foods, and less saturated fat. Talk to your child about the changes in the meals served at school.

2 more fruits and vegetables every day

Kids have fruits and vegetables at school every day. A variety of vegetables are served throughout the week including red, orange, and dark-green vegetables.



3 more whole-grain foods

Half of all grains offered are whole-grain-rich foods such as whole-grain pasta, brown rice, and oatmeal. Some foods are made by replacing half the refined-grain (white) flour with whole-grain flour.



4 both low-fat milk (1%) and fat-free milk varieties are offered

Children get the same calcium and other nutrients, but with fewer calories and less saturated fat by drinking low-fat (1%) or fat-free milk. For children who can't drink milk due to allergies or lactose intolerance, schools can offer milk substitutes, such as calcium-fortified soy beverages.



5 less saturated fat and salt

A variety of foods are offered to reduce the salt and saturated fat in school meals. Main dishes may include beans, peas, nuts, tofu, or seafood as well as lean meats or poultry. Ingredients and foods contain less salt (sodium).



6 more water

Schools can provide water pitchers and cups on lunch tables, a water fountain, or a faucet that allows students to fill their own bottles or cups with drinking water. Water is available where meals are served.

7 new portion sizes

School meals meet children's calorie needs, based on their age. While some portions may be smaller, kids still get the nutrition they need to keep them growing and active.

8 stronger local wellness programs

New policies offer opportunities for parents and communities to create wellness programs that address local needs. Talk with your principal, teachers, school board, parent-teacher association, and others to create a strong wellness program in your community.

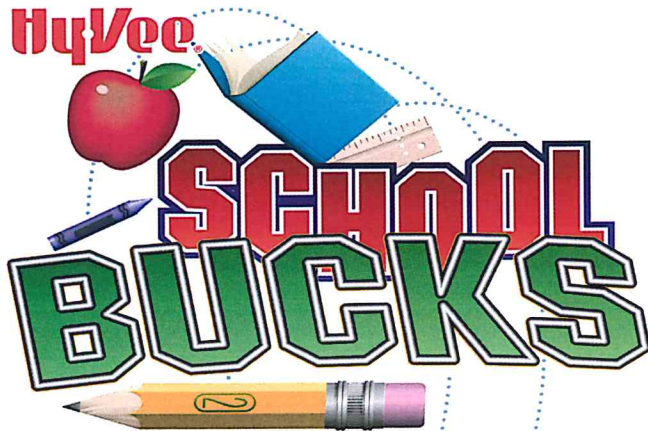
9 MyPlate can help kids make better food choices

Show children how to make healthy food choices at school by using MyPlate. Visit ChooseMyPlate.gov for tips and resources.



10 resources for parents

School meal programs can provide much of what children need for health and growth. But for many parents, buying healthy foods at home is a challenge. Learn more about healthy school meals and other nutrition assistance programs at www.fns.usda.gov.



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 15, 2013 – May 1, 2014
- Groceries - Prescriptions - Floral - Photo Shop - Catering & more
(No - gas, fuel, stamp, money order, Western Union, lottery, or gift cards)

SAVE YOUR MILK CAPS until October 15th.

Ponca Elementary Student Council has been collecting Land O Lakes milk and orange juice bottle caps. The great news is that the last check we received from Land O Lakes was \$700.00, so we really appreciate families saving for our school. The bad news is Land O Lakes has eliminated this fundraising program. We will need to turn in all our caps with the \$.05 label by October 15th, so if you have any at home...please send them to our school ASAP!!



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.)



SAVE YOUR BOX TOPS!!!

Last year during our "Box Top" classroom competition,
we earned nearly \$1,100.00 in box tops!!!



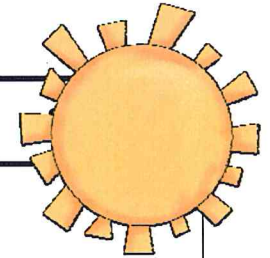
Please keep clipping your Box Tops
and send them with your students to school.



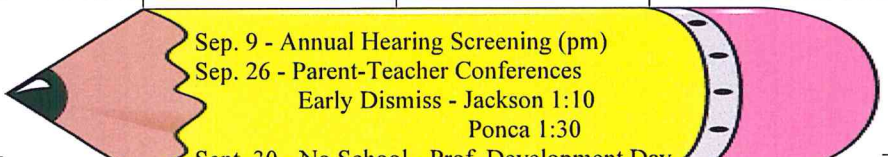




September

Jackson
Elementary





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
1	2 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>No School</i> 	3 Roast Pork Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Dinner Roll Pineapple	4 Dog on a Log Beets Applesauce	5 Soft Shell Taco Lettuce Tomatoes Cantaloupe	6 Pizza Carrots with Ranch Dip Apple	7
	9 Pancakes Sausage Beans with Bacon Peaches	10 Chicken & Rice Broccoli & Cauliflower Pears	11 Cheeseburger Pickle Sweet Potato Fries Watermelon	12 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Green Beans Pineapple	13 Fajitas Lettuce & Tomato Tater Tots Cantaloupe	14
	16 Meatballs with Fettuccini Lettuce & Tomato Oranges	17 Pizza Carrots with Ranch Dip Apple	18 Chicken A La King Green Beans Dinner Roll Watermelon	19 Corn Dog Pork & Beans Jello Banana	20 Mac & Cheese Peas Strawberries	21
	22	23 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Lettuce & Tomato Breadstick Applesauce	24 Chicken Patty Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Corn Mandarin Oranges	25 McRib Sandwich Lima Beans Apple	26 Chicken Noodle Soup Cooked Carrots Dinner Roll Grapes	27 Egg & Sausage on a Biscuit Avocado Slices Peaches
29	30 NO SCHOOL			 <p>Sep. 9 - Annual Hearing Screening (pm) Sep. 26 - Parent-Teacher Conferences Early Dismiss - Jackson 1:10 Ponca 1:30 Sept. 30 - No School - Prof. Development Day</p>		




September 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 NO SCHOOL  Labor Day	3	4 Elementary Student Council Training and Installation 3:40-6:00 <i>Music Fundraiser begins</i>	5 Emerson Triangular Varsity Volleyball (Homer, Emerson, Ponca) 5:15 p.m.	6 Football Bye Week	7
8	9 JV Football @ 6:00 Westwood High School Hearing Screenings @ Jackson	10 PCEF Meeting 9:00 a.m. Volleyball @ Home Randolph C-B-A 5:30 p.m	11 Music Booster Meeting 6:00 p.m. @ Outlaw Pizza Early Dismissal Professional Development Jackson Dismissal @ 1:55 Ponca Dismissal @ 2:15	12 Volleyball @ Bancroft-Rosalie C-B-A 5:30 p.m	13 Football @ Home Crofton 7:00 p.m.	14 Homecoming Coronation @ 7:00 p.m. Dance 9 pm-Midnight Decorate 9 am-11am Volleyball C Team @ Randolph 8:30 am 9th/10th FB @ Home vs. South Sioux City 10:00 am Jr. High VB @ Hartington CC 9:00 am
15	16 Budget Workshop 7:00 School Board Meeting 7:30 Football @ Home vs. Wakefield Jr High @4:00 JV @ 6:30 Homecoming Week	17 Varsity Volleyball Ponca Triangular (Allen/Winnebago/Ponca) 5:15 p.m. Booster Tailgate 5:30-7:00	18 Josten's Sophomore Meeting @ 11:00 Josten's Senior Meeting @ 11:45	19 Homecoming Volleyball Volleyball Homer @ Home C-B-A 5:30 p.m. Community Pep Rally @ 3:00 (gym) Jr. High Football @ Crofton 4:00 p.m.	20 HOMECOMING Football @ Home Hartington CC 7:00 p.m. Booster Tailgate 5:00-6:30 Victory March @ 1:15 p.m. Community Pep Rally @ 1:35	21
	Pajama Day	Color Day	Ultimate Fan Day	Opposite Gender Day	Blue and White Day	
22	23 Volleyball @ Home Wakefield C-B-A 5:30 p.m. Football @ Laurel Jr High @4:00 JV @ 6:30	24 Volleyball @ Emerson Jr. High 3:00 p.m. High School B-A only 6:00 p.m	25 Josten's Sophomore & Senior Orders @ 10:30 a.m.	26 Jackson Dismissal @ 1:10 Ponca Dismissal @ 1:30 K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:00 – 8:00 held at Ponca School	27 Football @. Laurel 7:00 p.m.	28 Jr. High Volleyball Ponca Invite 9:00 a.m.
29	30 Jr. High Volleyball @ Sgt. Bluff 4:00 Football @ Homer Jr High @4:00 JV @ 5:45 NO SCHOOL	1 Varsity Volleyball Ponca/Newcastle Invite @ Ponca 5:00pm	2	3 JH Football @ 4:00 Westwood High School Picture Retakes @ Jackson and Ponca Varsity Volleyball Tri-Valley Tourney Location/Time: TBA	4 Football @ Home Wisner-Pilger 7:00 p.m	5 Varsity Volleyball Tri-Valley Tourney Location/Time: TBA



September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 NO SCHOOL	3 Spaghetti/Meat sauce Garlic Sticks Fruit and Veggie Bar	4 Pork Fritter Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Bun Fruit and Veggie Bar	5 Orange Chicken Rice Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar	6 Beef Taco Potato Rounds Fruit and Veggie Bars
9 Chicken & Biscuit Peas Fruit and Veggie Bar	10 Hot Dog /Bun Chip & Cheese Fruit and Veggie Bar	11 Tater Tot Casserole Green Beans Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar	12 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar	13 Fiestada Refried Beans Chocolate cake/sauce Fruit and Veggie Bar
16 Pizza Beef Sweet Potato Fries Fruit and Veggie Bar	17 Chicken & Rice Green Beans Roll Fruit and Veggie	18 Pancakes Sausage Links Fruit and Veggie Bar	19 Chicken Patty Mashed Potato & Gravy Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar	20 Mini Corn Dogs Chips and Cheese Fruit and Veggie Bar
23 Deli Turkey Sandwich Macaroni and Cheese Fruit and Veggie	24 Chicken Potato Casserole Green Beans Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar	25 Pizza Chips Cookie Fruit and Veggie Bar	26 Hamburger/Bun Fries Fruit and Veggie Bar	27 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Fruit and Veggie Bar
30 Crispito Chili & Cheese Apple Crisp Fruit and Veggie Bar				 Choose MyPlate .gov

Ponca Athletic Boosters Tailgate

Tuesday, September 17 – Ponca Volleyball Triangular

5:30 – 7:00

Ponca High School



Friday, September 20 – Homecoming game

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 Tailgate
or mail to Cheri Albrecht 1645 Hwy 20, Jackson, NE 68743
\$30.00 Couple \$20.00 Single**

Ponca School Newsletter
Ponca Public School
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ECRWSS
Postal Patron

PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2013

