

May 2018

# 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 Jody Phillips, Superintendent of Schools

As our school year comes to a close, I would like to thank our staff, students, parents, and community members for making it "one to remember". We've had so many successes this year, from state championships to national academic awards! At the beginning of the year I asked our students to hold high expectations for themselves and others. It is safe to say they have done just that! They have set the standard of excellence for our district and will now strive to meet, and exceed, those expectations in future years.

And what would the end of the school year be without graduation! A sincere congratulations to the class of 2018. Seniors, thank you for a wonderful school year and the lasting legacy you leave with the Ponca Public Schools. **We will celebrate our graduation ceremony on Friday, May 11 at 7:00 pm in the West Gymnasium.** The Baccalaureate Ceremony is Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Fine Arts Area. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### **\*IMPORTANT END OF YEAR INFORMATION\***

- The official last day of school is Friday, May 18
- May 17 & 18 will be full school days (this will be different from previous years)
- Elementary Track & Field Day is Friday, May 4 – Students in grades 7-12 will be dismissed at 1:00 to assist with the activities at the sports complex
- Thursday, May 10 – District Track Meet @ Ponca – Early Dismissal (1:10/1:30)
- Friday, May 11 – Graduation – Early Dismissal (1:10/1:30)
- **Monday morning late starts are cancelled for the remainder of the year. April 30, May 7, & May 14 will be full school days**
- We continue to have cars fail to yield for our buses when they are picking up and dropping off students on routes. THIS HAS BECOME VERY SERIOUS AND WE WOULD LIKE OUR PUBLIC'S ASSISTANCE. Please be aware of buses when you are driving and maintain a safe distance from the bus. If the flashing lights are on, please stop and wait until the lights go off and the stop sign is no longer extended. We have been in contact with law enforcement requesting their presence where the violations have been occurring. If you have a child who rides the bus, please also talk/remind them about looking for oncoming traffic before they cross the street to board or exit the bus. Thank you for your assistance.
- Lunch accounts need to be paid in full by the last day of the school year. We have several student accounts with outstanding balances. Please know that students will not be able to check out for the end of the school year with a negative lunch balance.
- The Ponca Public Schools will again offer summer school this summer for students K-8 who may need extra assistance in the areas of Math and Reading. Summer school will be held the first 3 weeks in June. Sessions will be held Monday through Thursday of each week from 8:30-11:30am. If your child qualifies for summer school, you will receive a letter from the school with information to enroll your child in the program.

Superintendent's article continued on next page....

**\*SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION REGARDING NEXT SCHOOL YEAR\***

- Incoming Kindergarteners and 7<sup>th</sup> graders MUST have a physical completed prior to the start of the 2018-2019 school year.
- Also, all students in grades 7-12 who participate in a sport must have a physical prior to participating in the respective sport next year. Any physical after April 1, 2018 will be permissible for the 2018-19 school year. It is preferred you use the NSAA physical form. Copies of the form are available in the High School office.
- **The first day of school for the 2018-19 school year is Thursday, August 16**, with an early dismissal that day (1:10/1:30)
- We will be continuing Monday morning late starts next year. School on Monday mornings will start at 9:10 and 9:20 am. The late starts are in place so our teachers can participate in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) – a professional development activity designed to increase teaching skills and student achievement.

**THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL AND OUTSTANDING SCHOOL YEAR!**

**PLEASE HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE THIS SUMMER.**

## Notes from the Elementary

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 Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**\*Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** is the elementary Pre-K through 2 spring concert @ Ponca @ 7:00pm.

**\*Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** is the elementary field day @ the sports complex @ 1:15pm.

**\*Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** is the elementary 3 through 6 concert @ Ponca @ 7:00pm.

**\*Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** is Pre-school graduation @ 7:00pm in Jackson.

**\*Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** is Kindergarten graduation @ 7:00pm in Jackson.



Summer School will begin June 1<sup>st</sup> and end June 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Only students recommended by their teacher will be considered for summer school.** 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2018-2019 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 will be available upon request. Report Cards will not be available until after May 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

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 16<sup>th</sup>!!**

Mr. Hayes  
Elementary Principal

# From Mr. Lahm's "Pen"

"Let Them Be Little" is a song by Billy Dean, and I am sure that most parents of graduating seniors have heard this song. The song's main line is "Let them be little cause they're only that way for a while. Give them hope. Give them praise. Give them love every day. Let them cry. Let them giggle. Let them sleep in the middle. Let them be little." Every time this song is played, it makes me emotional but I am not even close to being a parent of a graduate...sound familiar parents of graduates. My kids are so little...sound familiar parents. The time flies. Some days may seem longer than others, and sometimes patience must abound for what seems like years. What I do know is that graduation is a time to reflect and celebrate. Families and more specifically parents celebrate this enormous milestone of raising their children for the past 18-21 years. We celebrate and honor the accomplishment of passing classes and completing the work necessary at Ponca Public School. And, all of this is important and well-deserved.

I also ask that graduation and all of our celebrations in life also focus on celebrating the people who are our students and children. Accomplishments will come and go. Our children and ourselves will make mistakes in life which can seemingly feel like someone is ripping our hearts out of our chest. We may not accomplish everything we set out for in life. AND IT IS OKAY! We love people not because of what they have done or will do but because of who they are as people.

Graduates and students completing another year of school, congratulations! We love you for you! But do help us out a little, and stay little and a bit more innocent...and maybe even more kind. Remember, you are always welcome back at home here in Ponca, Nebraska. CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018!

BEST OF THE CLASS- On April 25, Ponca Schools Valedictorian, Sophie Kramper, traveled to Sioux City for the "Best of the Class" taping. Be sure to view KCAU-TV throughout the graduation season and watch for Sophie Kramper. Congratulations to Sophie for achieving this honor and representing Ponca Schools!

## ***Congratulations, Sophie Kramper*** ***KCAU-TV's "Best of Class"***

GRADUATION – The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2018 will be on May 11, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in the west gymnasium.

SEMESTER TESTING SCHEDULE-Check-out the semester testing schedule printed in this newsletter. Semester tests will be administered May 17-18. 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.

## **SEMESTER 2** **2018 -2019** **TEST SCHEDULE**

### **Thursday, May 17**

8:10-9:45 Period 1 Test  
9:45-10:00 Break  
10:00-11:35 Period 3 Test  
11:35-12:06 Lunch  
12:09-1:40 Period 5 Test  
1:40-1:55 Break  
1:55-3:25 Period 7 Test  
3:25-3:40 Final Check-out

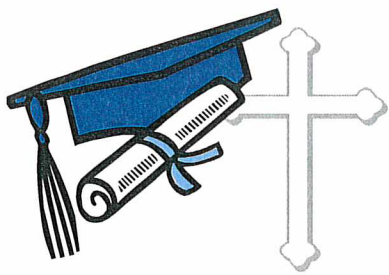
### **Friday, May 18**

8:10-9:45 Period 2 Test  
9:45-10:00 Break  
10:00-11:35 Period 4 Test  
11:35-12:06 Lunch  
12:09-1:40 Period 6 Test  
1:40-1:55 Break  
1:55-3:25 Period 8 Test  
3:25-3:40 Final Check-out

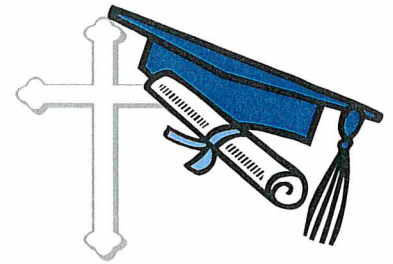
STUDENTS WHO HAVE FEWER THEN NINE ABSENCES FOR THE SEMESTER AND A SEMESTER GRADE OF 85% OR BETTER IN A CLASS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WRITE SECOND SEMESTER TESTS IN CLASSES THAT MEET TWO SEMESTERS OR IN SINGLE SEMESTER CLASSES THAT ONLY MEET SECOND SEMESTER.

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.



# Class of 2018



Baccalaureate Service  
Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 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 2018.

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 Wendy Masin (712) 312-9042 or Jenny VanDyke (712) 203-0486

## Parents of the Class of 2019...

Please make plans to attend the Class of 2019 and Parents' Meeting scheduled for Tuesday evening, May 15, 2018, at 6:00 P.M. at Ponca School in the Commons Area.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide the 2019 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. Mr. Phillips, Mr. Lahm, Mrs. Hassler, and Mrs. Balvantin will be presenting that evening. We look forward to seeing you then!



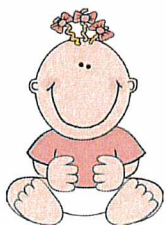
## Congratulations to the 2018 National Honor Society Inductees



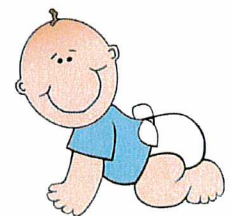
Hailey Bellows, Jacob Brockhaus, Kortney Fethkenher, Madelyn Fethkenher, Carson Fox, Brzanna Gill, Claire Hoelsing, Olivia Hrouda, Kaitlyn Kastning, Meg Keller, Jordan Lamprucht, Taylor Lamprucht, Morgan Nelson, Grace Salmen, Kai Senzviratne, Shana Senzviratne, Brooke Solomon, Hailey Solomon, and Colson Watchorn

## 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.



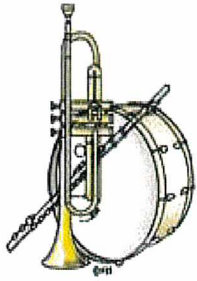
Please contact Sue Gill (402) 632-4276 or Lisa Hohenstein at (402)755-5700 with the children's names, birth dates and genders.

# 2018 District Music Results

Concert Band – 1, 1, 2

Jazz Band – 1, 1, 2

## Band



Carin Mellick (Flute Solo) - Superior \*\*Received Honorable Mention for Outstanding Performance

Sarah Beach (Clarinet Solo) - Superior

Meg Keller, Sarah Beach, Jocelynn Graves (Clarinet Trio) - Excellent

Morgan Nelson, Kai Seneviratne (Trumpet Duet) - Excellent

Carter Kingsbury, Garrett Anderson, Sam Brickett, Evan Watchorn, Paul Masin (Percussion Ensemble) - Excellent

Tyler Arrasmith, Terry Trizila, Brandon Mellick (Snare Trio) - Superior

Colson Watchorn, Van Greer, Ben McDuffee, Tommy Chase (Trombone Quartet) - Superior

Morgan Janssen (Trumpet Solo) - Superior

Sophie Krämper, Carin Mellick, Shana Seneviratne, Kaci Day,

Ayla Arbuthnot (Flute Quintet) - Superior

Cayden Phillips (Alto Saxophone Solo) - Superior



## Choir

Mixed Choir – 1, 1, 1

Swing Choir – 2, 2, 1

Olivia Hrouda & Sophie Krämper (Vocal Duet) - Superior \*\* Received Honorable Mention for Outstanding Performance

Carin Mellick (Vocal Solo) - Superior

Colson Watchorn (Vocal Solo) - Superior



## Upcoming Music Events

May 1st 5th & 6th Grade Pender Honor Band –

Concert at 5:30 pm (Pender Gym)

May 11th Graduation (High School Chorus and Band)

May 14th 3-6 Elementary Music and Band Concert @ 7:00

# THANK YOU!!!

*The Ponca After Prom committee would like to thank the businesses and individuals who donated to make our event successful!*

*We had over 110 students who attended. Your donations provided 4 large inflatables, black light dodge ball, a photo booth, food, t-shirts, hypnotist, and prizes.*

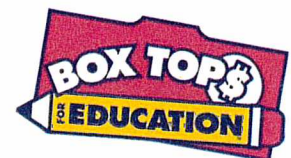
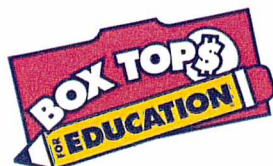
*Thank you again!*

## 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!!!**



# 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 May 30<sup>th</sup>, Thursday May 31<sup>st</sup> and Friday June 1<sup>st</sup>  
**TIMES:** Boys entering 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (2018-2019 school year) 8:00-9:30 A.M.  
Boys entering 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (2018-2019 school year) 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

## Boys Basketball Shooting School- \$20

**DATES:** Mondays this summer...June 4<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup>, June 18<sup>th</sup>, June 25<sup>th</sup> and July 9<sup>th</sup>  
**TIMES:** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Boys and Girls (2018-2019 school year) 8:00-9:00 A.M.  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Boys and Girls (2018-2019 school year) 9:00-10:00 A.M.

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

**DATES:** Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>  
**TIMES:** 6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys/Girls (2018-2019 school year) 8:00-9:30 A.M.  
4<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys/Girls (2018-2019 school year) 10:00-11:30 P.M.

## Ponca Elementary Football Camp - \$25

**DATES:** Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>  
**TIMES:** Grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (2018-2019 school year) 6:00 – 7:30 P.M.



Volleyball, Girls Basketball Shooting and Fundamentals camp dates will be set in the near future.  
Flyers will be sent home with students and available online.

## ATTENTION....Sports, Kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> 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. Please call (402) 755-2231 to schedule your physical.

# Immunization

## Requirements for Upcoming Kindergarteners, 7<sup>th</sup> Graders and Graduates

### Attention Upcoming Kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

Students entering kindergarten and seventh grade in the 2017-2018 school year must meet the following state requirements;

#### *Kindergarten Students need;*

1. A **certified birth certificate**, the one obtained for a fee from the state your child was born in. Generally, it has a raised seal and state identification number on it. They are available over the internet or by going to the courthouse in the county your child was born in.
2. A **physical exam**
3. A **visual examination** within six months prior to the entrance of school. This test needs to include testing for amblyopia (lazy eye), strabismus (misalignment of the eyes), as well as external and internal eye health. Reading the eye chart at the doctor's office **does not** meet state requirements. Some physicians do not do extensive eye exams, in that case, you will need to make an appointment to see an eye doctor.
4. **Kindergarten shots**. There are several vaccines that your child will need prior to entering kindergarten.

#### *7<sup>th</sup> Graders;*

1. A **physical exam**
2. A **tetanus booster**

### Attention Senior Parents,

Your child will soon be graduating and several students will be heading off to college in the fall. This is a perfect time to make sure your child's immunizations are current. The two vaccines that are recommended at this age are:

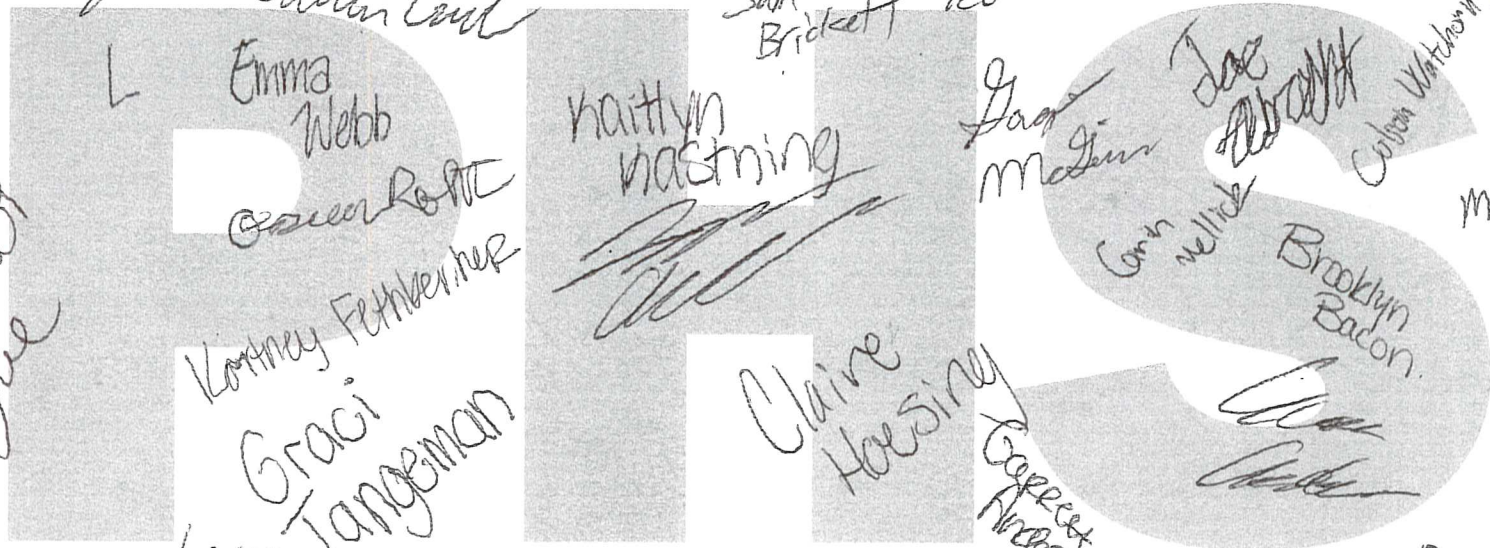
- 1.) **A tetanus booster (Td)**- which contains tetanus and diphtheria. Bacteria cause both tetanus and diphtheria. Tetanus enters the body through cuts or wounds, where diphtheria is spread from person to person.
- 2.) **Meningococcal Vaccine**-meningococcal disease is a serious illness, caused by bacteria. It is the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2-18 years old. Meningitis is an infection of fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Anyone can get meningococcal disease, although college freshmen that live in dormitories are at higher risk of obtaining it.

Many colleges require these vaccines prior to entrance. I strongly recommend your child receive these vaccines, even if they aren't required.

**\*\*\*These state required items MUST be handed in by the first day of school, or your child will be sent home until we have the records on file.**

**THANK YOU** for your generous donation and support of 2018 Ponca After Prom, hosted by concerned parents. Your donation was used for food, prizes, and entertainment. These students would like to express their appreciation for your donation! Thank you very much!

Wynn Pollock  
Sydney Emma Harding  
Mya Main  
Lexi Gill  
Kelsey Fields  
Caryn Buntin  
Emma Full  
Allyce Treacy  
Elys Weaver  
Cullen Coul  
Sam Bridgett  
Cyrus Reibel  
Kristie Cridde  
Katie Masler  
Connor Day  
Emma Webb  
Kaitlyn Hastings  
Gabe Madson  
Jordan Watchorn  
Grace Salmen  
Broeder mario  
Kortney Fethkenner  
Gabi Tangeman  
Claire Hoising  
Coryn Mellick  
Brooklyn Bacon  
Madi Fetnikamer  
Sophie Kemper  
Alexa VanDyke  
Dana Alison  
Dana Wrath Brennan  
Kaitlyn Madson  
Darian Anderson  
Joel Anderson  
Morgan Janssen  
Kelsey Haman  
Cotton Prussman  
Zachary P...  
Taylor Lamprecht  
Jared  
Tanner  
Adam Merical  
Morgan Shick  
Andrew  
Sydno Hughes  
Olivia Howard  
Morgan  
Morgan



**THANK YOU**

Walter Messer  
Hailey Bellows  
Mallissa Neenan  
Hunter Volker  
Jael Waterhorn  
Maverick Rose

Ponca School Newsletter  
Ponca Public School  
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

MAY 2018

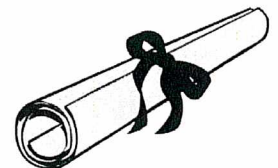


# *Ponca High School Graduation*



*Friday, May 11, 2018*

*7:00 p.m.*



*Congratulations to the Class of 2018!*





# May 2018

Calendar is subject to change. Please refer to Ponca's website calendar for last minute changes. [www.poncaschool.org](http://www.poncaschool.org)

Sun

Mon

Tue

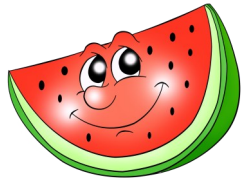
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

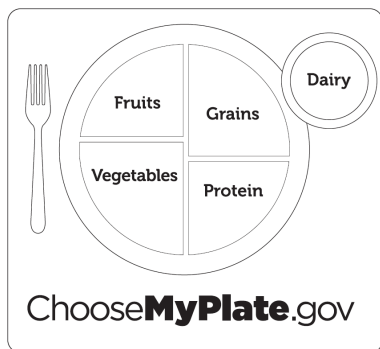
		1 5th and 6th Grade Pender Honor Band Concert @ 5:00 pm  Jr. High Track @ Homer 4:00 pm	2	3 PreK-2nd Music Concert @ Ponca Gym 7:00  Track @ Randolph 1:30	4 Elementary Track Meet 1:15 pm Ponca Sports Complex  7th-12th Dismissed @ 1:00  Golf @ Wakefield 9:00 am	5
6 Baccalaureate Ponca Fine Arts 7:00 p.m.	7 Academic Honors Program 7:00 p.m. Fine Arts	8 Ponca Invite @ Highland Oaks-Ponca 9:00 a.m.	9 2nd Grade Field Trip Sioux Falls  5th Grade Field Trip Royal, Nebraska  <i>Class of 2018 Last Day of School</i>	10 District Track Ponca Sports Complex 9:30 a.m.  Early Dismissal Jackson @ 1:10 Ponca @ 1:30	11 <b>GRADUATION 7:00 p.m.</b>  Early Dismissal Jackson @ 1:10 Ponca @ 1:30	12
13 Mother's Day 	14 District Golf @ Battle Creek (Fair Play Golf Course)  3rd-6th Grade Spring Concert 7:00 pm @ Ponca	15 Seniors of 2019 and Parents Meeting 6:00 p.m. High School Commons  6th Grade Field Trip Henry Doorly Zoo	16 <b>Preschool Graduation 7:00 p.m. in Jackson</b>	17 Spring Activities Awards Night 7:00 Fine Arts  <b>Kindergarten Graduation 7:00 p.m. in Jackson</b>  Semester Test Periods 1-3-5-7	18   Semester Test Periods 2-4-6-8  State Track 5/18 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> Burke High School (Omaha)	19
20	21 School Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.	22 State Golf 5/22nd & 5/23rd @ Kearney Country Club	23	24	25	26
27	28  Memorial Day	29 Driver's Education Classes @ Ponca Tuesday, May 29th - Friday, June 1st (8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)	30	31	1	 <b>IT'S SUMMER!</b>



# May 2018



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER</p> <p>Meals are subject to change. Milk served with meal.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Ham Wrap Green Beans</p> <p>Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Hamburger French Fries</p> <p>Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Chicken Patty Mashed Potatoes Gravy Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Quesadilla Corn Treat Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Goulash Cheese Bread Stick</p> <p>Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>8</p> <p>BBQ Rib Patty Smiley Fries Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Fish Nuggets Cheesy Potatoes Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Mini Corn Dogs Carrots Cookie Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Beef Taco Refried Beans Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Chicken Strips Donut Fruit and Veggie Bar</p>	<p>15</p> <p>COOKS' CHOICE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>COOKS' CHOICE</p>	<p>17</p> <p>COOKS' CHOICE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>COOKS' CHOICE</p>



## Move More, Eat Healthy

