

Volume 4 Issue 3
Apr/May, 2009 - 2010

District Events:**April 2**

No School -
Good Friday

April 5

Snow Make-up Day -
This is now a school day

April 14

1:00 Early Dismissal

April 19

School Board Meeting -
Rowley

April 28

1:00 Early Dismissal

May 12

1:00 Early Dismissal

May 24

School Board Meeting -
Brandon

May 30

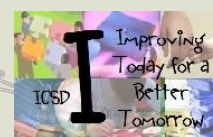
Graduation 2:00 p.m.
High School Gym

May 31

No School -
Memorial Day

June 1

Last Day of School

**THE GENERAL FUND**

By Supt. Devin Embray and Dir. of Finance Charmaine Wickwire

Despite decreasing enrollment, higher fuel bills and utilities, increased special education costs, etc. the district in past years has chosen to maintain programming and staff to the degree that financial constraints will allow. We always try to put the educational needs of our students first. Unfortunately, finances and programming cannot totally be separated. During the most recent budget reduction there was a conscious decision to close a building rather than cut deeper into student programming. This decision was made with input from not only the Board of Education, but administration, staff, and patrons of the Independence School District that was shared through open session Board meetings and Public Hearings. The result of this type of decision has consequences. Emotions run high and stem from either not understanding the need to close the building based on finances or not wanting to let go of the wonderful memories attached to that building.

It is true that the Independence Community School District has hit a brick wall concerning the state of its finances in the General Fund. We are not alone. Look around the entire State, and check out our neighboring school districts; they too are having to make uncomfortable concessions in order to keep their schools open. Many factors enter into the equation, and it is going to take the concerted effort of the staff and community to bring this district back to a comfortably solvent position. The Board and Administration are fully aware of the situation and are moving forward with a plan to keep our district viable.

It is hard for staff and school patrons to visualize their school as a business operation, and yet that is exactly what it is. We are in the business of educating your children. There is a delicate balance between the education they receive and the dollars the district is afforded to provide that service.

There is no doubt that we are going to have to make adjustments in the next few years to shore up our General Fund not only putting us in a responsible financial position, but in a position that provides a protective cushion for future potential bumps in the road. Across-the-board State cuts in the middle of a budget year or reduced allowable growth are two examples of situations we must be financially ready to cover.

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside this issue:

Brick Walls	3-4
East/ECC News	5-6
Nurse News	7
West Elem News	9-12
Curriculum & School Improvement	14
Middle School	15-17
High School News	19-22
Volunteer Form	23-24

THE GENERAL FUND

By Supt. Devin Embray and Dir. of Finance Charmaine Wickwire

(Continued from Page 1)

We can pull through this economic downturn. We can become stronger by continually monitoring our financial state and more importantly continuing to become educated on how school finance works. Together we can overcome the challenges and ultimately generate an even greater Mustang Pride.

Some have questioned why we do not have a three to five year projection published on the status of the general fund as we move forward. Several variables come into play which inhibits this type of forecasting to be accurate. Who would have predicted a 10% across the board cut two years ago? Declining enrollment, open enrollment out, uncertainty with allowable growth, budget guarantee eligibility, increased fuel costs, increased utility costs, increased special education costs, and salaries and benefits are other factors that also play into this budget picture. We feel that the current year's projection and projecting one year out is more responsible and has more accuracy. Once numbers are placed on paper, should they change, it becomes difficult for individuals to accept the new numbers. As an example, the State cut the portion of state aid allotted to the Instructional Support Levy one day after we certified our budget for 2010-2011 school year. This will reduce our revenues for the upcoming year by over \$46,000.

We are confident that we will be able to weather the increased costs for next year, but projecting out into future years is difficult. That said, and with all the above in mind, the following is a projection of our general fund status for the next three fiscal years:

Fiscal Year 2010-11, Fiscal Year 2011-12, and Fiscal Year 2012-13:

<i>*Assumes 2% allowable growth and 1% decline in enrollment</i>	% Increased Expenses	Projected Revenue	Projected Expenditures	Difference between Revenues and Expenditures
FY11 Best Case	2%	14,768,659	14,611,737	156,922
FY11 Most Likely	3%	14,768,659	14,652,340	116,319
FY11 Worst Case	5%	14,768,659	14,733,547	35,112
FY12 Best Case	2%	15,008,221	15,113,553	-105,332
FY12 Most Likely	3%	15,008,221	15,196,790	-188,569
FY12 Worst Case	5%	15,008,221	15,365,700	-357,479
FY13 Best Case	2%	15,099,168	15,665,785	-566,617
FY13 Most Likely	3%	15,099,168	15,792,980	-693,812
FY13 Worst Case	5%	15,099,168	16,054,839	-955,671

(Continued on Page 3)

THE GENERAL FUND

By Supt. Devin Embray and Dir. of Finance Charmaine Wickwire

(Continued from Page 2)

The Board of Education will need to determine just how much will be considered for future reductions IF the variables do not change for the better. We need to remember that this is a projection based on the current information and most likely things will change. Larry Sigel, Iowa School Finance Information Services quotes the following about projecting budgets beyond one year:

“A note about the assumptions used in preparation of the analysis. Will the future look like the assumptions? Probably not, - enrollment is never a straight percentage nor does the Allowable Growth Rate stay the same – however, given the best information we now possess, we make the best estimate we can. We change these estimates as information becomes available, but they are the best guideposts we have for planning for the future.”

BRICK WALLS

By Supt. Devin Embray and Dir. of Finance Charmaine Wickwire

The question floating around our communities seem to be, “How can we be hitting a brick wall with our finances and asking the public to step forward to build new brick walls in the form of a new school when a building is being closed?” This is where education of school finance is of the utmost importance. One must realize that we are the fortunate recipients of a capital projects fund referred to as SILO (School Infrastructure Local Option). This is that equitable one cent that we all pay for sales tax on purchases we make in our state.

This fund cannot be used for salaries or programming. It is legally reserved for things like construction of new buildings and maintaining current grounds and buildings. The plan is to use the SILO fund proceeds to pay for a portion of a new building.

We are prepared to have enough money available to maintain our current buildings and grounds in conjunction with the new construction. This is a win, win situation and we need to take advantage of this. The price of building will not be cheaper as the years go by.

Another major part of the building plan will involve private donations. When thinking of donating, it is important to put all personalities aside and remember this mission is for our children and grandchildren.

(Continued on Page 4)

BRICK WALLS

By Supt. Devin Embray and Dir. of Finance Charmaine Wickwire

(Continued from Page 3)

Lastly, the building plan will include a bond referendum by the public that will affect property tax. When this time comes, patrons will be encouraged to use the tax calculator tool that we will provide on our school website. Economic times are tough, but we think if the calculation is made it will be surprising to see just how little it will take to provide a clean and safe environment conducive to exceptional learning potential for the children of the Independence Community School District.

The closing of East Elementary is a business decision directly tied to efficiency and programming. This was not a ploy to initiate a movement to obtain a new school building. It is a fact that we were overstaffed. Even with the reductions we were able to maintain solid programming, preserving the uniqueness of our district. Regardless of the financial state of the district, if we can consolidate and conserve, it is a good business decision, however unpopular.

Our school district encompasses a thriving, progressive area with willing community members putting forth committed effort to see that the Independence area is viewed as a place that anyone would love to choose to live and to raise a family. We see so many positives; reliable medical facilities, museums, a new library, Heartland Acres that showcases the community through its historic past, a theater, a thriving main street, and a new industry coming to Independence placing their faith in the growth of the community, just to mention a few. We are confident that not only would a new school be a draw, but it would be a key factor when it comes to retaining families in our district.

When people are looking for a community to live in, one of the first things they look at is the school system. Please consider and reflect on how the impact of a new school would affect your personal viewpoint vs. how it would affect the community as a whole and the education of our students. Hopefully one can put personal issues aside and do what is in the best interest of the community. Considering everything, it is possible to understand that the building of brick walls now could keep our district from hitting a financial brick wall, head on, in our future. Here's how that works:

Maximizing the SILO Funds, soliciting donations and making an investment through property tax to provide for a bond issue could potentially grow the General Fund through the families that could migrate toward a wonderful asset to this community: a new school.

It's all about living with a positive future in mind.

Principal's Corner by Mary Jean Blaisdell

As spring begins, students are often shedding their warmer clothing for lighter jackets. It is at this time of year, however, that we need to be watchful of weather changes. Please see that your child is dressed in layers of clothing so that, as the day warms, outer layers can be removed or put back on as the day cools. Boots will still be required when the ground is soggy. Students are asked to stay out of wet areas but as the snow continues to melt and the ground begins to dry, this may be difficult to totally avoid. An extra pair of pants and socks is a good idea for students to have on hand in case they get a little wet during recess.



Mary Jean Blaisdell, Principal

April brings several things to our calendar. Students will celebrate Earth day this month with various activities related to our environment. At the end of April, we begin our last round of assessment for the year.

Looking ahead...

The last school day for students is Tuesday, June 1.

Remember that Monday, April 5th is actually a school day due to snow day makeup.

Thanks,
Mary Jean Blaisdell

EAST/ECC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

April 2: No School ó Good Friday

April 5: Full Day of School
(Snow Make-up)

April 14: 1:00 Dismissal ó Inservice
(No School for ECC)

April 28: 1:00 Dismissal ó Inservice
(No School for ECC)

May

May 12: 1:00 Dismissal ó Inservice
(No School for ECC)

May 31: No School ó Memorial Day

June

June 1: Last Day of School

Kindergarten Corner

Kindergarten Round-Up was so much fun at East Elementary! We were excited to have the students attend. We look forward to seeing them again this fall.

April is a month filled with signs of spring. Earth Day is April 22. Sondra and Jenni, naturalists from Fontana Park, will be coming in celebration of this special day on April 15-16 at East. We will study the rain forest and how our actions influence our environment.



Mrs. Meyer's class having fun with Dr. Suess

First Grade Focus

First graders are looking forward to a busy month in April. In the classroom, we continue to work on subtraction, time, and money. In connection with our math curriculum, BankIowa is providing a special program entitled "Teach Children to Save."

Later in the month we will travel to Cedar Falls to see a live performance of "The Little Engine That Could" presented by the Omaha Children's Theatre Company. We will finish April with a celebration of Earth Day. Sondra Cabell will be our guest as we get a hands-on opportunity to see a recycling center in action.

Box tops for Education/ Pop Can Tabs/Milk Moola for Schools

We continue to collect General Mills Box Tops, Pop Can Tabs & bottle caps and bag tops from Kwik Star products. This is a good way to help us earn extra money for things we need. Thanks! If you are interested in spending time at school or at home sorting/ cutting and redeeming these items for our school, please call!

Second Grade Scene

Second grade students are working full speed ahead as we are in our last trimester. Students will be participating with a Read-A-Thon this month. Money raised from the Read-A-Thon will go towards purchasing books for the Independence Public Library. Last year we raised over \$700! We will be visiting the public library in April to celebrate National Library Week. Please continue to read with your child and provide encouragement as they are developing into life long readers. Several Earth Day activities will also take place toward the end of this month. Hopefully spring like weather will allow us to do many of the activities outdoors.

Preschool Place

Four year old students at the early childhood center kept busy during the cold winter months by having fun with an obstacle course!



Students at the early childhood center kept busy during the cold winter months by having fun with an obstacle course! Mrs. Bonefas' students wait patiently for their turn!

Fontana came to visit the preschoolers on March 10th. We heard the book *Stranger in the Woods* and learned about many different animals. There were even stuffed animals for us to see and play with. One of our favorite parts was learning what different birds say. We sounded like blue jays, chickadees, owls and cardinals. Even though the snow is almost gone, we can listen for the bird sounds outside and try to sing back to them!



WANTED!

Mileage Club Volunteers Needed!

If you would like to devote 15-30 minutes each week outside at recess to help students reach their goals in the Mileage Club, please call East Elementary to volunteer your time!

Mentors Needed!

If you are interested in being a mentor and volunteering your time to work with a child for approximately 30 minutes each week on a regular basis, please call and let us know!

Wanted: Substitute Associates

If you are available to substitute occasionally as a classroom, office, or library associate (duties vary), please call 334-7425.

We need YOU!

East and West Elementary Summer Spanish Camp Opportunity

It's hard to believe right now, but before we all know it, school will be out and kids will be wondering what to do for their summer vacation!

Again this summer, Spanish Camp - Camp Amistad, will take place at the cafeteria of St John School.

Students in grades 1-5 are welcome to join us to learn basic Spanish words and phrases, taste examples of Spanish and Mexican foods, play games and shop at the Spanish Student Store. Registration forms will be available the first week of May coming home with students in their take home folders. Cost for the week long day camp will be \$35.00; all snacks, craft supplies and a take home work booklet are included in the cost.

For further information, contact the camp director, Mrs. Sarah Crawford at Middle School 334-7415, ext. #621.

Nurse News by Teri Schloss RN and Rhonda Jasper RN

With the weather changing, please remember to make sure that your child is appropriately dressed for the outdoor temperature. Coats and boots are still being worn at recess. As it warms up, a light jacket may be all that is needed, but please remember to send a coat or sweater with your child daily. Also, sturdy footwear is recommended for students who play outside during the school day. Sandals, open toed shoes, and crocs can be worn to school, but preferably students should wear sneakers when playing outside and on the playground equipment.

Head lice are a fact-of-life for school aged children. You should be routinely checking your child's hair and scalp for any evidence of lice or nits. If your child has been treated for lice, please have the school nurse check them before they return to school. Head lice carry no disease, they are just a nuisance. For more information regarding head lice please see the Iowa Department of Public Health website at http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/common/pdf/headlice_brochure.pdf.

Fall will be here before we know it so now is the time to be thinking about preparing for registration. All students entering kindergarten will need a current physical, up-to-date immunizations, and a dental screening. It is also recommended that kindergarten students have a professional eye exam before entering school. Students entering ninth grade will also be required to turn in a dental screening form. If your child goes out for sports, they will need an up-to-date physical also. Make your appointments as soon as possible, as offices are usually very full in August. If you need any of these forms, please contact your school nurse or healthcare provider. Physical night will be held on May 5th from 5:30 to 7:00 at the Middle School. The cost is \$10 per student with a \$20 max for families.

Family Fun in the Kitchen ó Spring

From the Iowa State University Extension



Save Money on Food —Plan Menus as a Family

Here are some ideas to have family fun, teach your children life skills, and save money on food:

Invite children to seek and find

ÉAsk them to help look in the refrigerator and pantry for foods you have on hand.

ÉAsk for suggestions for turning those finds into a meal. (Example— you have eggs, half an onion, a little ham, and some cheese— you could have omelets for dinner.)

ÉAsk children to suggest foods to have with it— with reminders to include fruits and vegetables.

Plan a shopping trip

• Give children a grocery store sale flyer and let them circle foods they like.

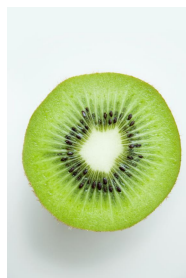
ÉEnlist their help in creating menus that use foods they circled, plus foods they found in cupboards and refrigerator. Remind them that meals should include different types of foods, including grains, fruits, vegetables, dairy products, and meats.

ÉAsk them to add up the cost of the items they circled. (They might want to try guessing the amount first.)

ÉTalk about the ways you reduce shopping costs, such as buying store brands instead of name brands; adding your own seasonings to rice, pasta, or potatoes instead of buying pre-seasoned packaged combinations; or peeling and cutting carrots instead of buying baby carrots.

'Tis the Season...

... to enjoy strawberries, kiwi, asparagus, spinach, cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower.



Recipes to try

Fruit Salsa

Serve this as a salad, dessert, or snack using fresh strawberries or frozen raspberries or blueberries—

You will need:

- 1 cup berries
- 1 medium apple
- 2 canned peach halves (or 3/4 cup canned diced or sliced peaches), drained
- Baked chips or graham crackers

What to do:

1. Wash your hands.
2. If using fresh berries, rinse and remove stems. Wash apple.
3. Cut peach halves, apple, and whole berries into small pieces.
4. Combine all fruit in a bowl. Stir to mix.
5. Serve with baked chips or graham crackers.

Makes 4 servings, about 1/2 cup each.

Nutrition Facts (per 1/2 cup fruit):

39 calories, 0.2g fat, 0mg cholesterol, 0.7mg sodium, 9.9g carbohydrate, 1.9g dietary fiber, 0.6g protein

Spring Fitness Ideas

ÉTake a nature walk around a local park, around the block, or just around the yard. Look for spring flowers, robins and bunnies, trees with newly budded leaves, and bugs.

ÉInvolve the whole family in yard clean up, planting flowers (in the yard or in a pot), and gardening. Children who help grow vegetables are usually more likely to eat them.

ÉDo everything you can to enjoy the outdoors— ride bikes, play soccer, play catch, jump rope, play hop scotch— enjoy!

Want more tips for saving money on food?

Visit the new ISU Extension Web site—

www.extension.iastate.edu/foodsavings

Want more recipe ideas?

Visit this —Recipe of the Week— archive from ISU Extension—

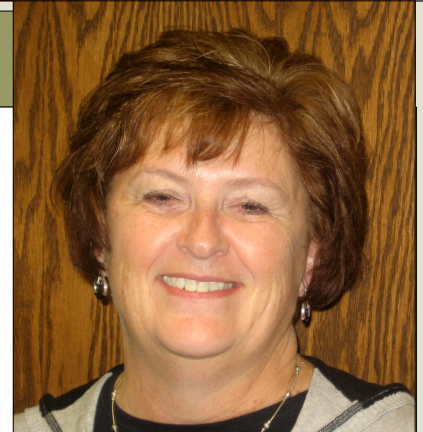
www.extension.iastate.edu/healthnutrition/food/preparation/recipe_archive.htm

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The View From West



Sandy Merritt, Principal

Our students and teachers continue to work hard every day. Some tidbits!

- o We have recently finished our ITBS testing and will share the data with parents and guardians when it is available to us.
- o Our students are greeted each day by a great group of volunteers, the Shysters! These gentlemen open the door and greet our students with a smile and a good morning every day.
- o McKenna Kirchoff, Johnathon Faulkner, Nick Arnold, Brynn Martin, Grace Bertelli, Megan Brock, Josie Fischels and Karlie Michael were recent winners in the Eastern Iowa Reading Council creative writing and poetry contest.
- o Our teachers have been learning about small group reading instruction and many have begun to implement it in their classrooms. The students' response is very positive!
- o We now have a West Parent Advisory Council. They have decided to focus attention on the transition to the middle school building next year.
- o Our Student Advisory Council is planning a fundraiser for the Red Cross as they provide assistance to those in Haiti.

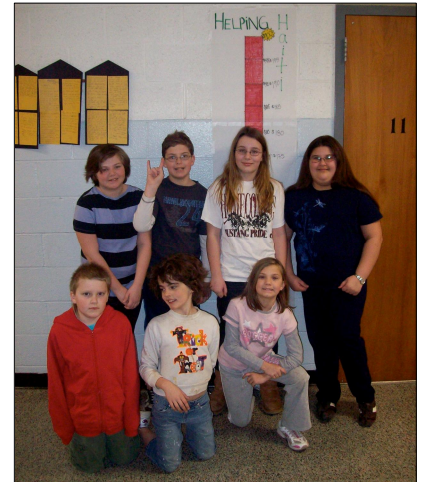
Third Grade Highlights

Where has the year gone? Ms. Luke's students are happy to see the rain come and the snow go away! We are focusing our efforts on writing during the last trimester. Our writing notebooks are divided into two parts: Writing Ideas and Rough Drafts. The students listen to read alouds, brainstorm lists of writing ideas based on the books, and then create their own stories. We started with circle stories. I read the series of books by Laura Numeroff ó *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, If You Give a Mouse a Muffin, If You Give a Pig a Pancake, etc.* – then we created our own circle stories. It is amazing to hear how creative the students are. They come up with some very interesting stories! We take time to share our progress each day with the "Author's Chair." The next series of books that I read were the *Walter the Farting Dog* books. You can about imagine how much fun they had with these stories. I'm looking forward to seeing continued progress over the next couple of months. We will be publishing books toward the end of the year. I just may have the next Chris Van Allsburg or Eve Bunting in my classroom!

March has brought Miss Becker's class Fun Fabulous Fractions. The students have loved this GLE and have brought a lot of previous knowledge to the unit. They have caught on fast and will soon be taking the final test. Drawing pictures depicting fractions and becoming the fractions in front of the class have been the highlights. The students had fun demonstrating fractions such as showing 4/5 by having 4 of 5 students smile while the other frowns, etc. The students are looking forward to multiplication during this third trimester!

Fourth Grade Entrepreneurs

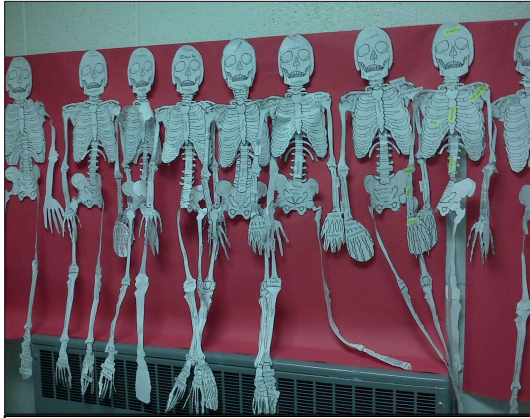
Mrs. Mueller's class took on a wonderful project in February that not only benefited her students but also those affected by the earthquake in Haiti. Mrs. Mueller introduced the idea of having a bake sale to her class as part of an assignment for a class she is taking. She chose recipes she knew they could make on a hot plate. She went to Fareway and recorded the cost of all the ingredients according to the brand names. A small group of students figured out the production cost of each item. Students had to divide recipes, determine how much they could get from each package, and the number of servings from each package. They had to decide if they wanted generic or brand names. The only thing they chose to buy with a label was the Hershey's cocoa. Then students had to determine how much they should charge to make a profit. They chose to make 11 cents off the no bake cookie, 25 cents off the Rice Krispy bar, and 11 cents off the sweet chex mix. The students learned that charging less provides more people the ability to purchase items and also a greater demand. They soon learned they had to put a limit of 2 items per customer so that there were items available for fifth grade to purchase. They wrote and decorated advertisements for the bake sale to put around the building. They drafted, typed and distributed letters to parents. They developed a work schedule, read recipes, measured ingredients, baked products, packaged, sold, counted money, made change, took inventory, made lists of ingredients needed, kept books showing money brought in and expenses. The project brought in \$420.41. After subtracting their expenses of \$170.07, the class made \$250.34! There were a number of problems the students needed to solve throughout the project. It was a wonderful activity for students because it was student centered, challenging, relevant, and it was a service project the students were proud of. We are proud of our students!



Fifth Grade Learnings

Recently, fifth grade has been working hard at discovering patterns in fractions, such as finding equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and also putting them into lowest terms. In science some of the fifth graders have been studying the skeletal system. Learning bone names, functions, and interesting facts about the skeletal system are just some of the things they have done. They have also had the chance to dissect owl pellets and identify bones. In social studies a few fifth grade classes have started exploring the colonial era, including the thirteen original colonies and characteristics of the time period. The fifth grade classes have also been involved in reading groups where they meet with their teacher in small groups and work on reading and comprehension strategies while discussing important events in each book with group mates.

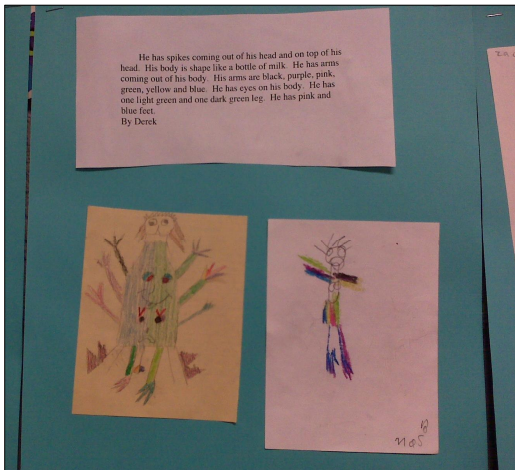
Integrating Art at West



5th graders made skeletons as part of their bones unit.

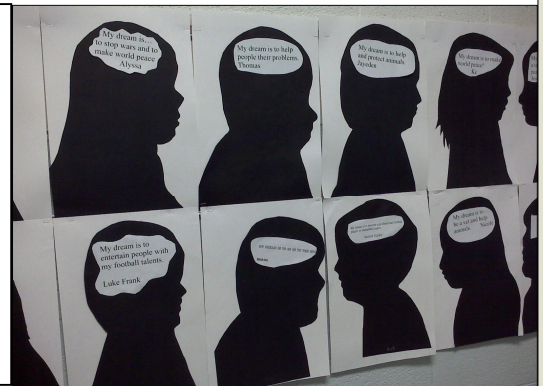


3rd graders painted their handprints to help them remember the multiples of 5.



3rd and 4th graders partnered as one wrote a description of a creature and had their friend draw what they believed the creature looked like. They then shared their drawings.

4th graders used their silhouettes as the background for an òl have a dreamö writing activity.



Miss Maasø students wrote acrostic poems on the tail of kites they had made.

News from our Talented and Gifted Program (TAG)

Current Projects - The gifted and talented students at West Elementary have been really busy this trimester. We have been getting ready for two competitions. One is Battle of the Books, which is March 25, 2010, at AEA 267 in Cedar Falls. The second one is State Invent Iowa competition, which will be held on April 24, 2010 at Carver Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City. Students are also participating in Artifact Box. For this project, students gather artifacts from our region, state, and town. We will send our box to another school somewhere in the United States at the end of the month. They will send us their box with clues to help us figure out where they are. We also have had some students writing a story that has to do with an animal. They are researching an animal and writing a diary of the animal that they choose.

Identification for the program - Students are identified for the TAG program using the following criteria:

- 1) Grades K-2: Star Math and Reading Scores
- 2) Grades 3-12: ITBS/ITED/NWEA scores must be 95% or above in at least 3 of the 5 areas.
- 3) Students scoring 95% or above in one of the core areas on ITBS/ITED/NWEA may qualify in that area.
- 4) Teacher recommendation

West Media Center

The Media Center at West has been a hub of activity this year. Our classes come in once a week to check out books and continue their keyboarding instruction. In keyboarding, the students have been working on using the correct fingering and technique as they type. They are progressing very well through their lessons. We stress to the students that typing is a life skill that they will use through their years at Independence schools, during their college years, and in the workplace.

In addition, we have students coming to check out books throughout the school day and to take AR tests over the books they have read. The students at West are dedicated readers, and we are pleased with the number of books they are reading. The challenge for us in the Media Center is to keep our collection current so that students will find new and exciting books they find interesting to keep them coming back.

We are excited to tell you that our book fair last fall provided the media center with \$3,000 to purchase books, and our recent read-a-thon brought in \$1,569. Because of these two fundraisers and your generosity, we have been able to purchase 255 new books for the media center. Thank you for your support for our book fair and read-a-thon and for your contribution in helping children become life long learners!

Last fall I wrote a proposal for tall tale books to donorschoose.org, an educational website which allows donors to peruse the proposals and contribute if they choose. We were fortunate in that two different donors decided to fund our proposal. We were awarded \$400 in new tall tale books and audio tapes, which we used during our read-a-thon. We are grateful to them for helping us to purchase this material. In addition to my thank you, some of our students have written thank you notes to our donors.



Important Information for Families of School Age Students

If your family lives in any of the following situations:

É In a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground

É On the street

É In an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations, or

É Doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find or afford housing

Then, you have certain rights or protections under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.

You have the right to:

É Go to school, no matter where you live or how long you have lived there. You must be given access to the same public education provided to other students.

É Continue in the school you attended before you became homeless or the school you last attended, if that is your choice and is feasible. The school district's local liaison for homeless education must assist you, if needed, and offer you the right to appeal a decision regarding your choice of school if it goes against your wishes.

É Receive transportation to the school you attended before you became homeless or the school you last attended, if you request such transportation.

É Attend a school and participate in school programs with students who are not homeless. Students cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless.

É Enroll in school without giving a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment.

É Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or any other documents required for enrollment.

É Enroll and attend classes in the school of your choice even while the school and you seek to resolve a dispute over enrollment.

É Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other students served in these programs.

É Receive transportation to school and to school programs.

When you move, you should do the following:

É Contact the school district's local liaison for homeless education (see phone number below) for help in enrolling in a new school or arranging to continue in your former school. (Or, someone at a shelter, social services office, or the school can direct you to the person you need to contact.)

É Tell your teachers anything that you think they need to know to help you in school.

É Ask the local liaison for homeless education, the shelter provider, or a social worker for assistance with clothing and supplies, if needed.

Local Area Contacts: Casey Reinkoester at 319-332-0487

State Coordinator: Donna Eggleston at 515-281-3999.

If you need further assistance, call the National Center for Homeless Education
at the toll-free HelpLine number: **1-800-308-2145**

Curriculum and School Improvement

Site Visit

Our district is preparing for a Department of Education Site Visit on April 20-22. These visits are routine and occur every five years. The purpose of the visit is to check on compliance issues but more than that to provide input to districts on what is going well and areas that could use some attention. The site visit team will consist of people from the Department of Education and administrators from other school districts. They will interview many different groups to get a picture of the district. These groups include representatives of: the PK-12 teaching staff, PK-12 associates, cooks, secretaries, custodians, bus drivers, Title 1, gifted and talented, parents, students, advisory groups, school board, administrators, etc. As you can imagine, this will provide the team with a thorough picture of the district.

Following the interviews, the team will present a preliminary report of the district to our Curriculum Coordinating Council. A formalized report will be sent to the district and shared with the school board. We look forward to this opportunity to share the strengths of our district and learn how we can improve.



Sandy Merritt, Director of
Curriculum and School
Improvement

Parent Information Meeting

With the realignment of buildings this summer, we realize that parents have many questions. We also know that there is some misinformation going through the community. We would like to provide accurate information to our families as well as provide an opportunity for parents to ask questions and get answers. To reach that goal, we are planning a Parent Information Meeting. It will be held on April 29 at the Middle School. Please understand that we may not have answers to every question by this date and will have to provide more information at a later time. Please plan to attend!

Parent Information Meeting

Do you have questions about the realignment of the buildings? Do you want to know about such things as:

Building layouts

Classes/Courses

Transportation

Don't sit at home and wonder or worry about it!! Come to the meeting and get some answers. We will have a light supper, childcare, and door prizes!! So mark your calendar:

Date: April 29

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: Middle School Commons

Door Prizes!!!

Light Supper!!!

Childcare!!!

Middle School News By Dave Jacobson, Principal

The end of winter is finally in sight with the warmer temperatures and melting snow but unfortunately the inevitable ðfogö is here as I write this. Our spring activity contests are right around the corner and I want to encourage all of you to attend a few and support our students in their ðextraö efforts! Weöve taken some big strides to head off the negative effects of the dreaded ðALLIGATOR MONTHSö of February and March. Our proactive approach has been an attempt to eliminate many of the discipline/behavioral problems all school districts face this time of year. Weöve used Character Counts Assemblies emphasizing a different character pillar each month, student recognition awards, the ITBS celebration half-day activities and a Respect and Protect Reward Dance for those students not being assigned a LEVEL II or higher the first 3 weeks of March. As we look towards next school year, we want to expand the proactive and positive approaches weöve successfully used this year.

The high school registration and 4-Year Plan workshop for 8th grade students and their parents was held Tuesday March 16 from 6:30 ö 8:00 PM in the Middle School Commons. It was organized and led by counselors Greg Moen, Mindy Voss and Bret Adams.

Jon Carey, 7th grade social studies teacher, will be taking the Middle School student rep, Justin Hedges, to the state level of the National Geographic Bee on Friday, April 9 in Des Moines. Good Luck Justin! Jackie Berryhill in the TAG program has qualified a team for the 2010 state

MATHCOUNTS competition. Alex Coffman, Abigail Goedken, Peter Thedens and Mackenzie Thompson earned a 3rd place finish and will go to Des Moines on March 26. Good Luck to all of you!

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

- *NWEA/MAP Testing sessions; March 22 ö April 1.
- *End of the 3rd qtr; March 26.
- *Monday April 5; school IS in session, snow make up day.
- *April 8; 6th grade DARE Graduation Day.
- *Food Drive; April 19 ö 23.
- *Community Clean Up Day; to be determined/end of April.
- *May 6; 6th grade Fontana Field Trip.
- *May 11; 7th grade Farm to School Field trip.
- *May 27; 2nd Semester Awards Assembly @ 8:25 AM.

As we look towards next year, the 7th and 8th grade students will be in a different building but our goal is to maintain all current programming plus make every effort to improve our Middle School approach as much as possible. Keeping the Middle School programming and philosophy in place will better help us meet the needs of all of our students next year.

Since the decision to close East and move the 7th & 8th grades to the high school was approved by the school board, our committee meetings have reflected this. We spend half of each meeting dealing with current issues and the second half of each meeting planning for everything to be in place by early May of this year for a smooth transition into next school year. Here are the committees that oversee our efforts with all faculty



Dave Jacobson, Principal

members belonging to at least 2 committees of their choice so we can best utilize their individual strengths:

- *Activity Fund Spending Committee
- *Advisor Committee
- *Assemblies and Field Trips Committee
- *Building Leadership Team (BLT)
- *Curriculum Coordinating Council (CCC)
- *ENCORE Department
- *Fund Raising/Recycling Committee
- *Intervention Team (IMIT)
- *ITBS and NWEA/MAP Testing Committee
- *Language Arts Department
- *Math Department
- *Middle School Admin Team
- *Respect & Protect Core Team
- *Schedule Committee
- *Science Department
- *Social/Climate/Culture Committee
- *Social Studies Department
- *Special Education Department

One final group or committee I am hoping to start and have in place by next school year is the Middle School Parent Advisory Council. I would see this group meeting once a month or every 6 weeks and be represented at both grade levels plus hopefully spread out to include various activity groups. The purpose of the council would be to open up communication lines between home and school, discuss current topics of interest and look at possible future initiatives. If you are interested in becoming a member of this council, please contact the Middle School office at 319-334-7415 and ask for Dave Jacobson.

April/May/June Calendar

April

- 2 No School - Good Friday
- 5 Snow Make Up Day
- 13 Girls Track @ West Delaware 4:00
- 14 1:00 Early Dismissal
- 15 Boys Track @ Denver 4:30
- 16 Girls Track @ North Fayette (West Union) 4:00
- 20 Boys Track @ North Fayette (West Union) 4:00
- 22 Boys Track @ Benton Comm (VanHorne) 4:15
- 23 Girls Track @ Benton Comm (VanHorne) 4:00
- 27 Boys Track @ Indee (Indee Relays) 4:00
- 28 1:00 Early Dismissal
- 29 Girls Track @ Indee (Indee Relays) 4:00

May

- 3 Girls Track @ Beckman (Dyersville) 4:00
- 4 Boys Track @ VS (Vinton) 4:15
- 7 Girls Track - WaMaC @ Benton Comm 4:30
- 7 Boys Track - WaMaC @ Williamsburg 4:30
- 11 Girls Track @ VS (Vinton) 4:00
- 11 Boys Track @ Marion 4:00
- 12 1:00 Early Dismissal
- 17 Band Night 2010
- 31 No School/Memorial Day

June

- 1 Last Day of School

Middle School Media Center by Mrs. Wieland

Independence Middle School has many engaged readers, which can be substantiated by the monthly statistics that we run in the Media Center. Between 800 and 900 books are checked out each month for classroom related assignments and leisure reading. Most of the new books that we added to the collection this year were the result of fundraisers and donations. The Leo Club provided the Media Center with \$2000 at the end of last year so that we were able to start out this school year with new reading material for our students. Thank you so much to the Leo Club for their generous gift. The book fair and the boxtop promotion also permitted us to add many excellent books to our collection. In order to keep our students reading, it is imperative that we maintain a collection of quality and current literature.

I want to take this time to thank you, the parents and community, for your support and encouragement in the fundraisers that we have had this year and in the past years. These have been instrumental in providing books that our students have enjoyed over the years. It has always been a heart-warming experience to see a student find just the right book that grabs him/her and sparks an interest in reading more. It has been a privilege these past 15 years for me to have worked with an outstanding middle school staff and with your children. It has been enjoyable, rewarding, and very hard to leave. Thank you, again, for the many times that you have helped to make our collection better for our students and for our staff by supporting our efforts to add new, quality literature to our media center.

HOMEWORK HELP Submitted by Mrs. Thome

Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School is a professional journal that I read to get suggestions for classroom lessons and projects. Recently I discovered a take-home page for parents with advice for helping with homework. I'd like to share the key points with you.

In middle school, students suddenly experience more academic stress at the same time that they are experiencing physiological, emotional, and psychological changes. It is a time of learning to be an individual while they are still dependent on you.

RESCUING CAN STUNT GROWTH

How much help is too much? It is important that we understand the effects of rescuing children from their behaviors. Saving them from their mistakes keeps them from truly owning their successes or fully understanding the consequences of their choices. An enduring result of rescuing is that you never get to establish a relationship that acknowledges their ability to act or be independent of our assistance.

ASKING QUESTIONS

When a student gets stuck on a problem, it is tempting to show or tell him or her how to solve it. However, think about the results that you are seeking, such as independence, confidence, and the ability to construct meaning. Build on in-class experiences by asking your child to review class notes. You can help by posing these questions:

- What do you need to find out?
- What part of the problem do you understand?
- Where did you and where can you begin?
- What steps have you taken?
- How can the information be organized, modeled, or illustrated?

When your child announces that the assignment is complete, here are some additional questions you can ask.

- * Can you show me how you worked out one of the problems?
- * How do you know the answers are correct?
- * Are you satisfied with your work?
- * Was there a problem you found especially interesting or challenging?
- * Do you have any questions for your teacher?

Now, go ahead and give yourself a pat on the back for doing a great job with your kids! I know many of you are already following the advice above and your kids are benefiting as a result!

(from the December 2009/January 2010 issue)

6th Grade Social Studies by Mrs. Crawford

The 6th graders have been busy in Social Studies the past few months! Immediately after the earthquake in Haiti, a guest speaker came to class to share with us her past experiences as a missionary in the country. She shared slides of how conditions were before the earthquake, and through newspaper study, we saw pictures of post disaster scenes. Students were inspired to help with recovery efforts and a raffle was held, earning around \$500. to be sent toward citizen's needs. Teachers at the Middle School generously donated raffle prizes, and students purchased chances for these prizes over the course of a week.

Beginning the week of March 15th, the students and staff of 6th grade will be on a week long "field trip" of the Caribbean! Before you moan and groan, the trip will only be a virtual trip, with classroom and hallway decorations of Caribbean style, tie dying of tee shirts, limbo contests, food sampling and much, much more! If you have the chance, stop by and see all of the events going on during the week. It is truly a highlight of the 6th grade year.

6th Grade Caribbean Cruise by Mrs. Henkes

The sixth graders participated in a Caribbean Cruise week. Countries they visited included Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Puerto Rico, and Trinidad and Tobago. Students learned about the islands in Social Studies and heard Caribbean folklore and stories in Language Arts. The week-long learning cruise culminated in a Caribbean Carnival complete with crafts, limbo, and tie-dying. Thank to all the volunteers who helped make this activity possible!



ATHLETIC SCHOOL PHYSICALS **Middle School and High School grades 6-12**

Dear Parents and Independence Athletes:

According to the Boys and Girls Athletic Association, to participate in any sport or activity sanctioned by the governing athletic bodies, all students grades 6 - 12 must have an athletic physical provided by a licensed health practitioner.

Physical Examinations will be performed on May 5th, 2010 at the Independence Middle School between 5:30 p.m. -7:00 p.m. The exam is good for the 2010-2011 school year only. There will be a \$10.00 charge (maximum of \$20.00 per family). with the proceeds going to the Independence Athletic Department. Please make checks payable to **Independence Athletic Department**.

As you know, an Athletic Physical Examination can be quite expensive, and it is also sometimes difficult to line up a convenient appointment. This is the only date this offer will be made. The Doctors, Nurses, and Staff are **donating** their time and effort for Independence Athletics.

You do not have to use this system for a Physical Examination. If you prefer you can schedule an appointment with your doctor's office. However, we would encourage you to have your physical completed as soon as possible, to avoid any delays in participating in your chosen sport.

These physicals are for activities of the Independence School District. They cannot be used for any camps or other activities outside of the district. If you want to take advantage of this offer, help your son or daughter fill out the parent-athlete side of the exam form and bring it to the Independence Middle School on Wednesday, May 5th. The personal information **must be filled out and signed by a parent before** you can take the Doctor's examination. If you have questions, please contact your child's school.

All exams will be given at the Middle School.

Steve Kalous
Activities Director
Independence H.S.
334-7405

Dave Jacobson
Principal
Middle School
334-7415

Pete Bellaver
Principal
St. Johns
334-7173

Jennifer Sornson
Principal
Independence H.S.
334-7405

Save the Date!

Wednesday, May 5th, 2010
Independence Middle School
5:30 p.m. . 7:00 p.m.

Have parent-student information filled out and signed ahead of time and bring your
\$10.00 per athlete, \$20 maximum per family

Forms are available at the Middle School and High School offices

Perseverance

öPatience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.ö

John Quincy Adams

Perseverance is to persist in an undertaking in spite of opposition or discouragement. Every American can relate to the character trait of perseverance at the current time. With the numerous economic troubles we are facing, my thoughts turn to history. How did our country survive the Great Depression? How did the state of Iowa survive the farm crisis? Right now it is extremely difficult time for communities, school districts, and families.

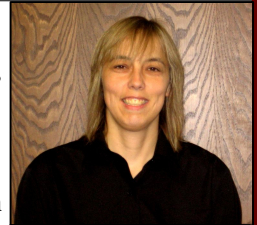
How do we survive and persevere? People pull together. They try new ways of providing services. When presented with new problems, solutions may be differ from what was done in the past. Everyone has to gain that extra resolve to continue to persist. It can be difficult to continue, and there are moments when we want to throw in the towel. Those are the moments to reflect and find new energy to continue.

The new obstacle that we are facing is accommodating the seventh and eighth grade in the high school. Everyone involved realizes this will change our district forever. This is not a simple or easy undertaking. The impact of this move is far reaching, but, rest assured, patience and perseverance can conquer this obstacle.

öWe will either find a way or make one.ö

Hannibal, General of Carthage

Sincerely,
Jennifer Sornson, Principal
Independence High School



Jennifer Sornson,
IHS Principal

Indee Speech Team Wins WaMaC West Individual Events

Congratulations to the speech students on their outstanding performances at the WaMaC West Individual Events Speech Tournament, Saturday, February 13 at Clear Creek-Amana. We had 36 entries, and 32 received 1 ratings or placed in the top five. Independence scored 110 team points to take top honors. Marion placed second with 80.5 points.

Those placing in the top five include:

1st place- Amy Keierleber in Public address and Reviewing, Alisha Thompson in Public Address, Zach Schulz in Original Oratory, Jeanette Clampitt in Expository Address, James Miller in Improv, Sydney Embray in Radio News Announcing, Christopher Kurt in Improv, Hannah Butler in Poetry.

2nd place- Hannah Butler In Solo Musical Theater, James Miller in Spontaneous Speaking, Logan Halverson in Prose, Alisha Thompson in Original Oratory, Makaela Schulz in Acting.

3rd place- Katie Zieser in Reviewing , Anna Lahey in Original Oratory, Emily Goedken in Storytelling, and Makaela Schulz in After Dinner Speaking.

4th Place- Natasha Heister in Acting.

5th place- Austin Wright in Prose, Christopher Kurt in Solo Musical Theater, Scott Miller In Radio News Announcing, and Caleb Martin in Literary program.

Those earning 1 ratings include: Garrett Clampitt in Expository Address, Chelsea Fischels in Acting, Tony Lake and Zach Schulz in Spontaneous Speaking, Emily Goedken and Caleb Martin in Poetry, Johnny Schwarting in Literary Program, Garrett Clampitt in Storytelling, Ryan Kurt in After Dinner Speaking.

Independence scored points in all 16 events events.

The Speech Team is coached by Jon TeStrake, Dawn Keenan and Dan Putz.

Next for speech team is District Individuals February 27th at Maquoketa Valley and State Individuals March 6th at Starmont.

IHS Speech Team Advances 23 Entries To State

Congratulations to the speech team students on their excellent performances at the District Speech Contest, Saturday, February 27th at Maquoketa Valley. We had 34 entries, and 23 received 1 ratings advancing to the state contest March 13th at Starmont. Those advancing to state include: Austin Wright in Prose; Natasha Heister in Acting; Caleb Martin, Emily Goedken and Hannah Butler in Poetry; Sydney Embray and Scott Miller in Radio News Announcing; Amy Keierleber in Public Address; Zach Schulz, James Miller, and Tony Lake in Spontaneous Speaking; Hannah Butler and Christopher Kurt in Solo Musical Theater; Amy Keierleber, Logan Halverson, and Katie Zieser in Reviewing; Christopher Kurt in Improvisation; Jeannett Clampitt and Garrett Clampitt in Expository Address; Zach Schulz in Original Oratory; Ryan Kurt in After Dinner Speaking; and Emily Goedken and Garrett Clampitt in storytelling. Coaches for the team are Jon TeStrake, Dawn Keenan, and Dan Putz.

IHS Speech Team Earns 16 "1" Ratings At State

Congratulations to the speech students on their superior performances at the State Speech Contest, Saturday, March 13th at Starmont. Of the 23 entries, 16 received 1 ratings. Those earning one ratings include: Emily Goedken and Garrett Clampitt in Storytelling; Caleb Martin, Hannah Butler and Emily Goedken in Poetry; Sydney Embray in Radio News Announcing; Amy Keierleber, Katie Zieser, and Logan Halverson in Reviewing; Garrett Clampitt and Jeannett Clampitt in Expository Address; Hannah Butler and Christopher Kurt in Solo Musical Theater; Christopher Kurt in Improvisation; Zach Schulz in Spontaneous Speaking, and Zach Schulz in Original Oratory.

Those earning 2 ratings include Natasha Heister in Acting; Tony Lake and James Miller in Spontaneous Speaking; Ryan Kurt in After Dinner Speaking; Amy Keierleber in Public Address; Scott Miller in Radio News Announcing; and Austin Wright in Prose.

Thanks to all parents and friends who came to watch the performances and to Jon TeStrake, Dawn Keenan and Dan Putz who coached the students on their performances.

Hannah Butler Qualifies for All-State at Speech Contest

One Independence High School student, Hannah Butler, earned top honors and was selected to perform at the Iowa High School Speech Association All-State Speech Festival from over 10,000 students that started at the district level of competition. Approximately 400 were selected for this honor from the entire state. The festival will be held on the campus of U.N.I. on Monday, March 29th.

Hannah, a sophomore, was nominated in the Poetry category. Her selection was a poem by Taylor Mali entitled "Voice of America Voiceover".

Hannah was a part of the speech team that had 23 entries at the state speech contest. 16 of those students received 1 ratings. Special thanks to Mr. TeStrake, Mrs. Keenan, and Mr. Putz whose efforts allowed us to be so successful!

Big Move - Summer 2010

The Independence Community Schools "Big Move" is happening beginning the afternoon of June 1. We need volunteers to help with this move in any way they can. We will begin with packing up classrooms, wiping down furniture, moving boxes and furniture from one location to another, and much more.

The current plan is to make room for the 7th and 8th graders at the high school. Then there will be cleaning and painting in those rooms with other building moves to follow.

The volunteers who want to assist will receive a One Call or an e-mail when the definite time of day is set for the moves. Please sign up, so we can be sure to have enough volunteers when we need them, we have had great response so far but we are still in need of others.

So please sign up by going to the Independence Community Schools website and completing the volunteer form, by e-mailing Val Maximovich at vmaximovich@independence.k12.ia.us, or calling 334-7400 ext. 626. Also, soon school district website will have the move updates under District Information, Volunteers.

We look forward to hearing from you- ***"Let's Help Move the School!"***

Mustang Pride — High School Calendar

Page 21

APRIL

Thursday Apr. 1	BS Hudson Jamboree	4:00 PM
Friday Apr. 1	BTR Cascade Invite	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 1	GTR N Fayette Invite	5:00 PM
Saturday Apr. 3	BT @ CR Prairie Invite	9:00 AM
Monday Apr. 5	GS @ West Delaware	5:15 PM
Tuesday Apr. 6	BTR North Fayette Invite	4:30 PM
Tuesday Apr. 6	Jesup Invite @ INDEE	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 6	BS vs. Anamosa	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 6	GG vs. Benton Community	4:15 PM
Wednesday Apr. 7	BG vs Vinton/Marion	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 8	BTR Indee Invite	5:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 8	BT @ Marion	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 8	GT vs. Marion	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 8	GG vs. Oelwein/Waterloo East	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 8	BG @ Oelwein	4:00 PM
Friday Apr. 9	GTR CCA Invite @ Clear Creak	4:30 PM
Saturday Apr. 10	BS @ Hudson Tourney	9:00 AM
Monday Apr. 12	Jesup Invite @ INDEE	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 13	Anamosa Early Bird Invite	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 13	BS vs. Williamsburg	4:30 PM
Tuesday Apr. 13	GS @ Beckman	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 13	BT @ Oelwein	4:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 13	GT vs. Oelwein	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 15	BS vs. Decorah	4:30 PM
Thursday Apr. 15	BT vs. Decorah	4:30 PM
Thursday Apr. 15	GT @ Decorah	4:30 PM
Friday Apr. 16	BG vs. Benton Community	4:15 PM
Friday Apr. 16	GS vs. Vinton-Shellsburg	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 16	BT @ Hudson	4:15 PM
Friday Apr. 16	GG @ Columbus	4:00 PM
Saturday Apr. 17	BG @ Benton Tourney	8:30 AM
Monday Apr. 19	GTR New Hampton Invite	5:00 PM
Monday Apr. 19	BTR Oelwein Invite	4:30 PM
Monday Apr. 19	BG @ West. Dub. Invite	11:00 AM
Tuesday Apr. 20	BTR CPU Invite	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 20	BS vs. Benton Community	4:30 PM
Tuesday Apr. 20	GS @ Benton Community	5:00 PM
Wednesday Apr. 21	BG @ CCA	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 22	West Delaware Invite	5:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 22	BTR Denver Invite	5:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 22	BT vs. Northern University	4:15 PM
Thursday Apr. 22	GG vs. Marion/CPU	4:00 PM
Friday Apr. 23	BG vs. Columbus/Williamsburg	4:00 PM
Friday Apr. 23	DRAKE RELAYS	TBA
Friday Apr. 23	BS @ Columbus	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 23	GS vs. Columbus	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 23	GT vs. Columbus	4:00 PM
Saturday Apr. 24	DRAKE RELAYS	TBA
Saturday Apr. 24	GG @ Benton Community Invite	8:30 AM
Saturday Apr. 24	BG @ West Del. Tourney	8:30 AM
Sunday Apr. 25	DRAKE RELAYS	TBA



Mustang Pride — High School Calendar

Page 22

APRIL continued

Monday Apr. 26	BTR Maq. Valley Invite	4:30 PM
Monday Apr. 26	BT vs. Maquoketa	4:00 PM
Monday Apr. 26	GT @ Maquoketa	4:00 PM
Monday Apr. 26	BG @ CPU	4:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 27	Lady Raider Invite @ Anamosa	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 27	BS vs. CCA	4:30 PM
Tuesday Apr. 27	GS @ CCA	5:00 PM
Tuesday Apr. 27	GG @ Western Dubuque	10:00 AM
Thursday Apr. 29	GTR Marion Invite	5:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 29	BT @ Western Dubuque	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 29	GT vs. Western Dubuque	4:00 PM
Thursday Apr. 29	GG vs. Vinton	4:00 PM
Friday Apr. 30	BS @ Center Point-Urbana	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 30	BTR GTR Union-La Porte Invite @ Vinton	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 30	GS vs. CPU	5:00 PM
Friday Apr. 30	BT vs. Aplington Parkersburg	4:15 PM
Friday Apr. 30	GG @ Oelwein/Waverly	4:00 PM



MAY

Saturday May 1	BG @ Columbus Invite	TBA			
Saturday May 1	BT @ Columbus Invitational	9:00 AM			
Monday May 3	BG WaMac Divisional Meet	4:00 PM			
Monday May 3	GG WaMac Divisional Meet	4:00 PM			
Monday May 3	GT vs. Mt. Vernon	4:30 PM			
Monday May 3	BTR @ Anamosa Invite	5:00 PM			
Tuesday May 4	GT WaMac Conference Tourney	TBA			
Tuesday May 4	BT WaMac Tourney	9:00 AM			
Tuesday May 4	BS @ Marion	4:15 PM			
Tuesday May 4	BTR @ Marion Invite	5:00 PM			
Tuesday May 4	GTR Indee Invite	5:00 PM			
Tuesday May 4	GS vs. Marion	5:00 PM			
Thursday May 6	GT @ Union	4:30 PM			
Thursday May 6	GS @ Union	5:00 PM			
Thursday May 6	BS @ DeWitt	5:00 PM			
Saturday May 8	BG @ South Tama	8:30 AM	Tuesday May 18	BS @ Beckman	4:30 PM
Monday May 10	BG WaMac Super Meet	9:00 AM	Tuesday May 18	GS vs. Decorah	5:00 PM
Monday May 10	GG WaMac Super Meet	9:00 AM	Thursday May 20	GS @ Anamosa	5:00 PM
Monday May 10	BT @ Columbus	4:00 PM		GS vs. Gladbrook	
Monday May 10	BTR WaMac Meet	4:30 PM	Friday May 21	Reinbeck	5:00 PM
Monday May 10	GTR WaMac Meet	4:30 PM	Monday May 24	GS @ Maquoketa	4:30 PM
Monday May 10	GS @ Hudson	5:00 PM	Tuesday May 25	GG Regional Meet	TBA
Tuesday May 11	BS @ Maquoketa	5:00 PM		Softball vs. Don	
Thursday May 13	GT @ Oelwein	4:00 PM	Tuesday May 25	Bosco (JV/V)	5:00 PM
Thursday May 13	GS vs. NU High	5:00 PM	Tuesday May 25	Baseball vs. Union	5:30 PM
Friday May 14	BTR District Meet	4:00 PM		Softball @ Benton	
Friday May 14	GTR District Meet	4:00 PM	Wednesday May 26	Community	6:00 PM
Friday May 14	GT @ Hudson	4:15 PM		Baseball vs.	
Friday May 14	BS vs. Waverly-Shell Rock	5:30 PM	Thursday May 27	Anamosa	5:30 PM
Monday May 17	GG District Meet	TBA			



INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

Volunteers are an important resource to the educational process in the Independence Community Schools. Please complete the information below and on the back so that we may best utilize your time and talent. Regular, ongoing help is not necessary. If you have questions, please call (319) 334-7400 Ext. 626 or email Val at vmaximovich@independence.k12.ia.us Thank you!

RETURN THIS FORM TO: Independence Community School District
Attn: Volunteer Program
1207 First Street West
Independence, Iowa 50644

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Cell phone _____ - _____ - _____ E-mail _____

Employer _____ Business Phone _____

Current Occupation _____

Other occupational experiences _____

Retired? _____ yes _____ no Names and grades of any children in school _____

Do you have any health or physical limitations that might affect certain types of volunteer positions? ____ yes ____ no

If yes, please list: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____
Name Phone Relationship

Where and when are you available?

____ District (anywhere needed) ____ ECC (PK) ____ Elementary (K-5) ____ Middle School (6-8) ____ High School (9-12)

Time(s) available: ____ Daily ____ Weekly ____ Variable, Occasional Other: _____

If you have specific hours on specific days, please list here: (Example, 8:00-9:30 on Tuesdays)

Monday _____

Tuesday _____

Wednesday _____

Thursday _____

Friday _____

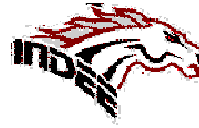
Do you have a specific class or teacher request? _____

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE BACKSIDE TO LET US KNOW YOUR
INTERESTS/TALENTS.**



Independence Community School District

1207 First Street West
Independence, Iowa 50644



Non Profit Org.
PAID
Permit 197
Independence, Iowa

We're on the Web

<http://www.independence.k12.ia.us>

VOLUNTEER PREFERENCE CHECKLIST - Please check any and all areas you would help in.

Name _____ Today's date _____

Phone _____ Start date _____

Teacher Support

- ☐ Small group(s)
- ☐ Any in-class assistance
- ☐ Assist handicapped
- ☐ Clerical support
- ☐ Field trip chaperone
- ☐ Media center/library
- Specific grade request _____
- Specific teacher request _____
- Other: _____

Special Projects/Programs

- ☐ Classroom special events
- ☐ Volunteering bulletin board help
- ☐ Mentoring (lunchtime)
- ☐ After-school homework help
- ☐ Career exploration speaker
- ☐ Camp Ewalu (Middle School)
- ☐ Book fair help
- ☐ Music program help
- ☐ Athletic program help

At Home Help

- ☐ Computer work
- ☐ Material preparation
- ☐ Food/treats preparation
- ☐ Telephoning parents
about events, reminders
- ☐ Grade papers
- ☐ Assemble projects
- ☐ Make costumes (sew)
- Other: _____

Big Move - Summer 2010

Skills/Knowledge You Could Share Not Listed In Above Categories: _____