



NOVEMBER NEWS ²⁰¹⁷

BOYDEN-HULL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT - WWW.BOYDEN-HULL.K12.IA.US

Greetings ~ from Superintendent Grond

As we move closer to the end of 2017, we are also getting closer to finalizing the initial stages of a possible building plan. Several stages during the early planning, outlined below, are guiding the board's thought process:

Board Reviews Previous Projects

The board reviews each building routinely to make sure they are familiar with it and its potential needs. Informal discussions take place between board members and community members throughout the year, and these items are brought up during these walk-throughs.

Another aspect that we discuss is the status of the current General Obligation Bond that was voted on in 1999. Knowing that this bond will be paid off in 2019 plus realizing that work is needed in both buildings started the process of soliciting feedback in a more formalized way. The board had several topics where they wanted specific input such as safety, building space impacts on 21st century standards, and spaces conducive to educating children for the next 20 to 40 years.

School Administrators Seek Feedback

For the initial step, we consulted an architectural firm to help us solicit feedback and make a sketch of what any building changes might look like. We hired the Sioux City firm of Canon Moss Bryger (CMB) to help with this process. We first sent out a survey to all staff asking about the needs of each building. After the surveys were compiled, the building principals and I selected 5-8 people from each building to interview to further glean

information. These interviews included teachers and staff whose areas could be affected, including the head custodians of each building. After receiving this information the architects began to develop sketches of what the possible footprint might look like, then presented these ideas to the board. This process took place from March to May of 2016.

Community Groups Review Building Plans and Present Their Findings to the Board

The Board asked a group of approximately 35 community members to tour each building, review the sketches, and offer feedback at the end of each session.

These tours took place in May 2017. The board tried to get members from various segments of the district's population including representatives of Christian schools, community members that no longer had students in one of the buildings as well as parents of current students. The board felt positive about both the number of people willing to participate as well as the feedback received. After the end of the second evening, the committee selected a group of four members to report findings back to the board.

Their overall recommendation to the board was to move forward with the building project plans. Their top priorities were the following:

- Safety in both buildings
- Updates and additions to the secondary building
- Special education accommodations in the elementary building
- Playground at the elementary building

Board Reviews

The architect used this information to create another iteration of the

sketches for each building as well as determine a cost estimate of these updates. We have also been speaking with bond counsel and financial advisors to understand the financing of this project if the board decides to proceed. In working through this process, I believe that a realistic timeline for a decision from the board would be in November or December of this year with the intention to bring the issue to the voters in the winter or spring.

Once again, the board's goals as they make their decision are the following:

- 1 Safety
- 2 Updates and renovations of existing spaces to 21st century standards
- 3 Creation of additional learning spaces to meet the need for the next several decades

In working through this process, the board is committed to being good stewards of the district's financial resources and to meeting the needs of the needs of the communities of Boyden and Hull, educating our students to highest standards.

Open Enrollment Option

Parents/guardians considering open enrollment for their child(ren) into another school district in Iowa need to be aware of the following deadlines for filing the required paperwork.

March 1, 2018 - This is the last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2018-19 school year. For incoming kindergarten students, the deadline is September 1, 2018.

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Applications received after these deadlines will not be approved unless the reason for late filing qualifies for “good cause.” There are a number of state-approved reasons that qualify for “good cause,” including moving to a new district and change in the parents’ marital status.

Transportation Assistance - Parents are responsible for transporting children open enrolled to another district. This applies to all students including those with an IEP. If the need for transportation as a related service is stated in the IEP, as a general rule the parent is responsible for this obligation under open enrollment. If a child open enrolls to a district that is contiguous (borders) to the home district, and the parents’ income meets economic eligibility requirements, the family may receive a stipend for transportation or be provided transportation by the district. Income verification must be provided to the resident district.

Students that open enroll in grades 9 through 12, shall not be eligible to participate in varsity contests and competitions during the first 90 school days of transfer. Please contact the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union at (515) 288-9741 or the Iowa High School Athletic Association at (515) 432-2011 for questions regarding eligibility.

Contact the Superintendent’s Office if you have questions or need an open enrollment form.

Elementary News
by Tom Kerr
Elementary Principal

It was a busy month at BHES during October with many classroom field trips, along with several school-wide activities. Students and staff

participated in the IA Healthiest State Initiative 2017 Annual Walk on Wednesday, October 4th. Moreover, staff and students held Red Ribbon Week activities during October 23rd-27th. Red Ribbon Week is a drug and violence prevention awareness campaign in the schools across the country.

The 4th, 5th and 6th grade students understood their obligation to vote and eagerly cast their ballot during student council elections that were held during the week of October 16th -20th. Students wishing to run for the office of Vice-President, Reporter, Treasurer and Secretary filled out the nomination papers, gave a speech detailing why they should be elected, and made campaign posters to garner votes. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Rensink for all of her efforts in organizing this event, along with being the faculty advisor for the elementary student council.

The students went to the voting booth to cast their ballots. Congratulations to the following people who were elected by their peers:

President- Jaime Carbajal
Vice President- Braylen Crawford
Secretary- Ashtyn Kelderman
Treasurer- Jeremy Maassen
Reporter- Dennie Boogerd & Alexis Van Voorst

Filling out the student council are the following room representatives:

4A- Carter Kleinwolterink
4B- Corey Kamies
5A- Raina Nibbelink
5B- Rylee Bomgaars
6A- Owen Ribbens
6B- Savanna Nilles

P is for Pizza Ranch
By: Mrs. Dacken—Transitional Kindergarten Teacher

On October 13th the Transitional Kindergarten class took a field trip to the Pizza Ranch in Hull. They learned how all those yummy pizzas are made and even got to make their own! They also discovered that some pizza toppings such as pepperoni and pineapple start with letter P. This was a fun way to end the week learning about the letter P!

Second Grade Tours
Boyden Fire Station
by Mrs. Nikki Zylstra

The 2nd grade classes visited the Boyden Fire Station on October 13 as part of our lessons during Fire Safety Week. The volunteer firemen and EMTs showed the students various pieces of equipment and vehicles. The firemen demonstrated using a portable water tank, and the students were allowed to help hold and spray water from one of the water hoses. Cool! Our tour concluded with a ride back to school on the top of the firetrucks with the sirens and lights blaring!! Thanks to the Boyden Fire Department and EMTs for teaching us so much about how you help others!

Drug Unit Oct. 13,2017

Students began Oct. 16 learning about how drugs can change the way the body works and functions. Last week the 6th grade students were introduced to this topic by Deputy Waylon Pollema and Deputy Justin DeBruin. Deputy Pollema went through a powerpoint with student to show them the affects of what drugs can do to your body. Deputy DeBruin talked about his dog Sunny and gave a demonstration having Mr. Alexander put on a sleeve and approach Sunny

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to show how powerful a dog he is and how obedient he is to Deputy DeBruin. Students will now spend the next 2 weeks learning how drugs are a substance that can act on the body to change the way it works, and that drug abuse can harm health. Students will also learn about several classes of commonly abused drugs.

3rd Graders Visit Pumpkinland by Cheri Meyn

On Thursday, Oct. 26 the third grade classes from Boyden-Hull went on a field trip to Pumpkinland. We learned about all the different pumpkins, corn, & gourds that they grow. We learned that they grow 11 different kinds of pumpkins. Here are a few: French pumpkin, Lumina (white) pumpkin, Oz pumpkin, Long Island Cheese, Baby Bear, Pie pumpkin, Jarrahdale (green) pumpkin, Wee Bee Little, Munchkin, and Baby Boo. We also ate popcorn that they popped off the cob in the microwave.

We went to Animal Land, which is their petting zoo. The students enjoyed petting and feeding the sheep, a pony, kittens, llamas, a bunny, goats, ducks, and a peacock.

Then we divided into groups and went through their Corn Maze. The students had to find the 6 mailboxes hidden in the maze. It was a challenge but was enjoyed by everyone. They all got a treat when they finished.

The next week the third graders wrote in their writing journals about their favorite part and what they learned at Pumpkinland. They also wrote thank-yous to Dave & Helen Huitink for a great time they had at Pumpkinland!

2nd and 3rd Grade Students Enjoy the NWC Children's Play

The 2nd and 3rd grade students took a trip to Orange City to the campus of Northwestern College to see the Children's Play entitled "Fantastic Mr. Fox" based on the story by Roald Dahl. The story revolves around a tricky, clever fox named Mr. Fox who lives underground beside a tree with his wife and children. Mr. Fox devises a plot to acquire food. He and his children tunnel through the ground and wind up burrowing to one of Boggis' hen and chicken houses. The story is filled with excitement and adventure as actors surprise the students by venturing into the audience and "popping up" in unexpected places. The play is held in Northwestern's black box theatre, which is an interesting experience as all of the seats surround the stage. We are thankful to Northwestern for providing this wonderful arts experience for our students.

PICTURE RETAKES

If you need to have your child's picture retaken, they will be done on November 6. Please return your entire order and \$5.00 the day of pictures.

HEARING SCREENINGS - December 4-6

Hearing screening is conducted annually by personnel from Northwest AEA. The children to be screened will include all TK-5th students, all students new to the district, all children placed in special education classrooms, and all children with previously identified hearing losses. Parents will be informed of the results following the screening. Students who do not pass the initial test will be rescreened one month later.

GRADES 1-6 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM by Mrs. Jill L. De Ruyter

The students of Boyden-Hull Elementary will be presenting a Christmas program on Thursday, November 30, at **7:00 p.m.** in the BHES Gym in Boyden. The name of this year's program is "An Out of the Box Christmas". Please join us November 30 as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

Due to large attendance for the evening performance, we will again open our final rehearsal at **1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 30**, to the parents and relatives that wish to attend. We will perform the entire program as a performance, although there may be some slight delays to get organized if needed. **Students are to remain in school after the performance.**

***** Kindergarten students will perform three songs at 1:30 p.m. on November 30. They will not perform in the evening concert. Parents of kindergarten students should plan to attend the afternoon matinee at 1:30 p.m. on November 30.**

SAVE THOSE POP CANS

Our first pop can collection was held on September 7 & 8. This money is used to offset the cost of field trips and to purchase additional books for the elementary library.

Every elementary student benefits from this project! The next collection date is set for December 7 & 8. A big thank you for helping us!

WEARING OF SNOW BOOTS

As the majority of the elementary school is carpeted, students are

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strongly recommended to wear boots on days when it is wet and/or snowy. As in the past, we have had excellent cooperation from both students and parents concerning this issue. THANKS!

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by Dan Pottebaum
JH/HS Principal

Student Led Parent Teacher Conferences

As we are in the midst of the Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences, we want to continue to inform you of the change of the format for the Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences.

In the Spring of 2018, we will be hosting Student Led Parent-Teacher Conferences where the student leads the parents and Comet Time Advisor through their year to that point.

Some of our teachers have experienced this type of conference in previous districts or as students.

As the students have asked, "Why the change in format?" There are several reasons for the change and we hope through the explanation, we can give further clarity to students and parents.

First, we want to continue to improve our communication with students and parents during these conferences. During our Spring PT Conferences, our attendance over the last several years has been around 45-50%. In researching other districts, this is not uncommon at the secondary levels. When we first looked at changing to this format, it was to improve the attendance.

After further research and discussion, we found that this format allows for better communication with students, parents, and staff as a team for your child's education. As discussed in

or PLC teacher meetings, most parents can find out most anything on JMC due to the online access of grades throughout the semesters.

We hope to foster improved communication during the Student Led Parent-Teacher Conferences by building a strong portfolio for the students to present at these conferences. Each student will have an individual e-Portfolio that they will be able to share with their parents/guardians and the Comet Time Advisor. Throughout the school year, students will be adding different artifacts, activities, and assignments to the e-Portfolio to share and display at this conference.

We will also have the students complete their future course registrations, 4 year plans, Iowa Assessment results, MAPs Assessment results, and other goal related information for the student to share at that time.

A second goal is to increase the student accountability to their education process. A natural outcome of having the students present their work to their parents/guardians and Comet Time Advisor is an increase in expectations. They will naturally want to show their best work and work harder at the completion of the final projects, activities, and artifacts knowing they will have to explain the project and how they did. Another byproduct of having the students present at their Student Led conference is the speaking aspect of communication. A district wide goal of the Boyden-Hull CSD is to increase and improve the written communication skills in our students in 2017-18. In an age of electronics, our students need to continue to be effective communicators in their relationships. We brought in a panel of community members who spoke to our staff of the importance of communication during the pre-

inservices at the start of the school year. One of the areas they continued to come back to in their experiences as professionals is the importance of the spoken word in communication. Can our students effectively communicate in written and spoken forms of communication? With all the applications like SnapChat, Twitter, Texting, FaceBook, Instagram, and etc., can our students appropriately and effectively communicate for their future careers? In a safe environment like a Student-Led Parent-Teacher Conference, the student can practice these skills.

The last goal the JH/HS Staff would like our student to focus on is Self-Evaluation. Can our students effectively self-evaluate their own body of work? One of the natural occurrences of establishing and collecting projects, artifacts, activities, and papers in a student's portfolio is the opportunity to self-reflect on the work they have completed and where they currently are at in those skills. For example, a student at the start of the school year may have worked on very simple projects in Industrial Arts. By the end of the year, they may have built a end table or clock that they are able to see their craftsmanship in and identify how their skills have developed. Another example would be to view their writing at the start of the school year and see how it has evolved and improved by viewing different samples of their own writing. It is our goal to help our students to develop this ability to Self-Evaluate so they are able to monitor their own growth and goal setting.

We will continue to provide more information about the change in the Parent-Teacher format in the Spring.

We hope through this communication, that you are able to

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see our “Why” and know that we are changing the format for the better for our students and parents.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have questions as we continue to work towards this goal.

JMC Parent Portal

It is hard to imagine that we have already rounded the corner into the 2nd quarter. As we lead our busy schedules, parents sometimes forget to check students grades or missing assignments using the student information system JMC. As in the past, JMC has the option to for parent to set up different Alerts or Notifications. These notifications can be for attendance, tardies, missing scores, or when a grade in a class drops below a certain percentage level. Parents can use all of these features or only the ones they feel apply to their situation.

Here are the steps to set up these Alerts or Notifications:

1. Go to the Boyden-Hull CSD website: www.boyden-hull.k12.ia.us
2. Select JMC on the left hand margin.
3. Once JMC has been selected, their will be 4 options to choose:
 - a. Office/Teacher/Parent/Student
4. Select the Parent option and you will be prompted for your username and password.
 - a. Username - Student’s Last Name
 - b. Password - Individually selected at registration. If you do not remember your password as parents, please call the JH/HS office or feel free to e-mail me

and I will provide it for you.

5. Once logged in, on the left hand margin you will see an item called “Alert Configurations.” Select this option.
6. Once you have selected this, you will see your student’s name at the top. If you have more than one student in the JH/HS building, you can hit this drop down menu to select your other student. Each student will need to be set up.
7. Here you will see that you have options for the following:
 - a. Family Lunch Balance Alert
 - b. Period Attendance Alert (Absences and Tardies)
 - c. Missing Scores Alert
 - d. Grade Alert - Each course can have the same or different percentage based on what you would like to enter for your child. If their grades goes below that percentage, it will send you an alert.

After each option, you will need to click save if you have made any changes. If you need any assistance in setting up these Alert Configurations, please let me know and I would be happy to help you over the phone or help you set those up personally to aide you in staying informed.

November Band Events by Virginia Eulberg

- November 4
HS Honor Band Auditions in Storm Lake
- November 13 Chocolate sales begin
- November 28 Chocolate sales end

December 1 Pep Band Begins

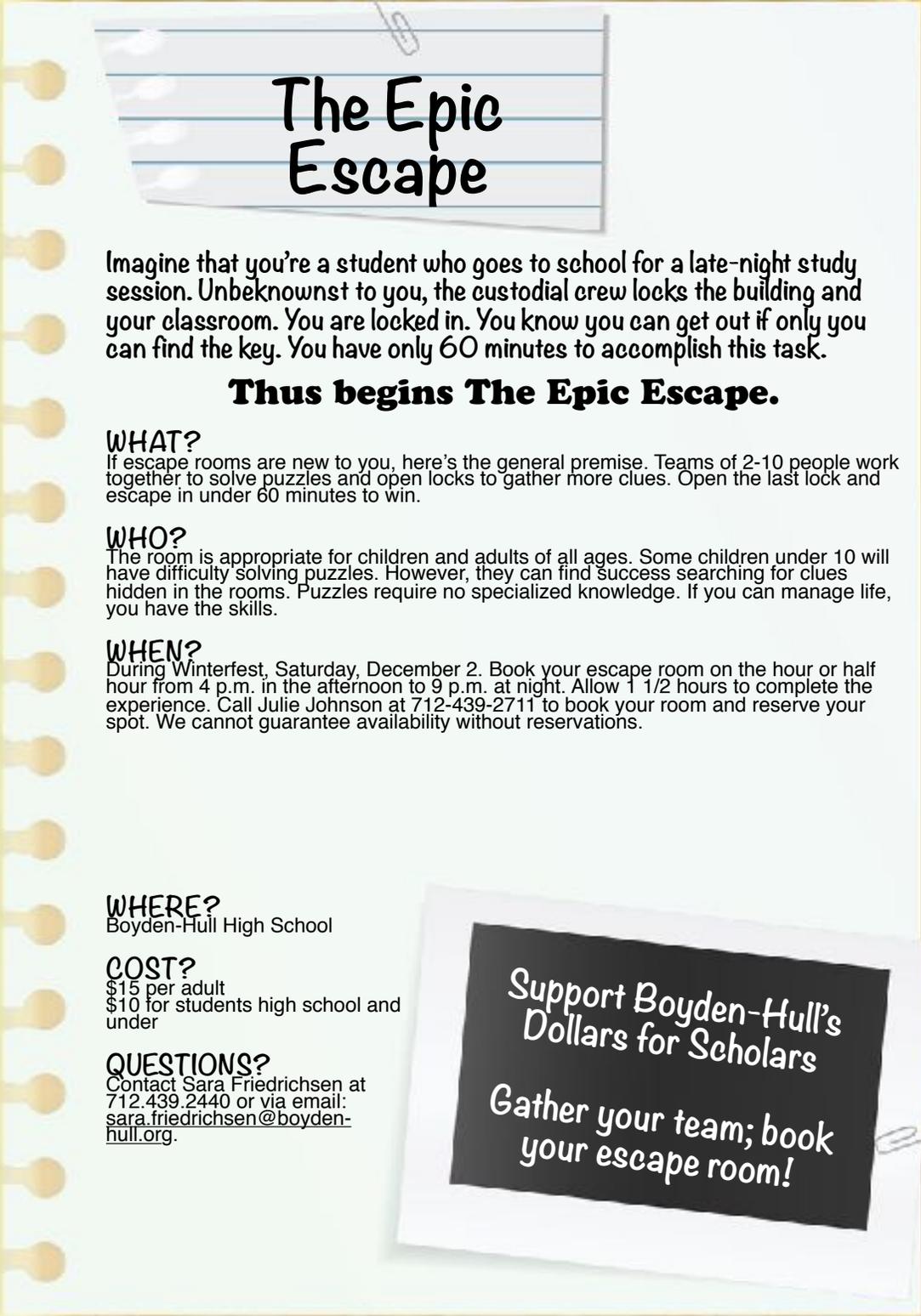
Congratulations to Anna Godtland, who was selected at All-State Band auditions as 1st Alternate on Trombone!

Junior High Nighthawks Finish 28th Combined Season

by Rob Van’t Land

The 2017 junior high Nighthawk football season is in the books. This marked the 28th season of shared football with Rock Valley. There were a total of 69 boys out this year, with 37 of them in the 7th grade and 32 in the 8th grade. Boyden-Hull had 25 boys on the team, while Rock Valley had 44. The 7th graders showed a lot of improvement over the season, but had a couple of key injuries that had a major impact on their success. They ended with a season record of 1-7, with 2 of those games being “B” squad games, one of which was a victory over Central Lyon-George-Little Rock.

The 8th graders had a record of 4-3, with one of their games being a “B” squad game. The 8th graders had a heart breaking loss against Sioux Center in the 2nd game of the year, coming from behind to take the lead with :22 left in the game, but the Warriors hauled out a trick play that went for the winning touchdown with no time on the clock. The 8th graders also lost a close “A” game to Le Mars, 14-22, and had the ball deep in Bulldog territory late in the game, but could not find the end zone. Hopefully those setbacks will only serve to help the boys to improve through their high school careers. The 8th graders won a come from behind dogfight against a previously unbeaten West Lyon team. They have been a fun group of boys to coach and the improvement they showed as the season progressed will be a solid base for them as they enter the high school program.



The Epic Escape

Imagine that you're a student who goes to school for a late-night study session. Unbeknownst to you, the custodial crew locks the building and your classroom. You are locked in. You know you can get out if only you can find the key. You have only 60 minutes to accomplish this task.

Thus begins The Epic Escape.

WHAT?

If escape rooms are new to you, here's the general premise. Teams of 2-10 people work together to solve puzzles and open locks to gather more clues. Open the last lock and escape in under 60 minutes to win.

WHO?

The room is appropriate for children and adults of all ages. Some children under 10 will have difficulty solving puzzles. However, they can find success searching for clues hidden in the rooms. Puzzles require no specialized knowledge. If you can manage life, you have the skills.

WHEN?

During Winterfest, Saturday, December 2. Book your escape room on the hour or half hour from 4 p.m. in the afternoon to 9 p.m. at night. Allow 1 1/2 hours to complete the experience. Call Julie Johnson at 712-439-2711 to book your room and reserve your spot. We cannot guarantee availability without reservations.

WHERE?

Boyden-Hull High School

COST?

\$15 per adult
\$10 for students high school and under

QUESTIONS?

Contact Sara Friedrichsen at 712.439.2440 or via email: sara.friedrichsen@boyden-hull.org.



Support Boyden-Hull's
Dollars for Scholars

Gather your team; book
your escape room!

