

MARCH NEWS

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

FROM SUPERINTENDENT GROND

It is always a good feeling to see longer periods of daylight at both ends of the day, and we will be experiencing longer days as Daylight Savings begin on March 11 as we spring forward. A couple of things that I would like to bring some light to as well!

BUILDING PROJECT

I would like to thank all who supported the bond issue this past February and especially the steering committee. Those who served were: Crystal Rozeboom, Doug Beukelman, Kate Franken, Holly VerHoef, Londa Boogerd, Glenda Bonestroo, Ryan Crawford, Roger Solberg, and Hayley Moss. They did an outstanding job, and a great amount of thanks goes their way for it passing on the first attempt.

The next several months will be a flurry of activity in that we will need to finalize the plans for phase one, sell bonds, accept bids, award bids and hopefully begin construction all before August 1st and sooner if possible.

In addition to the building project, we are also working on the budget for the 2018-2019 school year. During the information stage of the building project, we informed the public that if things did not change at the State Legislature, we believed that we would not need to raise taxes any more than 15 - 20 cents/\$1,000 of taxable valuation from the past ten year average of \$14.48/\$1,000. We believe that we are on track for this and that our overall levy rate will increase around 13 - 15 cents this upcoming year. We are anticipating that the overall levy rate will be approximately \$14.62.

REMAINING SCHOOL YEAR

I am not overly superstitious except when it comes to watching sporting events where my teams are competing. Whether it is the Comets, Nighthawks, Hawkeyes or Cardinals - I would mention the Buccaneers, but they have been bad for so long that I don't think superstition would help them :-). I am fully aware of the possible consequences of what I am about to say, and we will get some major winter storms over the next several weeks. However, at this time, we are still on target to dismiss on the 24th of May. We have only missed one school day so far this year which has already been made up. If we do not miss another day until after March 12, we will make any days missed after that at the end of the year.

We will see you in April. Hopefully it is with good news that we did not miss any more days of school.

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.

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.

Elem. News
by Tom Kerr
Elementary Principal

Elementary teachers from the Boyden-Hull Community School District spent Thursday, February 1 and part of Friday, February 2, 2018, working with our new writing program, *Being a Writer*, during their professional development days. This has helped improve the overall written communication skills for our students as part of the literacy standards and

ELEMENTARY NEWS

21st Century Skills. In speaking with our faculty, this was a very powerful day to hone their professional practice to improve our writing curriculum and instruction for our students.

The last three months of school can be difficult for students if their organizational skill are lacking in certain areas. Students need organization skills to succeed in school and life. This important quality will help children not to lose their school materials, forget what they're supposed to do, or forget to turn homework in on time.

Parental and teacher support plays a vital role in helping students learn this responsible behavior that each person needs to become a successful student.

The Parent Institute encourages the following tips listed below to help each student with this necessary skill:

Maintain an assignment notebook.

These special notebooks have been provided to every third through sixth grade student at the elementary. Your child should write down every assignment, test or project and the date in which they are due. They should look at this notebook before leaving school each day to make sure all needed books or materials are brought home.

Make "To Do" lists. After school, your child should review this assignment notebook with someone and make a list of everything that needs to be accomplished before bedtime. A picture list can be created for younger students without assignment notebooks. Let your son/daughter check or cross off each task as it is completed by them.

Use different colors for school subjects. For example, a yellow folder or notebook might be used in science, since the cover of the textbook is mainly this color. Your child will be

able to find the necessary folder and text when things can be rushed at the end of the school day.

Take care of the hard tasks first.

Especially with homework, projects or tests, it's best to complete the most difficult tasks when their energy level is elevated.

Hopefully, these tips will boost the organization skills of every student; who can struggle at various times in their life with the fast paced world around them. Your continued support of learning and organization will help to ensure success at school for your child that will last a lifetime.

Music Fun!

by Jill L. DeRuyter

Elementary music class has been full of excitement lately! We just finished up a unit called Mallet Madness. During this unit, every student played an instrument using mallets. The music room was set up with 26 different percussion instruments, including xylophones, metallophones, glockenspiels, and drums. We rotated to different instruments frequently and learned about note values, rhythms patterns, and different mallet techniques. We all enjoyed Mallet Madness!

We have just begun our music keyboarding unit. The elementary music classroom is set up as a music keyboard lab and each student has their own keyboard to use when they come to music class. We are fortunate to have a new set of 25 keyboards that are shared between Rock Valley and Boyden-Hull. Our keyboarding curriculum has been updated and entered on the website called Nearpod, so students come to music class with their Macbooks or iPads. Nearpod is an application that allows teachers to create and share interactive lessons

with students. This allows our keyboarding lessons to be teacher-directed or student-paced. We are looking forward to many weeks of hands-on learning of piano skills on our keyboards! Please feel free to stop by the music room to visit if you would like to see our music keyboard lab.

POSTER COMPETITION

by Ruth Kleinwolterink

On February 8 we had Nelva Huitink from the Sioux County Soil & Water Conservation visit grades 2nd-6th. This year's poster contest theme is "Watersheds-Our Water, Our Home" She discussed the importance of water, what a water shed is and where water will drain; and how to save and protect the water. Students are in the process of working on their posters. Posters will be judged through the SCSWC and entries are due March 23, 2018.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

by Annie Van Der Zwaag

The preschool classroom had the naturalist visit in February. The students learned about wild animals. Sara Davelaar told a story, then had the kids decide if the animal was wild or a pet. Every month one of the naturalists visits preschool.

POP CAN DRIVE

A special "thank you" to all those that contributed to our second pop can drive in December. Our next drive will take place March 8 & 9. We would greatly appreciate your plastic pop bottles and aluminum cans. If you have containers to donate but do not know an elementary student, please call the school at 725-2381.

JH/HS NEWS

Secondary Newsletter
by Dan Pottebaum

Spring Parent Teacher Conferences

On March 13-15th, students, parents, and staff will be experiencing Parent Teacher Conferences a little differently this year. This spring, the student will lead the conference by meeting with their parents and advisor and discussing their education. One of the questions that both the staff and students have heard this year is "Who Owns the Learning?" Often we diminish the value of the student's role in their own education. They are the most important part of this equation that equals their learning. We hope through the organization and work that has been done leading up to these conferences can foster more growth for each of the students.

Last week, we provided a link to an example of a Student-Led Conference (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfO-p-hoFOI>). The student will need to be organized as they lead this conference with their Comet Time Advisor and their parents/guardians. During this conference, the student will include the following:

1. Introductions
2. Student Interest/Goals
3. Student Self-Evaluation
4. Teacher Evaluation (Reflect on your own Self-Evaluation and how did it compare to the teachers. Did they align? Discuss any comments?)
5. e-Portfolio (Highlighting assignments, activities, projects and other artifacts)
6. Future courses and plans (4 year plans and after high school transitions)

Each conference will be 20 minutes in length. This will allow 10 minutes of transition between conferences and opportunity for parents to visit with other teachers if needed between conferences.

As a school district, we recognize that this is a change. While this change may be uncomfortable, it will provide the students with areas in which they can grow as a young adult. One of the opportunities that Student-Led Conferences provides is the opportunity to Self-Evaluate.

Students will likely be your their own worst critic. However, as they are evaluating themselves, if they are being honest with their attitude and efforts, the odds are in their favor that they will continue to improve. How are they managing your time? Are they organized? How hard are they working? Do you have an attitude that will help them grow (growth mindset) or an attitude that holds them back from growing/succeeding (fixed mindset)? Do they have empathy (Understanding of another's person situation or circumstances without judging them or putting them down)? Do their morals and values align with their actions and words? Students will be asked to evaluate themselves in a Google Form which will create a pdf that will added to their e-Portfolio.

Student-Led Conferences will also help students with their presentation skills and public speaking. As I stated earlier, this will likely be a situation where you are not comfortable. However, the student is an expert on themselves and they will be surrounded by your parents/guardians and your Comet Time Advisor. Be yourself and be honest. No one at Boyden-Hull, student or staff is a finished product. We ask the student to share their interest and goals. To present their Self-Evaluation and scores to the parents/guardians. Evaluate your teacher's evaluations. Demonstrate what is in your student's portfolio. Talk about your future courses and plans. If you need to make changes in what you are doing daily in your education, create a plan with your

parents and advisor. Start small and grow. We are seeking growth for each one of you.

Lastly, we encourage the student to communicate with their parents/guardians what they are doing at school. During the course of the year, each student does things that may even surprise themselves or you as parents. From some of the items that students brought back from a Welding field trip to items that they have created in art. If one walks in the art room, you will see tiles that seniors have created to a tape sculpture hanging down from the ceiling. Some students have created clocks, toolboxes, end tables, etc. Other have participated in a forensic lab in science or the foods lab. Other have created a battle using Spheros to reenact Beowulf.

As we prepare for these conferences, students will have the opportunity to prepare and practice for this conference with their parents. Students will also have to determine a conference time with your Comet Time Advisor. Comet Time advisors have been working with your student to schedule their Student-Led Conference. We have encouraged the students to talk with your parents and identify which date and time works best for you and them. We have reminded students to keep in mind that some have siblings at the JH/HS or the Elementary that they will need to coordinate times and dates. We hope to have the final schedule for each of the students on Wednesday, March 7th. As parents, we thank you again for your patience and cooperation in this change.

Spring Service Day:

We are proud to continue to plan for the 9th Annual Spring Service Day for the Boyden-Hull High School students. The high school students are eager to go out into the communities of Boyden

Swing Show, Prom, Grand March

and Hull and clean up parks and lawns for the two communities. We are again looking forward to this day as we begin to plan. This year, the Comet Time groups will be organizing and arranging the work projects they will be doing. The Spring Service Day is planned for Friday, April 6th with Friday, April 13th schedule as a rain date. If you are interested in having a group of students help with some spring cleaning in your yard, please contact a student in high school.

B-H Music Department Presents:

What: B-H Swing Show

When: Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24, 7:30 p.m.

Where: BHHS Theater

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Theme: TV/Movies!!!!

Show Featuring: B-H Show Choir, Jazz Band, Drum Line, AWESOME skits and MARVELOUS music selections.

Food: The Music Boosters will be hosting a spaghetti supper on Friday, March 23. Serving 5-7:00 p.m. The Show Choir Auxiliary will be serving ice cream sundaes and beverages during intermission.

Tickets: On sale Tuesday, March 13 and will be available for purchase in the HS Business Office during regular business hours. They will also be available during Parent/Teacher Conferences on March 13 and 15 in the HS Office.

Tickets for the show are \$5.00.

Upcoming Show Choir Competitions

Tuesday, March 13
USD Jazz Festival, Vermillion, SD

Saturday, March 17
Ultimate Show Choir Competition,
Underwood, IA

Tuesday, March 27
NE Jazz Festival, Norfolk, NE

Band Events

March 6
Augustana Jazz Festival- Sioux Falls;
load the bus 1:00 PM Leave 1:20 PM
Play 3:45 PM

March 20
Elementary/ JH Solo Contest in Hull
4:00 PM-7:00 PM

March 23 & 24
Swing Show HS auditorium 7:30 PM

April 7
HS Small group contest @ West Lyon

JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM GRAND MARCH

by Tim Brunsting

The Junior Class of Boyden-Hull will once again be hosting Grand March to kick off the events of the Junior-Senior Prom "The Roaring 20's". This year's prom will take place on Friday, April 20. The Grand March will be in the high school theater and will begin at 7:00 PM. The junior class will be selling advance tickets to attend the Grand March. Tickets will be sold for \$3. If you wish to purchase tickets contact Tim Brunsting at the high school at 439-2440 or at tim.brunsting@boyden-hull.org. Thanks

When Grand March ends we plan to start the banquet immediately. We are

asking for your cooperation this year in leaving at the completion of Grand March so we can continue with the evening's events. Please take this into consideration with pictures, etc. and make sure to get these accomplished before 7:00. Thank you for your cooperation in making this a memorable and enjoyable evening for your son or daughter.

PROM REMINDERS

by Tim Brunsting

I just want to make you aware of changes that we have made over the last couple of years concerning the Jr./Sr. Prom and still remain in place. Prom is for the juniors and seniors at Boyden-Hull and their dates. Dates this year can be a junior or a senior from another school district or an individual that graduated from high school in May of 2017. All out of school dates will be checked and approved by the Junior class sponsor (Tim Brunsting) or by Mr. Pottebaum.

Evening of Eloquence

An Evening of Eloquence
at the
Speak Easy Coffee, Tea, and Biscotti Bar

Join the
Boyden-Hull Speech Team
in an evening of speech
performance and refreshments.

April 5, 2018
7:00 p.m.
Boyden-Hull High School Theater
(Recommended \$5 donation per person to
defray contest and travel expenses.)

